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THE

AMERICAN

AGRICULTURIST.

DESIGNED TO IMPROVE

The Farmer, Planter, Fruit Grower, Gardener, and Stock Breeder.

“AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.”—WASHINGTON.

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OF THE

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It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. JUDD, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the Agriculturist, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. ALLEN, LEWIS F. ALLEN, Rev. WM. CLIFF, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

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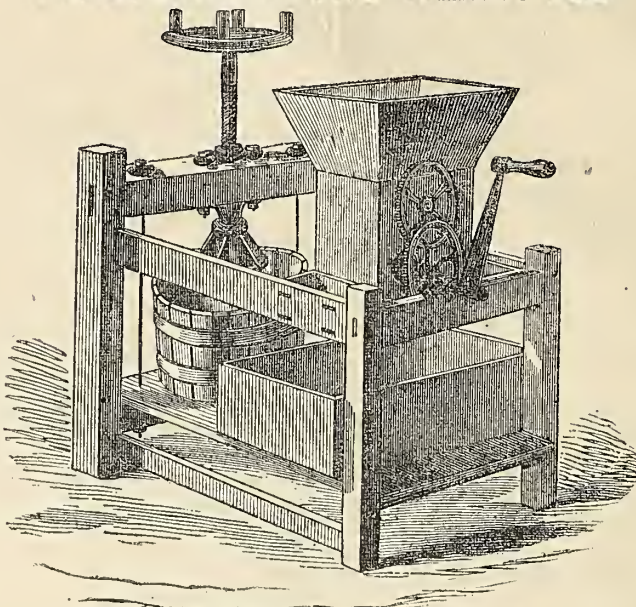
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N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
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PRICE \$40.

THIS IS THE FOURTH YEAR THAT THIS MILL HAS BEEN BEFORE THE public, and, as in all similar cases, improvements have been added, as it has been found necessary. Some of the following are the most important:

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 - A DIPLOMA at the Westchester County Fair, 1852.
 - FIRST PREMIUM at the Pennsylvania State Fair, at Pittsburg, 1853.
 - FIRST PREMIUM at the Ohio State Fair, at Dayton; Michigan State Fair, at Detroit; Indiana State Fair, at La Fayette; and a large number of County Fairs, too numerous to mention.
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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor). Letters referring to the business department should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers. Communications referring to both departments, should be on separate sheets, so that they can be separated.

EVERY one writing to the Editors or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

CULTIVATION OF INDIAN CORN.

Its Value to the American Farmer.—With the exception of the grasses, including meadows and pasturage, Indian corn is by far the most important of any single product of the United States, agricultural or manufactured. The production of this grain for 1850, was returned by the United States Official Reports, as exceeding 592,000,000 bushels. The growth of that year must have been largely exceeded since. If we assume the quantity raised in a favorable season as 600,000,000 bushels, and estimate it at 40 cents per bushel—which we think below its average price—the value of one year's crop of grain will reach the enormous sum of \$240,000,000.

The Extent of its Cultivation.—There is no one object of agricultural attention so widely diffused throughout the Union as Indian corn; none so generally adapted to every climate and soil; and none which, on the whole, is so useful, and subserves so great a variety of purposes. It grows successfully from the shores of Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores. Its maximum of production is immediately north of the Ohio river, in the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; although some hundreds of miles either north or south of this latitude, it is, perhaps, one of the most profitable crops that can occupy the attention of the farmer.

Its Adaptability to Soil and Climate is unequaled by any other plant. Although a considerable and prolonged degree of heat is required to mature Indian corn, the clear, dry summer atmosphere of America is, almost any where south of 47° north latitude, suited to ripening it. Its flexibility of character enables it speedily to conform to the new circumstances under which it may be placed. On removing the seed from the middle to the northern States, an immediate

change takes place, which is increased by every subsequent move to a higher latitude. There we have the stalk diminished to a mere dwarf, not exceeding three to four and a half feet in height; bearing one or two diminutive ears of rounded grains, deeply imbedded in the cob, and ripening in a little more than sixty days after planting. The same seed, when removed to our southern latitudes, shoots up with stalwart growth, frequently reaching from 15 to 18 feet, and bearing a heavy ear, of large diameter, and loaded with long indented kernels, but slightly attached to the cob.*

Its Uses.—Corn has formed no inconsiderable portion of the food of men and animals, from the first settlement of America to the present time. No one article of human food has been made to assume so great a variety of combinations, nor has been presented in so many and so attractive dishes, in every one of which it is highly relishable and perfectly wholesome. The Aborigines justly celebrate their green corn feasts, typifying as they do the most important and cherished of their earthly gifts. At a later period of the year, with a small pouch of the ripened, roasted grains, they pursue their enterprizes of hunting and of war, for hundreds of miles through the trackless wilderness, with no other sustenance.

Every domestic animal and fowl is fond of this grain, and eat it with equal voracity, whether green or ripened, raw or cooked; and we much doubt if there is any other food that will produce, when fed to man or animals, a greater amount of flesh and fat, at the same cost of raising, than corn.

Indian corn is made to subserve other purposes than those of food. It is extensively manufactured into starch; it has sometimes been converted into oil, and molasses; and from no other article is drawn a tithe of the alcohol consumed in the United States, which is furnished by Indian corn. The detestable use that is made of the greater portion of this last product, evinces the ingenuity of man, in perverting to the vilest purposes, the best gift of a benignant Providence.

* Since writing the above, we have conversed with the Rev. Mr. Tanner, a highly intelligent and truthful Native, who was born and is now settled near the Red River of the North, flowing into Hudson's Bay, who says, fine crops of Indian corn, and wheat, are raised by the whites and natives at Pambina, (accent on the last syllable, pronounced as *aw*), at Fort Garry, near Lake Winepeg, and at Lake Manitoba, still farther north, about 52°. Long, full ears, with heavy, large kernels, of the white flint variety, are raised to the extent of 40 bushels or more per acre. But they can only maintain this standard of quality and productiveness so far north, by the careful selection of the largest and fullest ears for seed.

As Forage.—Indian corn has of late years become an important element. We question if any of the grasses or clovers or vetches, can be made to yield a more abundant or profitable crop of green or dried food. The growth is certain, when judiciously sown, its yield large, and the stalks are nutritious and greedily devoured by all the herbivorous animals.

The Soil for Indian Corn should always be friable, rich, and well drained. It is not essential, however, whether it be a light sand or a tolerably heavy clay, if the former be sufficiently adhesive, and the latter porous or thoroughly underdrained. A dry soil is required to make an early and sure growth, and a strong soil is necessary for a heavy growth.

Preparation of the Soil.—Deep plowing is the best safeguard against drouth, and is essential to a large corn crop. If the soil is not deep enough to justify deep plowing one must be contented with a smaller yield, unless you add largely of appropriate manures. A rich sod or growth of clover, when turned under, furnishes an excellent food for the growth of Indian corn. Whatever manures are used, should be plowed in, and thoroughly incorporated with the soil. By distributing them through it, the roots have a steady support during the entire growth of the corn; when, if placed in the hill, they would give an early and undue growth of stalk, which would not be sustained later in the season, and thus leave the grain only partially filled and shrunken. If the soil be stiff or cloddy, the harrow should be used till the ground is thoroughly mellow; and if this proves inefficient, bring in the heavy field-roller to pulverize the intractable clods.

Manures Best Suited to Corn.—Scarcely any fertilizer comes amiss to the corn-field. Whatever its origin, whether vegetable, animal or mineral, it is generally acceptable to corn; no matter if fresh or decomposed, mixed or simple, all is greedily devoured by this voracious feeder. You can hardly put on too much manure for corn, nor is there any crop that better repays its application.

Kinds of Seed.—There are numerous varieties of corn in use in every section of the country; and these varieties are gradually changing by the different modes of cultivation and selection, from the change of seasons, and other circumstances by which they may be surrounded. The best seed is always that which is found to yield with the greatest abundance and certainty, on any given field. There is more of oil in some

as in the rice and pop corn; a greater proportion of gluten in others. But these differences in their relative composition are nearly immaterial for the general purposes of feeding, and either may be most appropriately raised, according as it is found to yield the greatest quantity of shelled pounds of grain per acre.

Weight of Seed.—Regard should be paid to the weight per bushel, as there is sometimes a difference of 15 or 20 per cent. in the weight of equal bulks. The standard weight is 56 pounds; but most sound, northern corn exceeds this, and in some instances has been known to weigh 64 pounds per bushel; while most of the southern falls below 54 pounds. The season has much to do with weight, a very dry summer, like the last, giving a lighter grain than ordinary seasons; while a wet or cold summer gives a kernel that shrinks much more in curing. We purchased a large quantity of choice northern white flint corn this winter, and found that it fell below the legal standard of weight, when, heretofore, the same kind of corn we have had from the same fields, for several previous years, has invariably exceeded the standard weight.

Selecting Seed.—Corn is greatly improved from year to year, by carefully selecting such ears as are longest, soundest, best filled, and most abundant on a single stalk. These should be carefully set apart before the stalks are cut, and allowed to ripen fully while standing in the field, without cutting the stalk either at the top or bottom, or trimming the leaves. The only justification for deviating from this rule is, when there is danger of frost; then the whole stalk should be cut at the root, and stooked out till properly cured. In planting, the small end of the ear should be rejected for seed. Some very careful farmers also throw by the irregular kernels near the butt, but this we deem superfluous nicety. When kept dry, cool and free from air, the vitality of the seed, like wheat, may be deemed almost illimitable.

Preparing the Seed.—Many soak the seed in a solution of saltpetre for 24 hours before planting; others use urine, weak ley, brine, &c. A good steep is $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of saltpetre, 2 qts. of salt, 3 qts. of soft soap, added to 3 gallons of rain water. After soaking at blood-heat for 15 to 40 hours, roll in plaster and plant before the seed becomes dry. But when thus prepared, care must be used to deposit it in moist ground, or the incipient germ, which has started by the soaking, will be arrested and killed. While some have perceived no benefit from this practice, others have found great advantage in the more early and rapid growth of the plant. It has this certain benefit where crows and squirrels abound, it prevents the destruction of the seed by these marauders, as the taste of three or four of these pickled kernels suffices to drive them from the seed. Another pretty efficient preventive to these depredations, is to pour a pint of boiling tar diluted in water over a bushel of seed corn placed in a barrel, stirring the corn very briskly till every grain becomes coated with the tar.

Time of Planting.—This must depend on the season, the soil, and the climate. When danger from nipping frosts is no longer to be anticipated, and the ground is dry and warm, corn may be planted. The most economical way of doing this, is by the seed-planter. This is drawn by a horse and furrows the land, drops the seed in any required quantity and at regular distances, and covers and rolls it at a single operation, getting over eight to twelve acres per day, according to the distance of the rows, and all is accomplished much more evenly than is usually done by hand. The use of this labor-saving implement, does not leave the hills in such accurate squares, as when the ground is furrowed at right angles, and the seed dropped by hand. But this is not of material consequence, when the harrow is used in subsequent cultivation. If the ground is light, and especially, if either sandy or abounding in clods, the field-roller should be used to level and compact the surface.

Distance of Planting.—A usual distance for northern or smaller corn is, in squares, of three to four feet, with three or four stalks in each hill. Light soils and larger corn require a greater distance.

Cultivating.—We have known a large field, and that not the best corn-land, to produce at the rate of seventy bushels per acre without the use of a hoe. Most people defer the cultivation too long. This gives the weeds a start, and requires much more labor to extirpate them than if commenced earlier. By starting the harrow lengthwise of the rows as soon as the plants show themselves above ground, the weeds will be pretty effectually eradicated, the soil kept loose, and the plants will grow apace. There should be sufficient grain planted, that you can afford to lose some plants by the harrow-teeth. The remaining ones, if somewhat disturbed in their nest, will thrive all the better for this rough usage. The cultivator may be subsequently and frequently used between the rows; and if weeds get into the hills, the hand may be used for their removal. No plowing is necessary, unless the plants have been so long neglected, as to have permitted the weeds so large a growth as to require turning under. We believe in one deep and thorough plowing, with the sward or stubble plow, to be followed by the subsoil plow if necessary. Subsequent to this, the only stirring of the earth is required at the surface to keep it light and rough so as to radiate and imbibe heat readily, and as a necessary consequence, to absorb largely of atmospheric moisture. The plow, or deeply-working with any implement, after the roots have struck out—which is very early in the life of plants—checks the growth and is a positive injury. We are no advocates for hilling the corn, unless in a stiff and moist soil; all sandy and light lands should be cultivated entirely level. When the corn begins to shade the ground, so as to check the growth of weeds, it may be safely left to itself.

Topping Corn was once almost universally in vogue, but is now generally discontinued. It is much better to cut it up by the roots,

bind and place it in stooks, when the grain has become glazed, or there is any danger of frost or the stalks are required for fodder.

Preserving the Stalks.—Many leave the stalks standing in the field and turn their cattle upon them to eat and trample in the mud as they choose. This waste can only be justified where there is more than can be eaten with economical management, and the labor of housing and preparing is greater than their value when properly fed. Nowhere at the north can this slovenly method be justified. Wherever hay commands six to eight dollars per tun, cornstalks are worth taking care of, and this has been the case almost every where in the United States during the last year or two. The stalks should be left in stooks till thoroughly dried, (and they require a great deal of drying, which is slowly accomplished at the season of the year when they are cured,) then placed securely in stacks or under sheds. Stacks should be made on a foundation of poles or timbers, and with large poles in the center to continue to the top. This will insure a current of air that effectually prevents injury, though the stalks may be put up somewhat uncured. Long exposure to the elements, wastes the nutritive and more relishable portions of the stalk, and when thus neglected, less will be eaten and this will not yield as much nutriment.

Using Stalks for Fodder.—They are generally fed by throwing on the ground uncut, but this is a wasteful practice, and it is seldom that they are half consumed unless the cattle are kept at the point of starvation. By cutting and crushing into small pieces with some of the best stalk-cutters, then moistened and sprinkled with chaff, meal, &c., all the stalks, leaves and tops will be greedily eaten; and thus fed, they will keep any thing but hard-working animals in excellent condition. The most observing northern farmers estimate the average value of cornstalks for fodder, to be greater than the entire cost of raising the crop, thus leaving the grain a clear profit.

For Soiling, Indian corn has become an important article of cultivation of late years. We are confident it will soon become an indispensable staple, where much summer and winter forage is required. The growth is rapid and certain, the yield enormous, and the stalks and leaves are unsurpassed for producing a large flow of rich milk. It is equally useful when fed to all animals, as a substitute for clover or the grasses. When these fail, from a dry season or other cause, a crop of cornstalks is invaluable. The corn may be sown in drills, at the rate of one and a half or two bushels of seed per acre in a rich soil, throughout the season of vegetation. Two crops may be grown on the same field when early sown. Keep the soil loose and the weeds down till the young plants get a start, when they will take care of themselves. The stalks may be cut and fed green, or cured and put by for winter feeding.

He who marries a beauty only, is like a buyer of cheap furniture—the varnish that caught the eye will not endure the fireside blaze.

For the American Agriculturist.

POULTRY FEEDING—WHITE SHANGHAI.

I was pleased to read your invitation for information relative to poultry, not because I desired or expected to write anything myself, but because of the importance (in my opinion) of thoroughly understanding the good, bad, or indifferent qualities of the several varieties of fowls, and the best means for their management, to make it profitable as well as a pleasure to keep them. I have for several years kept poultry, and during that time have tried the qualities of several varieties. Last season I kept a variety called the *Wild West Indian Games*, a very handsome bird, hardy and good layers. I have also tried the Brahma Pootras, Grey Shanghais, and last of all, the *pure White Shanghais*. I am satisfied that your correspondent, W. D., never kept this last named variety; had he done so, I have no doubt but he would have made an exception *in favor of these*, in his general condemnation of the *Shanghais*—I agree with him as to the ordinary variety. The White, instead of being unsightly, unprofitable, gross feeders, coarse meated, &c., are exactly the reverse; being a very handsome fowl both in shape and color, they are short-legged, have short, compact bodies, and as layers are superior to any kind of fowls that I have ever kept. They have continued to lay all winter, not being affected at all by the coldest weather. They are very easy to raise, and early come to maturity; the meat is said to be very fine for the table. I never kept a fowl that appeared to be less troubled with the cold weather than this variety. I am so well pleased with the very fine qualities of these fowls, that I shall take pains to introduce them in this vicinity as much as possible this season, by disposing of the eggs at a low price.

My plan of feeding has been, to keep buckwheat and corn where the fowls could have access to it at all times; once a day to give them meal, wet with hot water, and fed while hot, and some three or four times a week to feed them raw cabbage, turnips, or onions, chopped fine. The latter I give as often as once a week. I also keep lime, or some other substance, where they can have access, to aid in forming the shell. There is one point in which, *I think*, your correspondents do you a wrong, (perhaps an unintentional one on their part,) and that is, to write a most excellent advertisement in the shape of a communication. If they have fowls to dispose of, and desire the fact made known publicly, they should send you an advertisement and pay for its insertion, at the same time they might write a communication for your reading columns, giving a description of their poultry, experience in raising, &c., and referring the reader to the advertisement for terms, &c. I look upon your paper as the most valuable agricultural paper with which I am acquainted, and such is the universal sentiment of all who read. You ought to have a very large subscription list.

C.

Hartford, Ct.

Guilt is best discovered by its own fears.

BRISTOL COUNTY (MASS.) AG. SOCIETY.

ADDRESS OF HON. JACOB MILLER.

We have upon our table, awaiting examination, a number of valuable Reports of County Agricultural Societies, for 1854. Among those of especial interest are reports from the Counties of Bristol, Berkshire, and Middlesex, in Massachusetts. We have also before us the reports of the committees for 1854, of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, with the schedule of prizes for 1855.

We have just been looking over the first-named, that of Bristol County, which contains the address of Hon. Jacob W. Miller, of New-Jersey, and several valuable reports of committees. The address is a very able one. We have only room for the following extracts, which, while showing its general character, will be found quite interesting withal:

Husbandry is no longer a servile employment in Massachusetts. Commencing a necessity, genius and skill have advanced it to an art. Liberal wealth, cultivated taste, and scientific knowledge, now do homage to agriculture. Retiring merchants, opulent manufacturers, statesmen and philosophers, seek repose and enjoyment in rural occupations. And even he, whose renown as statesman, orator, and civilian filled the world, preferred to die the farmer of Marshfield, surrounded by the rustic scenery and rural beauties which his classic taste had prepared for his home and for his grave. Among the many trophies which his giant intellect has won in the forum and the senate—among the thousand monuments which his admiring countrymen may erect to his name, that old ocean-farm which his hand cultivated will survive them all in the recollection of the farmer of Massachusetts; and, so long as grass grows and water runs, associate the name of Daniel Webster with the agriculture of New-England. * * *

Whence comes it, then, that the votaries of a pursuit demanding industry, learning, and intelligence, fail to enjoy that deferential regard which envelops the learned professions in an atmosphere of respectful consideration? Before an answer could be framed for this query, it is necessary to clear away an impediment, which obstructs the very threshold. A cant phrase has of late become current among demagogues, who burn incense before a wooden idol, which they are pleased to christen as the "dignity of labor." This complimentary adulation may catch voters at the poll, but conveys a fallacy inadmissible, when we are in search of sterling truth. There exists neither dignity, nor a phantom of dignity, in labor unconnected with intelligence. On the contrary, sheer muscular effort converts a man into a machine; the instrument by which the power of inertia is overcome, and particles of matter removed from one position into another. This function may be performed by every mule, water-wheel, and steam-engine in the land. But when strength is actuated by a laudable object, and guided to its intended results by combined intellect and knowledge, then indeed labor becomes venerable. Only as the joint offspring of mind and matter, it is clothed with dignity. To consummate this nuptial union of action with study and reflection; to connect labor, thought, and science by a holy alliance; and thus to confer a real dignity and efficiency upon three-fourths of the human race, is the high problem reserved for solution by this nineteenth century. Let us review some of the means of achieving an enterprize, which, if anything mortal can be so characterized,

is indeed godlike. Had man been created without the gregarious instinct, he would ever have remained a mere barbarian. The ideas and experience of a solitary savage perish with him: the ideas and experience of millions of savages congregated during thousands of years, thrown by juxtaposition into one fermenting and teeming mass, have transformed this savage into a philosopher. Armed with the telescope and microscope, the chemical bath and the electric battery, the pristine barbarian now unavails nature, traces her combinations on this our globe, and announces her laws, among the inaccessible orbs of the milky way. The smooth marble is not self-polished, but derives its lustre from the friction of another similar fragment. The rough mind becomes polished by friction against other minds equally rough. Association, then, reciprocal movement, interchange, are the sole basis of improvement, alike in rational and material, in mental as well as in physical constitution.

The operation of this gregarious tendency is counteracted among farmers by the very nature of their pursuits. Their residence must necessarily be separated by considerable distances, and the brief intervals of labor can be enjoyed only occasionally in familiar intercourse.

Hence the distinction between urban and rural population; between the acute, bustling, sharp-witted, speculative artisan, and the slow, steady, reflective, sagacious husbandman. To compensate this disparity, the social principle must be summoned into activity; and agricultural societies seem the best, nay, the only practicable remedy. Celebrations, then, such as this, which now concentrates a wide district, may be considered as the preliminary step towards realization of the true dignity of labor. Remote friends are here collected to interchange ideas and experiences, to compare machinery and practices, to distribute novel seeds, or exhibit choice animals, and, beyond all, to exalt the intellectual faculties by emulation and reciprocal contact. This goodly company is a whetstone to sharpen ingenuity, a stimulant to amicable and honorable rivalry, a friction of mind against mind, polishing and invigorating at every encounter.

Thus can the union be consummated between reflection and action, between acute mind and indefatigable body. The dignity of labor will cease to be mere cant, when the sound mind, actuating a robust body, reconciles the maximum of produce to the minimum of effort. * * *

Swerving a little from the main line of argument, let me suggest that a demarkation quite too strict has been drawn between the garden and the farm. Why should the production of the most costly and tender plants be depreciated as a mere culinary accomplishment—the dandyism of agriculture? The process by which delicate exotics can be acclimated, and naturalized to our soil and sky; the test of various manures; the efficacy of novel tools and engines, with a multitude of details, ought to form the subject of restricted and partial experiment, before we hazard their adoption into the routine of general practice; hence the garden ought frequently to be regarded as a chemical laboratory, in which the intelligent farmer precludes a more expensive and expansive experiment. Excepting maize and tobacco, the produce of our agriculture consists chiefly of an alien vegetation; while the turkey is the sole tenant of the farm-yard whose ancestors have not been imported.

One benefit is already assured. The exercise of agriculture will rise in the scale of society from a mere vocation into a profession, as soon as a well-cultivated farm becomes the index of a well-cultivated intel-

lect. Other advantages will follow. The promised land lies before you. It is your inheritance. Improve it by your industry, and embellish it by your intelligence and taste; and then the power and glory of our Republic will rest upon its true foundation—the fertility of its broad lands, and prosperity and virtue of its hardy yeomanry.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

Through the kindness of the Secretary we have received a copy of the above Report for 1854. We believe no other Society issues their annual report with so much promptness. We have before alluded to the indefatigable energy of the very efficient Secretary. We are also free to say, that there is no other agricultural publication which we read with more interest, and real profit, than the one now before us. We think we can in no way benefit our readers at large, more than by giving them frequent extracts from this work, and we shall from time to time do so, as we have opportunity to examine and prepare them. We commence in this number with a valuable article on the

CULTURE OF THE HOP.

This subject is treated under several distinct heads, giving its History, Location, Soil and Mode of Culture, Setting the Poles, Drying, Baling and Bagging, Cost and Profit of Raising, Diseases, and Uses. Omitting the History, we commenced with the

Location.—The land designed for a hop plantation should be as free from exposure to the winds as possible, since at certain seasons it is liable to be greatly injured. Level ground is better than a hillside.

The hop is said by some to flourish best in a moist climate. The finest varieties are cultivated to the highest degree of perfection in England, the climate of which we have already alluded to in a former part of this Report. An English writer affirms that the north of England and Scotland are too cold for the successful cultivation of these varieties of the hop, and suggests that if it is at all attempted on a large scale, or in field culture, the coarse, hardy Flemish redbine be used. The latitude of Edinburgh is 55° 57', that of Boston 42° 21'. The mean annual temperature of the former is 47° 1' F., that of the latter 48° 9'—showing but a slight difference. But a comparison of the mean spring and summer heat of the two places shows a very marked difference. Our winters are far colder, and our summers far hotter, than those of Scotland; or, to resort to accurate statistics, the mean temperature of the growing months for the two places is as follows:

Edinburgh.		Boston.	
degs.		degs.	
April.....	44.1 Fahr.	April.....	47.4 Fahr.
May.....	50.3 "	May.....	56.5 "
June.....	56.0 "	June.....	66.2 "
July.....	58.7 "	July.....	71.6 "
August.....	56.8 "	August.....	69.4 "
September.....	53.4 "	September.....	62.2 "
October.....	48.8 "	October.....	51.5 "

This shows a very marked difference in our favor, so far as requisite heat is concerned; and on this point there seems to be no reason why we may not, by proper cultivation, grow the finest varieties with complete success. It has been said that the plant is indigenous to our State.

Soil and Mode of Culture.—The hop may be cultivated with success in a great variety of soils; but it flourished best in a deep, rich, mellow loam, with a subsoil of medium stiffness. In general, it may be said that good

corn land is good hop land. The soil of Wilmington, one of the first and largest towns engaged in hop growing, is generally of a poor and light description—a sandy loam; and it is worthy of remark, that the hops are better on soils which will raise only from a quarter to half a pound to a hill than on those which raise a pound or a pound and a half.

The roots of the hop extend to great depths when the soil is of suitable character and properly prepared, and the best cultivators take great pains to loosen and pulverize it thoroughly and to manure it well. The first plowing should be ten or twelve inches deep. The hop farmers of Kent and Surrey, among the most noted hop districts in England, first plow very deep, and plant with some cleansing crop, and then manure with twenty-five or thirty loads of good barnyard manure per acre. The land is then frequently sown with turnips, when sheep are folded upon it in the early part of winter; after which it is deeply trenched and thrown into ridges, to lie, during the rest of the winter, exposed to the frosts and air. The trenching is done with the spade, two spits deep, in the most thorough manner; but a more economical method is by the trench plow, or by the Michigan sod and subsoil plow.

The hop is commonly propagated from cuttings, and sometimes by young plants grown from the seed. The cuttings may be taken fresh from the crown of the long roots, and planted directly in land previously prepared for them; or they may be rooted after the manner of layers, and then planted; or the fresh cuttings may be rooted in a bed, and transplanted from that to the place intended for them. Cuttings which have been rooted generally grow more rapidly and arrive at maturity earlier than fresh cuttings, which gives them an advantage.

When shoots are to be used as layers they may be twisted at the joint above which they are to be buried in soil, and bent down and fastened, and then covered up. This is usually done in a careless manner at the first hoeing, the loose, straggling vines being buried up without any particular regard to depth or neatness; and when the vines are covered in this manner, they are not long in taking root. As soon as they have taken root, they may be cut from the parent stalk and transplanted into the ground prepared for them, each slip being six or eight inches long, and having three or four eyes, or joints. When it is designed to treat the cuttings in the nursery bed, they are taken from the crown of the root or from the stalk of old plants at the time of dressing in spring, which will be hereafter mentioned, and allowed to remain in the bed till they are well rooted. The cuttings are made about eight inches long; and if they contain more than four buds or joints, they are trimmed. Care should be taken to allow only one male plant to a field, and it may be set by the side of the road at considerable distance from the field and left to take care of itself. This caution can not be too strictly observed; for our hops have deteriorated from too much seeding, which has arisen from allowing the male plants to increase. Some allow one male plant to fifty, and set it in the field with the rest. This is too much; for, where hops are over-seeded, they ripen prematurely, and turn brown so fast as not to give time to pick them in the proper state of maturity. If any male plants are allowed to stand in the field, one hill to five acres is enough, and care should be taken to prevent them from multiplying.

(To be Continued.)

It is chiefly young ladies of narrow understanding who wear shoes too small for them.

WHAT SHOULD BE THE CHIEF CROPS OF THE SOUTH.

Corn and cotton in the cotton planting States have, by common custom, become the universal crops of extensive cultivation. How far this shift is correct, is not entirely proved by its universality, nor by the prejudices which sustain it in the minds of planters. Indian corn, indigenous to the soil, was perhaps the most convenient and profitable when the country was first settled, and when an abundant and easily prepared crop, to supply the wants of both man and beast, was a requirement of the times. In this relative value, it still is the most valuable crop grown on the virgin soils of the Middle and Southern of the Western States, for it luxuriates upon the vegetable matter abounding in new soil, and with little preparation and indifferent culture, yields large returns for labor bestowed. Such, however, is not the case in the older States, where the cream of the land has been stolen away imperceptibly by the most exhausting system to which tilled soil has ever been subjected; and taking ten years' cropping together, the Indian corn crop is the most uncertain we can plant. It is difficult to grow on any but virgin or alluvial soil, and drouths of summer, except in extraordinary and most favorable seasons, cut it off to ruinous extent. The corn-crib is called the store-house of the planter in the South, and indeed it is his main dependence. But this is only because he is not accustomed to interweave other crops with the cultivation of cotton. On improved and well prepared soil, barley and wheat would yield more bushels of grain of more value to the planter than Indian corn. In fact, barley is the most valuable grain which we cultivate at the South. If sown at the proper season, it readily perfects itself from the winter moisture in the earth, and yields heavily. It is fine soiling for all kinds of stock, and comes into harvest in May, a time when a few days can be spared from the cotton crop without detriment to its growth or production. Its grain is so well protected, that it is not liable to be spoiled by exposure to the weather, and it may lie any length of time in the straw, when drily housed, without being injured. A barley crop sown with guano, cotton seed, or well prepared compost manure, after the cotton crop is gathered in December and January, would come off sufficiently early to sow the stubble down in peas to be turned under in autumn, and the rotation of small grain with this system pursued, would be the best and most efficient mode of improving our lands. It would also be fitted to the economical and easy cultivation of the after cotton crop, by the plowing under of the herbage in the fall, which would thoroughly be decomposed by the next spring.

Barley, ground and mixed with straw, reduced to chaff by a cutting machine, is better food for horses and cattle than any preparation of Indian corn, and to those persons who have not mills, simply soaking the grain in water is a fine preparation for feeding to horses. Swine fatten and keep in condition more easily on barley than on corn. As a conclusive argument in its favor, more barley can be cheaply grown on an acre of improved dry upland, than we can grow of corn. Wheat, sown with guano in like manner after the cotton crop, would come in at a season when the harvesting could be attended to without detriment, and after the cotton crop is laid by, and in the interval between that time and the commencement of picking, the threshing and preparing it for market or the mill, could be attended to without hindrance. The middlings, shorts and bran of a large wheat crop, all mixed together, would go far to feed the plantation

stock, and negroes would relish wheaten bread as a change for the corn bread usually allowed to them.

We would, from these few reasons stated, and many more needless to mention, recommend the reduction of the corn crop to such a degree as would throw all lands not naturally producing Indian corn well, into wheat, barley, rye and oats.

We could then cultivate our tilled crops well and easily, and the avenues the system would open for improvement would soon repay for the experiment. We know that these recommendations will be met by all the objections which prejudice and the tyranny of custom engender in those who cleave to old practices and theories, but as they are convictions of true policy, we have no hesitation in making them.—*Southern Agriculturist*.

COOKING POULTRY FEED.

While one party is ever ready to quote the saying of that man who, suffering from indigestion, the result probably of over-indulgence, and due rather to his excess than the want of skill in the class of whom he spoke, growled forth that "God sent food, and the devil sent cooks," another claims for cookery the dignity of a science. Without entering into the dispute, we were led to think of it while feeding our feathered flock in the snow and hard weather a short time since.

Although the results of our experience must of necessity be published too late to be of much service now, yet they may turn to account, during the biting east winds of March and April, and in the raw cold rain we sometimes have during those months. They may also save a trifle in the mealman's bill.

"A fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind," we were provided with all the means and appliances that are considered necessary to resist cold, but were suffering from it; when being struck with the remark of a man to whom we gave some fuel, that "if it is only a potato, it does twice the good if eaten hot," we thought we would test his assertion with our fowls.

Till now, we had belonged to a numerous class, who are disposed to allow a natural course to everything, without perhaps considering enough how far we had violated the original laws by the habits and duties we had imposed. We had given good corn and meal, but, spite of them, the appearance of our fowls was anything but satisfactory, and as we looked with something like despondency on those that won prizes last year, and were expected to do the same again, we thought of the poor man's hot potato. They were then standing each on one leg, head and tail drooping, feathers loose and ruffled, the wind was turning them into the semblance of "Friezelands," and they seemed to lack the courage or inclination to change their positions. Struck by the thought we went to the kitchen. Steaming hot water in which some mutton had been boiled, a few potatoes, a little dripping and some meal, enabled us to make a smoking dish of savory food, with which we issued to the yard.

"We will not ask Jean Jacques Rousseau, if fowls confabulate or no."

But it is certain that either by smell or instinct, they perceived our intent, for they crowded round us, and as they eagerly devoured the smoking morsels we threw down, we vowed to give our readers our experience of cookery for poultry. In half an hour they were walking cheerfully, with heads and tails erect, their combs had assumed a healthy color, their plumage was smooth, and they were evidently warm and satisfied.

Since then, we have saved for mixing their food much of the kitchen water that formerly was thrown away. We have become poul-

try caterers and poultry cooks, and our reward has been to see our *protéges* in as good condition as if there were no snow on the ground, or frost in the air. Laying has gone on regularly. The present price of food has done much to make some lessen their stock, and to deter others from having any; but it is wonderful how many helps there are, even in the smallest and most economical family. Pot liquor, the water in which plates and dishes from the table are washed; bread, from toast and water; the inevitable crumbs and small pieces of bread at every meal; scraps of cooked meat, that which has served for broth or gravy; all these chopped up together and given warm form poultry cookery.

But the most important part is, they are not extras, but substitutes. They supply the place of other food, and they tend to lessen that "nightmare" of many amateurs, indeed of all who are not engaged in agriculture—we mean the corn bill.

Poultry Chronicle.

CUTTING MASHING AND COOKING FOOD FOR ANIMALS.

There can be no question as to the advantages and economy of cutting roots for both sheep and cattle. These animals are furnished with only one row of incisor or cutting teeth; and however admirably these teeth are adapted for nipping off the grass, they are by no means so well constituted for dividing large roots, and indeed this can not be done without a considerable expenditure of muscular power, which is equivalent to the expenditure of so much food.

Besides this, when turnips are fed off in the field without being cut, a considerable portion of the root is soiled and wasted, and particularly the rootlets and lower parts. The effect of leaving these fragments is injurious to the land, and tends to produce club-root in the future turnip crop. When the turnips are cut up by a proper machine, such as Gardener's turnip-cutter, the whole is consumed, no part is wasted, and the turnips are eaten by the animal with very little expenditure of labor, as the fragments are at once submitted to the molar teeth, which, besides being much more powerful are placed nearer the center of motion than the nippers, and thus can be more easily exercised. It is of course of much greater importance to cut swedes than white turnips for sheep, in consequence of their much greater solidity.

Another advantage in cutting turnips for fattening sheep is that more time is afforded for eating oil-cake, or other concentrated food, as well as for rumination. Many persons prefer Gardener's turnip-cutter, for cattle as well as sheep, as being less liable to produce choking than when the slices are broad and flat. With regard, however, to mashing and cooking roots, we believe that for either oxen or sheep there is no advantage whatever, the labor and fuel is entirely lost. Trials that have been made are altogether unfavorable. Mr. Walker, of Haddington, N. B., found five oxen and heifers on steamed turnips, &c., to cost £5 19s. more during the period of the experiment, than the same number on food uncooked. It is indeed agreeable to the constitution, and capacious stomachs, and powerful digestive organs of these animals, that roots should be consumed in a raw state.

There is only one animal, that is the pig, for which cooking is advantageous. This animal has only one stomach, which somewhat resembles that of man, and accordingly it is advantageous to prepare the food and assist the digestive organs. Besides which, boiled roots are more palatable to the animal, and will be partaken to a much larger

extent, than if raw. And as roots are cheaper than meal in proportion to the nourishment contained, there is a decided advantage in using them in combination. It is unnecessary, however, to boil roots for store pigs. Although boiled roots have not been found advantageous for fattening cattle, yet when milk is the object they have been found to answer the purpose of the cowkeeper, and to produce a larger quantity of this secretion.

Prize Essay by W. C. Spooner.

CULTIVATION OF SANDY SOILS—LONG ISLAND.

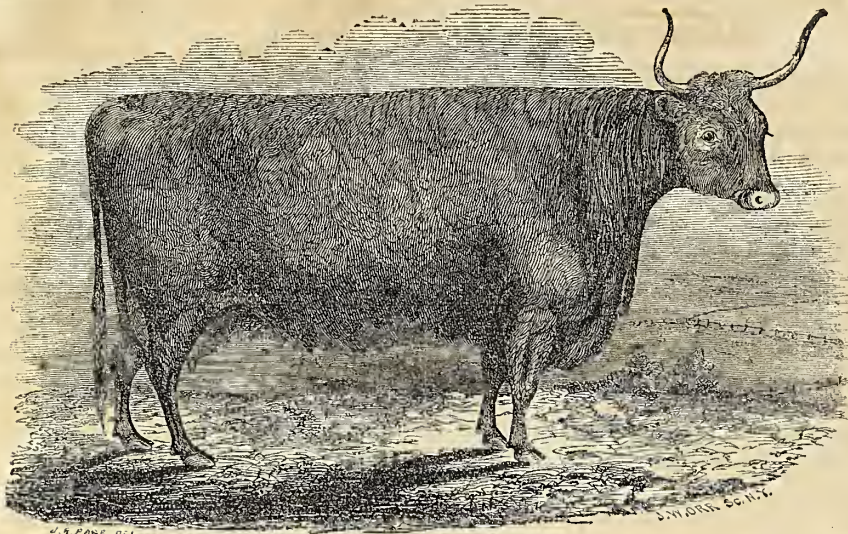
A large portion of the soil of the country is of this class, and very little of it is under what may be called good cultivation. The greater part is managed on the skinning or starvation system. That these soils possess many advantages, has been long acknowledged by those who have given the subject the least consideration, while their peculiar adaptation to the culture of root-crops is now generally admitted. The absence of alumina and their porous character rendering them unable, in a great measure, to retain moisture, the best portions of manure are lost, either by percolation or evaporation; and hence has arisen a great objection to the cultivation of this class of soil, which their cheapness, ease of tillage, and facility for raising early crops, do not seem to have obviated. And yet that such soil can be well and profitably cultivated has been long known; witness the barren sand of Belgium and the estates of Coke and Hatherton in England, or, nearer home, the blowing sand near Albany, and some small portions of Long-Island. Their adaptation also for sheep husbandry is well known; and yet, within a few miles of this great city are thousands of acres every way capable of supporting immense flocks, with not a sheep on them. I have been led to make these observations from a recent trip on the Long-Island Railroad, when, in the space of about fifty miles, I did not see that number of sheep; and, as a friend with me observed, on passing Hempstead Plains, here are the Downs, but where are the Southdowns? Certainly not there. A great many sheep, I understand, are raised on the north side of the island, and the stock is generally improving; Mr. Bear, W. W. Mills, and J. Smith, having some fine flocks. Still they are the exception, not the rule, and it is the latter that we want. The growing taste for mutton, and the high price a good article will always command, we think should stimulate the farmers of Long-Island to push forward in what I consider a profitable branch of husbandry; and instead of being satisfied with raising from eight to ten bushels of rye to the acre, and then carrying the straw off the farm, consume it on the farm, and not rest satisfied till they can, from the same land, raise from five to six hundred bushels of turnips. That this can be done, we will endeavor, at some future time to show.—*L., in Plow, Loom and Anvil.*

SUGAR PROSPECTS.—The Franklin (St. Mary) Planters' Banner, of the 22 ult., says:

Many of our planters stopped planting their seed cane during the drouth, thinking it wouldn't pay for the trouble; but since the late rain they have recommenced—this time with a prospect of success. We hear many complaints, however, for damage done; some say that one-half of their seed is rendered entirely useless. From all accounts we may expect a short crop next fall.

Similar complaints reach us from almost every quarter of the sugar region.—*N. O. Com. Bull.*

Do not for one repulse forget the purpose you resolved to effect.



NORTH DEVON COW.

BIRTHDAY.

BIRTHDAY (38)*, 10 years old. Winner of the 1st prize at the N. Y. State Show in 1853 and 1854. 1st prize at the Devon Ag. Show at Exeter in 1848, and 1st prize at the Barnstaple and North Devon Cattle Show in 1848, as one of a dairy of cows. She was sired by Proctor (109), dam Taunton (440), and is the property of L. G. Morris, by whom she was selected and imported.

*Davies' Devon Herd Book.

For the American Agriculturist,

GIRLS SHOULD LEARN HOW TO "KEEP HOUSE."

It is evening. I am sitting in my parlor reading a "Daily," which has just been brought from the city. In the cellar, below me, I hear a saw, and children's voices, and now and then, another, more full and manly. I know a quarter of beef is undergoing a process of "cutting up," and I hear a multitude of questions from the little folks about roasting-pieces, boiling-pieces, soup-pieces, and steaks.

"Where is the best steak found?" one asks. I do not observe the answer, for my thoughts have wandered far away, and I am thinking of an anecdote I overheard of a newly married pair. They were both young, and entirely ignorant of the mysteries of housekeeping. They were wealthy, and of course their establishment was not very simple. They had much company, and the lady was subjected to many mortifications. Her servants came to her for directions, but she was utterly at a loss how to give them. Tears often relieved her overcharged heart, but they made her no wiser.

At one time a party of gentlemen were guests at the house. As there was a whole beef in the cellar, the lady proposed they should select their own dinner. A steak was decided upon. But a difficulty arose: no one knew where the steak was to be found. How the locality of the choice bit was ascertained, I do not know, or whether they ascertained it at all. But one thing I do know, and that is, that for want of a little early instruction, it was through much tribulation that the lady alluded to became a superior housekeeper.

No young lady can be too well instructed in anything which will affect the comfort of a family. Whatever position in society she occupies, she needs a practical knowledge of the duties of a housekeeper. She may be placed in such circumstances that it will not be necessary for her to perform much domestic labor, but on this account, she needs no less knowledge, than if herself obliged to preside personally over the cooking-stove and pantry. Indeed, I have often thought that it is more difficult to direct others, and requires more experience, than to do the same work with our own hands.

Mothers are frequently so nice and particular, that they do not like to give up any part of their care to their children. This is a great mistake in their management, for they are often burdened with labor, and need relief. Children should be early taught to make themselves useful—to assist their parents in every way in their power, and to consider it a privilege to do so.

Young people can not realize the importance of a thorough knowledge of housewifery, but those who have suffered the inconveniences and mortifications of ignorance can well appreciate it. Children should be early indulged in their disposition to bake, and experiment in cooking in various ways. It is often but a "troublesome help" which they afford still it is a great advantage to them.

I know a little girl, who, at nine years old, made a loaf of bread every week during the winter. Her mother taught her how much yeast, and salt, and flour to use, and she became quite an expert baker. Whenever she is disposed to try her skill in making simple cake, or pies, she is permitted to do so. She is thus, while amusing herself, learning an important lesson. Her mother calls her her little housekeeper, and often permits her to get the sweetmeats for the table. She hangs the keys by her side, and very musical their gingling is to her ears. I think, before she is out of her teens, upon which she has not yet entered, that she will have some idea where to find a steak, and how to cook it too.

Some mothers give their daughters the care of housekeeping, each a week, by turns.

It seems to me a good arrangement, and a most useful part of their education.

Domestic labor is by no means incompatible with the highest degree of refinement and mental culture. Many of the most elegant, accomplished women I have known, have looked well to their household duties, and have honored themselves and their husbands by so doing.

ANNA HOPE.

[Will some "expert" please give a plain description of the method of cutting up a beef, a chicken, &c.? and tell exactly where the "choice pieces" are to be found.—Eps.]

For the American Agriculturist.

GOLDEN DROP SPRING WHEAT.

I herewith send you a sample of the *Golden Drop* or *Fife* wheat, as it is more commonly called here, from the fact that the seed from which this sprung was brought three year's since from the Fife in Scotland, by a Scotchman. This wheat succeeds better than any other we have ever had here. It is better than the Black Sea, inasmuch as it yields in every season more than that, and is not liable to be struck by rust, and the straw is bright and better than any other spring wheat straw for feeding. The quality of the flour is far superior to that of Black Sea. In fact a great deal of it is being mixed with Genesee wheat and sold as first quality flour. It is superior to the China or Tea wheat, in that it does not shell so easily and waste in harvesting, as the Tea. It makes about the same quality and quantity of flour as the Tea, but will yield, I think, a little more to the acre, especially on poor land. Four years ago there was not a bushel of it raised in this country; Black Sea was raised in great quantity, and now this is exactly the reverse. I raised last season over two thousand bushels, and shall sow as much land this year as last, with the same wheat. Our farmers use it also to sow on their winter wheat-fields in the spring, where the latter has been killed out. The appearance of the wheat is much the same as winter wheat. K.

BROWNVILLE, Jefferson Co., N. Y. March 7, 1855

TAKE CARE OF THE TREES.—As the frost is leaving the ground, canker-worms will soon begin to ascend the trees, unless proper means are speedily taken to prevent it. Small leaden troughs filled with oil, and encircling the trunks, are a good preventive.

It is stated that the original statue of Power's Greek Slave is in this country. This is a mistake. It was executed expressly for Mr. John Grant, of London, and has never been out of his possession. The Greek Slave in this country is a copy.

FRUIT CROPS IN MASSACHUSETTS.—We regret to say, that in many localities in this vicinity, the germ of the flowering buds of the peach tree is to a considerable extent destroyed by the severity of the weather. A small portion of the buds, in most of the trees, will probably produce fruit.—*Worcester Spy*.

Ezra Meach, of Charlotte, besides weighing 400 pounds, has the largest farm in Vermont, keeps 300 head of cattle and 2000 sheep, cultivates 30 acres of wheat, 40 of rye, 25 of corn, 20 of potatoes, 25 of beans, and 50 of oats; 250 acres are plowed and 600 acres are used as meadow.

Zeal without judgment is an evil, though it be zeal unto good.

Horticultural Department.

ROTATION OF CROPS IN THE GARDEN.

It is the custom of many, who have small vegetable gardens, to plant the same crops in the same spots year after year. This may be done and good crops may be obtained, if the land is deeply trenched and thoroughly manured every year. But without these precautions crops will almost certainly degenerate. The onions very likely will become maggoty and rot, and the peas fail to fill out well, and the cabbages show small heads. Though we manure abundantly and work the soil two spits deep, we find it of great advantage to change the locality of the crops every year, with few exceptions. Asparagus cannot very well be changed, and onions seem to do better upon the same spot year after year.

It is now time to make your plans for the garden for the next season, and it will be found an advantage to change the locality of every other crop. Manures should be adapted to the various crops you purpose to raise. Certain kinds of plants require a good deal of ammonia, such as onions, carrots, tomatoes, celery, &c. These should be treated to guano, night soil, or hog-dung. Let a certain portion of the garden be allotted to them, and the manure trenched in, as soon as the season will allow. This may be called plot No. 1.

In No. 2 we would raise potatoes, peas, beans, beets, and corn. On this you should put an abundant supply of vegetable matter, if the soil is not already well furnished, and a mixture of guano and superphosphate of lime. If you have not these, a compost of cow-dung and old turf or muck will prove a good substitute. The pea is a lime plant, and a top dressing of slaked lime pays well.

On No. 3 put no guano, night soil, or hog manure. Here you will raise turnips, cabbages, and the brassica tribe of plants which are sure to be club-footed with these nitrogenous manures. We have found home-prepared superphosphate an excellent manure for these plants. For all the root crops in the garden, use the trenching spade, and make your soil at least 18 inches deep. It is a slow process, but pays better than any other. The quantity of roots that may be raised on a few square rods, thoroughly worked, is astonishing to one who has only plowed his garden six or eight inches deep.

A CHEAP HOT-BED may be made by procuring a couple of sashes, say three feet by four, and fitting them to a box. Any rough boards will do. Remove the surface soil the size of the box, and put in horse manure a foot or eighteen inches deep. Cover the manure with six inches of soil, put over your box the sashes, and you have a cheap hot-bed, where you may sow early York cabbage seed, a few tomatoes, lettuce, peppers, &c., and in the middle of the bed, where there is the most heat, a few egg plants. The cost is but a trifle, and it gives

us vegetables several weeks in advance of their time.

PANSIES IN POTS.

I do not know why it should be the case, but certain it is, that but few of the Pansy growers with whom I am acquainted succeed with the cultivation of that plant in pots. My experience is principally among growers in the north; the case may be different in the south, but in this neighborhood the experiment, as some still persist in calling it, has resulted, with very few exceptions, in undeniable failure. As a proof of this it may be mentioned, that for the last three years the Caledonian Society has been in the habit of offering prizes for "Pansies exhibited in eight-inch pots," and in spite of attempts having been made by many in this Pansy-loving district, to produce them in good order at the exhibition, only one grower has as yet succeeded in bringing forward anything approaching to creditable productions. The prize is omitted in schedule for 1855, published by the Society, in consequence, as I understand, of the three years' trial not having been followed by any satisfactory competition.

Although from this reason nothing else was to be expected, still the exclusion is to be regretted, for, when well grown, at the early season of the year at which they are to be had in perfection, they make a valuable addition to an exhibition, and are found very useful as ornaments to the front shelf of a greenhouse. I am one of those who think that, in every case where practicable, the plant should be exhibited with the bloom. The point of habit of plant for decorative purposes is a very important one, and we know that much disappointment is frequently experienced by those who attend exhibitions (although not themselves growers for exhibition) for the purpose of selecting from the specimens shown those varieties which they may be desirous of adding to their collection. It is superfluous, perhaps, to tell the Pansy-grower that his favorite plant is not free at times from the charge of bad habit, and that some varieties are more suited to the border than others; indeed it might almost be added, that some varieties which are esteemed for exhibition purposes are not fit for the border at all. Exhibiting in pots of course brings the habit to the test as well as the bloom. Many have been misled in selecting their varieties of Pansies, and other flowers which might be named, from the bloom alone.

Much more might be said on this subject, but the object at the present time is not that of advocating the exhibition of the Pansy in pots, but that of giving those who are desirous of succeeding with them in this way some hints, gathered from the grower to whom I have alluded, who has succeeded with them, not only as blooming plants for exhibition, but who also, from pots, has won a large number of prizes which have been offered for cut blooms. These hints may not be required for the south, but many in the north are readers of the *Florist*, who, if they will adhere to the mode of management to be mentioned, will cease to find much further difficulty in producing the desired result.

First, then, as to soil. Upon this being of proper materials and those in right condition when mixed together, much of the after success depends. The soils to be leaf mold, sandy loam, and well-decomposed manure. The first mentioned is perhaps the most important of the three; and when in fit condition to form part of the compost, will be found to be a very different material from that which is made to serve the purpose. That which should be used is such as has been prepared somewhat after the following

manner. (I here give the modd followed by the grower in question.) About the 1st of January of each year, a bed is made up for the purpose of forcing rhubarb, composed of leaves which have been kept moderately dry up to that time, and stable manure in somewhat rank condition; the quantity used is generally about twelve large cart-loads of the leaves, with which two cart-loads of the stable manure are thoroughly shaken in and mixed; these together produce a steady and a lasting heat, up to the middle or the end of March; and, as the rhubarb is planted wide, there is space enough between the rows of plants on which to place a single light frame, which is useful for many purposes during that period.

When the rhubarb no longer requires it, the material which formed the hot-bed is removed to another situation; and as the leaves are only very partially decayed, when fresh placed and thoroughly shaken over, the mass again forms another hot-bed, which is used perhaps up to the middle of June. Should the heat be found to fail, it is of course easy enough to increase it by linings in the ordinary way; however, this is but seldom necessary, and generally a sufficient amount remains to produce the desired blood-heat from the bed on which Pink pipings, and the earlier ones of Carnations may be rooted. When no longer needed or serviceable for this purpose, the heap is again turned over, which process is repeated in the autumn, and once or twice during the first winter and the following summer. By the commencement of the second winter the heap has begun to assume the character of mold in some degree; and when this is the case the turnings over are made frequent, and, should frost set in, the whole mass is exposed to its influence. The following spring finds this material in a condition very well suited to digging in to the Pansy beds, for instance, and many other purposes; but it does not form part of the compost which is used for the growing of Pansies in pots until another year, by which time it has the appearance of a dark-colored mold.

The above mode of preparation of leaf-mold is to be recommended for various reasons, the chief of which are, the use which is made of the leaves so long as they will serve the purpose of a hot-bed, and the frequent turnings over which are continued, I ought to have said, up to the time of use, and which are so essential to the good condition of that or any other soil.—S., in *London Florist*.

WHITE MOUNTAIN SPINACH.—If the advantages of this summer spinach were more generally known, I think few gardens would be without it. As it is, its valuable qualities seem known to a few gardeners only.

The Orach, or Mountain spinach, is a native of Tartary, and in this country it grows from three to four feet in height; the leaves are broad and fleshy, of a light green color, and of a delicious flavor when young, in which state it should be gathered for use. The leaves simply require to be well washed, boiling quickly, and adding a little salt to the water.

To keep up a succession in a garden, two sowings will be sufficient, say the end of February and in April or May; any good garden soil will suit it, although it evidently prefers a rich loamy soil. The seed vegetates in about three weeks after sowing, and considerable thinning will be required. If the flower shoots are stopped, a succession of fresh young leaves will be insured throughout the summer, when the common garden spinach has run to seed and is useless.—J. F., in *Turner's Florist*.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, March 14.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF COUNTRY HOUSES.

We do not believe that the present frost-work and gingerbread fashion of building country houses is to continue long. We say this, because the fashion is a *false* one, based on false premises, and adopted by impulse, as many other bad things are, because new and fanciful. Downing was the first to give them wide notoriety, by his published plans and plausible descriptions. As *temporary* structures for a country box, to which the dweller in a great city can retire for a few months in the summer, they may do; but for the *permanent* dweller in the country, be he farmer or otherwise, all this description of fancy finery is out of place, and out of purpose. We do not lay all this sin against sensible architecture in house-building to Downing, for he had valuable redeeming qualities in the good taste and discriminating judgement with which he handled collateral subjects in connection with them. After writers, and "professed architects" in "Country Homes" innumerable, have followed, with fanciful ideas only, who know little, if anything, of the requisites of country house-keeping; and they have scattered these gim-cracks all over the land, as ridiculous things, in most instances, for the use they are put to, as any one need imagine—particularly when applied to a farmer's occupancy.

It is of no use to describe, or to attempt to describe these things—every body knows how they look—all over tinsel and toggery, as they are outside, and of absurdities within. They are not fit for sensible house-keeping, and we have scarcely known one which has been occupied in the shape in which the builder left it and pronounced it complete, for five years, without very considerable alterations. Nor are we going to give specific plans or directions for house-building in particular; only a few hints, or outlines, as a basis, or principle of construction, which will be found lasting, and important for general purposes.

We maintain that the man who is about to build should, in the first place, take a review of the great purpose for which he wants to build. If a farmer, he should look to the size of his farm, and the number of his family; to their circumstances and relations in life—and lastly, to his own pecuniary ability. If not a farmer, the requirements of the farm in house-building are to be thrown aside, and the rest only considered. All these preliminaries have an important bear-

ing upon the future satisfaction, or enjoyment which the house is to give to the occupant.

In the first place, the house should be either square or oblong in shape. A square gives the greatest space within a given line of wall, but it is hardly so agreeable in shape as the other. The proper proportion for the best appearance should be a width of about one-fifth or one-sixth less than the length. A wing, to contain the kitchen and office appendages should be in rear, and attached mainly at one end of the house proper, running back indefinitely, into wood-houses, or other attachments for household purposes solely. This wing should be less, perhaps two-thirds the height of the main structure, and of a plain style of outside finish. The height of the main body of the house, if more than 40 by 30 feet, should always be of more than one story—say a story and a half, to two—never three stories. We much prefer two full stories. A cellar should be excavated under the whole. This is not absolutely necessary, if the room be not wanted, but it is better that the whole walls may rest on an even base, and not liable to settle irregularly, as well as to give full ventilation. The divisions, or cutting up within the walls, may be adapted to the wants and conveniences of the family who are to occupy it. We premise that the position of the house is a naturally dry one; if not, a thorough under-draining should make it permanently dry, for without this no building can be healthy to its inmates.

MATERIALS FOR HOUSE BUILDING.

Stone, for a country house, is, of all, the best and most appropriate. Best, because, if of proper kind, imperishable; appropriate because a natural production coëxistent with the soil itself, and always in harmony with natural objects around it, no matter what the color of the stone may be.

Brick is the next best material. *If well made*, they are lasting, and easier laid than stone, and can sometimes be adopted where stone is not to be found. Their color is not so agreeable to the eye, and if red, they require paint to harmonize with surrounding objects. There are some clays which make bricks of a soft, pleasant, straw color, which needs no paint, and are quite appropriate to a country house.

Wood, every body knows, is perishable; yet, when stone and brick are not convenient, is the cheapest, first cost. It is, however, more expensive in the long run, requiring frequent applications of paint, and occasional repairs; not so warm, and less becoming as a permanent structure. It is more liable to fire; it is more accessible to vermin, rats, mice, and insects, which are next to impossible to be kept from its walls and partitions. In consequence of these objections, wood is the last material of which a really good house should be built, any where.

HOW SHOULD A STONE OR BRICK HOUSE BE BUILT?

For a stone house, the *cellar* walls should be quite two feet thick; the walls of the first story above ground, twenty inches, and the second story sixteen inches. The main partition walls, from the foundation up, should

be of brick, and they eight inches thick, or the length of a brick. If the cellar partitions be of stone, they should be thicker, as it is difficult to find stones small enough to *bind* well in a thin wall. Where the floor joists are laid, let the wall on which they rest be of full thickness up to the upper surface of the joists, so, to exclude rats and mice, that no space be left under the outer edges of the floors. Instead of furring the inside of the outer walls, on which to lath, to prevent dampness, as is the custom in well built houses, we would prefer to carry up a *double* wall, thus: Let the stone wall be laid, say fifteen inches thick. Within this, and one inch from it, lay a course of bricks lengthwise, and every three or four bricks in height, and four or five feet in length, lay a *bond*-brick, endwise from the inner front of the brick wall back into the stone, so as to bind the two walls well together. This mode of double wall cuts off all dampness from the outer wall, is no more expensive than furring and lathing, and excludes all vermin, which will somehow or other, almost always work in behind the lath. The inside plastering is put at once on to the face of the inner wall, and makes a perfect finish.

This inner wall we would also adopt with outer brick walls—although brick walls, well laid, are less pervious to moisture than stone—and throw aside lath on outer walls altogether. A more expensive house may be built with hollow walls of stone. These are dry and save lathing. Several have recently been erected in this manner in this neighborhood, and are much liked by their occupants.

CHIMNEYS—WARMING—AND VENTILATION.

We would never build chimneys in outer walls, for the reason that they impart what heat they receive from the smoke of their fires into the walls, which escapes at once into the outside air, and, whatever the amount of that heat may be, is lost to the rooms. The only apology for outer-wall chimneys is, that they take up less room than interior chimneys. In the present improved way of warming houses by stoves, either open or close, large chimneys are not required, and the room they occupy is not objectionable. They warm the rooms through which they pass considerably. Let every separate flue be carried up by itself, throughout. Without this precaution they will smoke, if open stoves or fire-place be used. In addition to this, each place should have a separate mouth, or escape, for its own smoke, by a pot or funnel, that the air may play all around it. This is quite as necessary as the separate flue. (See Allen's Rural Architecture, pp. 67-8.)

The best mode of warming a house, aside from cooking purposes, is by a furnace in the cellar. We once thought otherwise; but since the later constructions of furnaces have been perfected, we are altogether converted to their superiority over the use of stoves or fire-places, either for wood or coal. The furnace is safer. It requires no more fuel. It saves much labor in preparing the wood—if wood be used—and in sweeping up dirt, and carrying the fuel into the severa

rooms where needed; and, besides, *gives perfect and thorough ventilation* to every room thus warmed. It will require more space than we can now give, to go into the details of this, but an investigation into the principles of a *properly constructed furnace* will convince you of the fact. We have tried it, and know it. Large buildings may be heat by steam pipes. This is the most agreeable way of heating we know, in our dry, winter climate.

After all this preparation, throw a steep, broad roof over the house, projecting from three to four, or five feet, according to the size of the building, beyond the walls, and let the water-gutters and conductors, if you have them, be at least a foot outside the walls, (two or three feet would be better,) that no water can, by possibility, accumulate and run down them, either inside or out. This broad roof is the most important of all the improvements which have been introduced into modern house-building. It keeps the upper walls cooler in summer and warmer in winter, and protects them from beating storms, and gives the whole establishment a comfortable and sheltered look, which is wanting without it. We will illustrate this: Nearly twenty years ago we purchased and removed into a large two-story stone house. It had then been built twenty years, and was considered a grand affair in the country, and a model house of its time. It had stone parapets at the ends, wooden balustrades above the eaves on front and rear, wooden eave-troughs or gutters attached to the plates, with any quantity of expensive filagree work upon them—a master-piece of workmanship, as the architect thought. The walls were massive, and well built, but not double, as we have recommended, nor were they furred, and lathed, inside. The chimneys had separate flues, which all opened on a level at the top. It had, besides, a high basement, in which was a cellar kitchen, and other offices—those intolerable abominations which ought to be a crime to put in any house standing on an open lot—although this was in the midst of a lawn of several acres. The consequence of all these mistakes in an otherwise excellent house, was damp walls, the water, after a frosty time, frequently trickling down the outer sides of the inner rooms; smoky chimneys—at times intolerably so—and nearly double female labor requisite in housekeeping. We suffered these miseries for a while, and then, for the first time in our life, set about the study of house-building, for we liked the place, and did not wish to abandon it for deficiencies which could be remedied. The result was, that the stone parapets, the wooden balustrades, and the carved eave-gutters, were all torn down and thrown aside, a broad, hanging roof took their places, throwing the water more than four feet beyond the walls; separate chimney-tops were carried above each flue; and a substantial furnace for wood built in the cellar under the main hall, carrying warmth and ventilation into the rooms, which had before been supplied with stoves and fire-places. In addition to these a snug upper wing was erected at one end of the

house for the kitchen, and its offices. With these improvements, the house is all that it need be—dry at all times, warm, comfortable, and convenient—before which, with all the cost and pains-taking about it, it was neither.

We would not have mentioned these personal matters, only as an example of the folly of spending money on outside decoration, to the manifest injury of a dwelling itself, and neglecting the great objects within, for which a house really ought to be constructed. Thousands of existing houses in the United States may still be thus altered at small expense, giving absolute enjoyment where is now much discomfort and misery.

CHEMISTRY

FOR SMALL AND LARGE BOYS AND GIRLS.

CHAPTER VIII.

Hydrogen—Symbol H—Atomic Weight 1.

71. Hydrogen is found in almost all substances that are produced by animal or vegetable growth, but is seldom found in earthy or mineral substances that do not contain water in their composition. Water, however, does form a part of the structure of many of the minerals and earths. Starch, sugar, gum, gluten, oils, and woody fiber, constitute the great mass of organic substances, or those which grow, and of each of these hydrogen forms a part. Starch, for example, makes up about four-fifths of flour, and starch is represented by $C_{12}O_{10}H_{10}$, or carbon 12 atoms, oxygen 10 atoms, and hydrogen 10 atoms, but the hydrogen atoms are so small that there is only 10 lbs. of hydrogen in 162 lbs. of starch, or about one ounce in a pound.

72. *How to Obtain Hydrogen.*—As water is made of hydrogen and oxygen—HO—if we add something to the water which the oxygen has a greater affinity (or liking) for than it has for hydrogen, it will leave the hydrogen. There are many substances of this kind. A piece of iron or zinc put in water (HO), will in time unite with the oxygen and set the hydrogen free. Put a bright slip of zinc in a bottle of water, and it will immediately be covered with a thin film of a white substance, composed of zinc and oxygen (ZnO) called oxide of zinc, and a little hydrogen escapes unobserved into the air. But this film or coating keeps the water from coming in contact with more of the zinc, so that the continuance of the change is stopped. Now lift out the zinc and scrape off the coating of oxide of zinc (ZnO), and again put it into the water, and the same change will take place as before, and more hydrogen will be set free. So we might go on cleaning the surface of the zinc and dipping it into the water, till all the water in the bottle would be decomposed—its oxygen all united with zinc to form oxide of zinc, and its hydrogen all set free in a gas or air-like form. By putting an empty bladder, or India rubber bag, over the mouth of the bottle every time the bright zinc is dropped into the water, the hydrogen would rise up into the bladder or bag, and we should thus catch it in its gaseous form; though in such an open

ration it would be mingled with some of the air in the bottle over the water.

73. To avoid the trouble of cleaning the zinc, and of continually removing the bag, another simple process is usually employed. If, instead of wiping or scraping the zinc, we dip it into a mixture of sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol) and water, the acid and water will instantly dissolve the coating or film of oxide of zinc, and leave it bright for an instant. Knowing this, the chemist first puts his zinc and water into the bottle, and then pours in a little acid. Now the zinc grasps a particle of oxygen, letting its hydrogen escape, and no sooner is this done than the acid dissolves the compound formed and leaves another atom of zinc exposed, which undergoes the same change in turn. In this way millions of hydrogen atoms are freed every minute, and being very light, they rise up from the mouth of the bottle and escape into the air; or we can catch them by placing the mouth of a bladder or India rubber bag (freed from air) over the neck.

74. Another way to catch the hydrogen is to hold a tumbler, glass jar, or any open-mouthed vessel, bottom upwards, over the bottle while the hydrogen gas is escaping. The gas is so light that it will rise into the inverted vessel and occupy the upper part of it, crowding down the heavier air. This is a very simple experiment, and any one who has a little sulphuric acid, some bits of old zinc, and a junk bottle, can produce hydrogen from water. Break up the zinc so that it will go into the bottle, put in a handful of it, pour in water enough to cover it, and then add a spoonful or more of acid till the water appears to boil somewhat. The boiling appearance is produced by the bubbles of hydrogen gas escaping. Let this boiling go on for three or four minutes, or longer if it is not very brisk, so that the hydrogen can drive out the air; then put a tumbler over the bottle, and in a few minutes it will be filled with hydrogen gas. Put your hand over the mouth of the tumbler—keeping it bottom upwards—and remove it a little way from the bottle, then you can light the gas with a candle or a blazing match, and it will quickly burn, with very little color to the flame.* We shall, further on, learn that in burning it has united with oxygen from the air, and again formed a new quantity of water.

In the next chapter we will describe some further experiments, which any boy or girl can make, without going to a laboratory for apparatus. We shall try to introduce such experiments as you can all make, and hope you will all try them.

*Be careful in this experiment not to get any flame near the bottle, for hydrogen gas is very explosive, and should it be lighted in the narrow-necked bottle, while mixed with air, it might burst and result in injury.

HOP CULTURE.—We have very frequently been asked for information on this subject. We are happy to be able to give a very full and complete practical essay upon this branch of agriculture, in a series of short articles, which will continue through several numbers. Those specially interested in this subject will find these articles alone worth

many times the cost of our volume, while those not specially engaged in this branch of culture can gather much to interest them.

PRESERVING GRAPES IN COTTON.—We have just received, from a considerate friend in western New-York, a fine specimen of Isabella grapes, admirably preserved by simply enveloping them in cotton. Though thus late in the season, they are really delicious, nearly as fresh as if new, and almost beguiled us into the belief that we had come to the season of the purple fruit. We sincerely thank the fair giver for this token of her regard. May all *sweet blessings cluster* about her life, and may she never cease to be *preserved* in the remembrance of her friends. *

OUR readers are referred to a variety of new advertisements which will be found in their appropriate place. The one headed "Situation on a Farm wanted," is worthy of attention, or so we should judge from reading it.

Stock raisers and those desiring improved animals, will find several advertisements of especial interest to them. Agricultural and other societies will of course note Mr. Williams' proposal to furnish Tents, &c.

TURNING OUT STOCK EARLY.

Most farmers greatly injure their pastures by turning their stock out upon them too early. They ought to wait till the ground has become so firm and compact that the cattle will not poach it; and the grass should be sufficiently high to give them a good bite, without being obliged to gnaw down to the roots. Woodland pastures are the only exception to this rule. On these it is no matter how early stock is turned. The grass here is not so valuable as on open lands, and the leaves still upon the ground of the previous year's forest growth, are generally sufficient to prevent its being poached; besides it is necessary to turn out early on such pastures, in order to give the stock the benefit of the browse.

When the early grass is eaten off too soon, it leaves the roots exposed to spring frosts; and if dry weather follows, the pasture will scarcely recover all summer. But let the grass get a good thick start, and then if not overstocked, it will keep growing till late in autumn unless it happens to be particularly dry.

Sufficient attention is not paid to our pastures. They ought to be harrowed every spring with a fine sharp-tooth harrow, all the manure droppings beat fine, and grass seed sown over all bare or thin spots. After this a heavy roller may advantageously follow.

Spread salt over weedy or bushy places, after cutting them off, and the stock after this will gnaw the herbage so close as to prevent the future growth of the weeds, &c. The following year such spots should be well harrowed and grass seed sown thickly over them. It would be well to keep the stock off of them until the grass has well set, they may then be turned on again.

Good pastures pay as large an interest as meadow or mowing lands, and equally good care should be taken of them.

Mowing lands should never be pastured in the spring; the hay crop suffers sadly if they are.

IMPROVEMENT IN POULTRY.

As one incident illustrating the great progress of late years in this important branch of farming and stock-raising, a friend from Connecticut informs us, that in his immediate neighborhood, fifteen tons of choice, dressed poultry is annually sent to market, when a few years since, scarcely one ton was sold. He says, in the article of geese an immeasurable improvement has been made. A choice African gander, (known by his dew-lap reaching from his jaw the entire length of his neck and belly), is used with from five to seven Bremen geese; and this cross produces great fertility, vigor of constitution, and rapid growth, as any one may see who has watched these stately bipeds leading a brood of a dozen or fifteen goslings, larger than themselves, to their watering places. He says one man hatched, last season, about 80 goslings, from seven Bremen geese and one gander, and raised 70, the others having been lost by maiming. For such goslings, well fattened, he often receives five dollars per pair. This certainly cannot be a losing business.

Another correspondent writes us, that he sold poultry last year to the amount of \$2,900, mostly live and fancy stock. Another friend assures us, his sales have been about \$2,000 per annum, for the last two or three years.

Such large receipts can not be often realized, and we should be sorry to encourage their expectations; but they are a pretty sure guarantee, that the breeders of any choice birds will have no difficulty hereafter in always realizing a handsome remuneration for the trouble and expense in raising them.

CURIOUS FACTS CONCERNING DYSPEPSIA.—The effect of mental disquietude in producing this prevalent complaint, is far greater than is supposed. It is well known that persons in good health, of sound digestive organs, who take plenty of exercise, and are free from anxiety, may eat almost anything, and in quantities which would kill those in different circumstances. In reference to this point, Dr. Brigham, an English medical writer, observes: "We do not find dyspepsia prevalent in countries where the people do eat most enormously. Travelers in Siberia say that the people there often eat forty pounds of food in one day. Admiral Seripchhoff saw a Siberian eat, directly after breakfast, twenty-five pounds of boiled rice, with three pounds of butter. But dyspepsia is not a common disease in Siberia. We do not learn from Captain Parry, or Captain Lyon, the Arctic travelers, that their friends the Esquimaux are very nervous and dyspeptic, though they individually eat ten or twelve pounds of solid food per day, washing it down with a gallon or so of train oil. Captain Lyon was, to be sure, a little concerned for a delicate young lady Esquimaux, who ate his candles, wicks and all, yet he does not allude to her inability to digest them."

Patience is the key of content.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

BABY POETRY.

A young mother, says the Home Journal, insists upon our publishing the following affecting and beautiful baby poetry, under the head of "Interesting to Ladies." So here it is:

Where is the baby? Bess its heart—
Where is muzzer's darling boy?
Does it hold its little hands apart,
The dearest, bessed toy?
And so it does; and will its little chin
Grow just as fat as butter?
And will it poke its little fingers in
Its tunnin ittle mouth, and mutter
Nicky wickey words,
Just like ittle yellow birds?
And so it will; and so it may,
No matter what its pappy say,
And does it wink its ittle eyeses,
When its mad, and ups and crieses?
And does it squall like chick-a-dees
At everything it sees?
Well it does! Why not, I pray?
Aint it muzzer's darlin *evvey* day?
Oh! what's the matter? oh my! oh my!
What makes my swetest chickey ky?
Oh nasty, uggy pin, to prick it;
Its darlin muzzer's darlin cricket!
There! there! she throw it in
The fire! the kuel, wicked pin!
There! hush, my honey; go to seep,
Rocked in e kadle of a deep!

WAITING FOR THE CARS.

About 12 o'clock we reached Rome. All the trains on the Central Road were behind time; but they were just about to arrive, and they were just a-going to arrive, for five hours. The room in the station-house was soon filled. Ladies there were, but in no proportion to the gentlemen. They were more patient—at least, outwardly; staying in the house was more natural to them. But the men were full of calculations—how long before the train must arrive now; when it would probably be at Syracuse and Buffalo, or Utica, and Albany; what the chances were for getting to New-York. There were seats in the gentlemen's room for eight, and there were from thirty to fifty persons present. Some heaped up the indolent mail-bags, and sat on them. A roll of buffalo robes behind the door was a special luxury. Some mounted on trunks that had accumulated in one corner. Apparently they were not soft, as they seemed willing to exchange for the buffalo robe whenever it was vacated. Others stood about the outrageously hot stove.

Everybody seemed to be seized with a desire to put in a stick, and when it could hold no more they would occasionally open the door, look in, poke and kick with their feet to crowd them closer, and so it roared red-hot and terrible as a red-dragon. But stout, full-blooded men sat about it with great coats and mufflers on, drinking in heat as if they had a salamander enjoyment of it. The only relief was in the frequent opening of the door to let in new-comers. They came pushing in, with red faces and white coats, powdered with snow like a confectioner's cake. The first business of every one, on entering, was to ask after the train, to which some quizzical answers, some peevish and querulous answers, some downright truth; a few were always hopeful, and not a few sat silent and even sullen.

The next resource of every one seemed to be in an attack upon the pop-corn and apple-baskets. It was a great day for the apple-

boys. When the sale seemed to flag, they would fill up with fresh specimens, and one of them would come rushing in from the telegraph office—"Train only got to Little Falls." "Little Falls!" exclaim a score of westward-going passengers, "it won't be here for an hour." At that they turned disconsolately to the apples again. By and by, in plumps another boy. "Express train only just reached Syracuse; just come from telegraph." This was a clap upon us eastward-going passengers—going, but not gone; and we sighed, and remarked, and comforted ourselves with apples!

Men gathered into groups and talked, at first produce, then politics, then they told stories as long as their memory held out; and then each would saunter up and down the room, with hands in pockets, or behind their back. Newspapers, of which a few were present, were read through—advertisements and all. One great comfort was in going to the ticket office window and peering in—for questions were out of the question—the ticket-master lying in a corner, snoozing. At length he got up and shut his window. This was a great misfortune. Men now would walk up and look very solemnly at it, as if to be sure that it was shut, and then go to the door or window, as if determined to look out of something. At last, some one pulled a sliver from the wood and began to whittle. In a few moments another followed suit, and before long half a dozen were contentedly whittling. I envied them. They seemed at last consoled.

I envied that fat man in the corner, who had sat without winking, certainly without a single motion that I could notice, for a full hour. He seemed entirely occupied in breathing. I envied that old farmer that fell asleep sitting bolt upright, but gradually, like an apple roasting before a good old-fashioned fire, slept himself down to a heap. I envied the imperturbable content of that plump country girl who stood before the glass combing her hair with a five-toothed comb, and dividing, and smoothing, and placing it as if she were in a summer afternoon chamber all alone, fixing for a visit from her "intended." The boys were the only utterly cheerful and happy set. Their sales over, they amused themselves with all manner of boyish tricks. Giving each other a sly nip, giving a chocking pull at each other's tippet, knocking off each other's caps, or crushing them down over the eyes, snapping apple seeds, or throwing cores, and all manner of monkey pranks.

We read all the show-bills, all the railroad placards, all the time-tables, all the advertisements, and studied all the voracious railroad maps, on which ramshorn railroads were made to flow on in straight lines or very gradual curves, while competing roads were laid down in all their vicious sinuosities.

When I said that the boys were the only happy ones, I must except the happy old lady in the corner knitting. She has two younger women by her, and the three are talking and working just as placidly and contentedly as if in the great kitchen at home. Ah! blessed be knitting! Whoever saw a person other than quiet and peaceful that knits. If anger breaks out, the knitting is laid aside. When the needles begin again, you may be sure that it is all right within.

At length the five hours were accomplished; the train came thundering up with a double team of engines. The crowd poured forth eagerly, and in a few moments we were dashing off toward Albany, which we reached at 10 o'clock on Saturday night—too late for any train to New-York that night, thus escaping a night ride, and an article from the Norwich Examiner about the sin of Saturday-night violations of Sunday—weari-

some and sleepy experiences both would have been.

H. W. BEECHER.
N. Y. Independent.

ANEREW JACKSON.

FITZ GREEN HALLECK, in his ode to Burns, unconsciously portrays the character of Andrew Jackson, thus:

Strong sense, deep feeling, passions strong,
A hate of tyrant and of knave,
A love of right, a scorn of wrong,
Of coward and of slave.

A kind, true heart, a spirit high,
That could not tear and would not bow,
Were written in his manly eye,
And on his manly brow.

LOVE.—LADIES READ IT.

Dare I venture on this hackneyed theme—a thing which has been exhausted by the poet and the novelist? I dare! not to follow in the train of those who have preceded me and launch a shaft at the blindfold cherub, but, as the champion, the defender of the mischievous boy—to show where lies the fault, to unveil the cause why his arrows are poisoned, and why the rose he offers are sometimes so thickly beset with thorns. Frown not, fair readers! to you are attributable all the misdeeds of the wily god. Did woman feel the responsibility of the station she holds in society—did she feel how much she is the arbitress of man's destinies on earth, nay, even beyond it, how different would she act! Instead of dispensing her smiles equally on the worthy and unworthy, she would show by her discountenance of vice, how hateful it was to her; no matter how talented a man was, how graceful in his manners, or pleasing in person, unless virtue was the guiding star of his conduct, she should banish him from her presence, as being unworthy of breathing the same air with her; she would shrink from his society as she would shun a noxious reptile. Is such the case? No. No matter what a man's vices, if he is handsome, brilliant in conversation, and versed in the arts of flattery, all the smiles and attentions are lavished on him that ought to be bestowed only on the virtuous; while the man who is endowed with every good quality that can render him estimable, if wanting in the showy acquirements of society, is treated with the utmost indifference; thus giving rise to the too generally received opinion that, the worse a man is, the more agreeable he is to woman. Can it then be wondered at, that, to meet her in society, win her affections by a thousand nameless attentions, and slight them when won, is the pastime of an hour to those honeyed flatterers, those destroyers of women's happiness, who, like a gilded serpent, captivates but to annihilate. Were they regarded as the pests of society, instead of being treated as its ornaments, the race would disappear.—*Empson.*

A YANKEE TAKEN IN.—An ingenious down easter, who has invented a new kind of "Love-Letter Ink," which he has been selling as a safeguard against all actions for breach of promise of marriage, in so much as it entirely fades from the paper in two months after dates, was recently "done brown" by a brother down-easter, who purchased a hundred boxes of the article, and gave him his note for ninety days. At the expiration of the time, the ink inventor called for payment, but, on unfolding the scrip, found nothing but a piece of blank paper. The note had been written with his own ink.

Faith has a quiet breast.

THE ALPS.

My first view of the Alps was at Berne. I had taken a walk towards evening to the "Engischo Promenade," as it is called, a mile or so from the city. Thence a fine view of the city is obtained, with its towering cathedral steeple, and the ambergis colored Aar, winding around it, as almost to insulate it completely from the main land. I had seated myself, taking a cup of coffee, and bread, and honey, was observing the people and the scenery, and occasionally casting my eyes in the direction of some huge white clouds, which seemed to hang heavily on the eastern horizon. The thought occurred to me if those clouds were but mountains, how magnificent would they be—they would be beyond all conception or all description; they would satisfy the most intense yearnings of the imagination; they would fill forever that great desire of the mind to feel, if only once, an impression of the purely sublime. I listened to the music for half an hour, sauntering around under the trees, and then strayed along the promenade a little further on, away from the crowd; but my eye still continued from time to time, to fasten itself involuntarily in the direction of those white clouds. They were the most unchangeable clouds I had ever seen; and the impression gradually grew upon me that there was something unnaturally hard and angular in their outline. Can these, then, be mountains? I confess this thought, as it first darted into my mind, occasioned a kind of trembling and sinking through my whole frame. Is it possible that these clouds in heaven, so white, so ethereal, so high above other clouds, that these are mountains?

Two peasants were coming along at the time—their coats and scythes under their arms. I walked up to them and said, "Will you tell me if those clouds are really clouds or mountains?" They looked at me with some astonishment for an instant, either at the energy of the action or the singularity of the question, and then, with a bow, answered:

"Mountains, sir, to your service."

And there they were, indeed, the Alps—the high Alps—like the imperishable white pillars of God's throne, piercing into heaven, incrustated with a pure marble of snow, and faintly tinged with a ruby light, as if it were the smile of the Almighty. I had seen enough. I felt silent, and bowed before the greatness of the works of God.—*Letter in the Providence Journal.*

CHARACTERISTIC.—The following notice of a "run upon a bank," which we clip from the N. Y. Post, is not only amusing, but characteristic of the African and Anglo-American races. The scene occurred at one of the Six-penny Savings Banks of this city:

"Among the swarm of people bringing in deposits of all conceivable values, ranging from five cents as high as \$22, we noticed a stout colored man, who walked up to a desk, inquiring with the air of a millionaire, 'Is the President of the bank in?' 'Here I am at your service, sir.' 'I should like,' says the applicant, 'to make a draft on you to-morrow, if the Bank is prepared for it.' 'Anything to accommodate you, my friend,' said the President; 'how much may your draft be?' 'Well, sir,' said the sable visitor, drawing himself up, coughing and looking as sternly important as if his words were destined to produce a crash in the finances of the universe. 'About nine cents!' 'You shall certainly have it,' answered the accommodating functionary, not at all bewildered at the announcement, 'there is a balance of twenty-one cents to your account—call again.' And the colored man makes room for the next call."

SIT UPRIGHT.

"Sit upright! sit upright, my son!" said a lady to her son George, who had formed a wretched habit of bending whenever he sat down to read. His mother had told him that he could not breathe right unless he sat upright. But it was no use; bend over he would, in spite of all his mother could say.

"Sit upright, Master George!" cried his teacher, as George bent over his copy-book at school. "If you don't sit upright like Master Charles, you will ruin your health, and possibly die of consumption."

This startled Master George. He did not want to die, and he felt alarmed. So after school he said to his teacher, "Please sir, explain to me how bending over when I sit, can cause me to have the consumption."

"That I will, George," replied his teacher, with a cordial smile. "There is an element in the air called oxygen, which is necessary to make your blood circulate, and to help it purify itself by throwing off what is called its carbon. When you stoop you cannot take in a sufficient quantity of air to accomplish these purposes; hence, the blood remains bad, and the air cells in your lungs become irritated. Presently the lungs inflame. The cough comes on. Next, the lungs ulcerate, and then you die. To avoid this you must learn to sit upright. Give the lungs room to inspire plenty of fresh air, and you will not be injured by study. Do you understand the matter now George?"

"I think I do, sir, and I will try to sit upright hereafter," said George.

George was right in his resolution. Will all the boys and girls who read my Magazine imitate him? They will, I know, if they wish to live healthy lives. Make it your motto, therefore, my little reader, to sit upright, whether you sit to eat, to sew, to read, or to converse. Now don't forget it. *You must sit upright.—Forester's Magazine.*

HOW HE BECAME A MILLIONAIRE.—Mr. McDonough the millionaire of New-Orleans, has engraved upon his tomb a series of maxims, which he had prescribed as the rules for his guidance through life, and to which his success in business is mainly attributable. The following is a copy:

"Rules for the Guidance of my life, 1804.—Remember always that labor is one of the conditions of our existence. Time is gold; throw not one minute away, but place each one to account. Do unto all men as you would be done by. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day. Never bid another do what you can do yourself. Never covet what is not your own. Never think any matter so trifling as not to deserve notice. Never give out that which does not first come in. Never spend but to produce. Let the greatest order regulate the transactions of your life. Study in your course of life to do the greatest amount of good.

"Deprive yourself of nothing necessary to your comfort, but live in an honorable simplicity and frugality. Labor, then, to the last moment of your existence. Pursue strictly the above rules, and the Divine blessing and riches of every kind will flow upon you to your heart's content; but, first of all, remember that the chief and great study of our life should be to tend, by all means in our power, to the honor and glory of our Divine Creator. John McDonough, New-Orleans, March 2, 1804. The conclusion to which I have arrived is, that, without temperance, there is no health; without virtue, no order, without religion, no happiness; and that the aim of our being is to live wisely, soberly and righteously."

True eloquence consists in saying all that is necessary, and nothing more.

A CONUNDRUMICAL LOAFER.

A fellow in a complete suit of faded corduroy, and very dirty withal, tumbled off the steps of St. Andrew's Church, just as the watchman arrived at the spot, and making two or three revolutions on the pavement, stopped face upward before the officer and propounded the following query:

"I say, watchy, are you pretty sharp at conundrums? Why am I like a backsliding Christian? That's a pretty tough one, you think? Well, don't puzzle. It's because I fell away from the church, and am likely to be picked up by the Evil One at last."

The watchman, without thanking him for the infernal compliment, picked him up. On the route down Chesnut street, the captive addressed the captor again:

"Watchy, I'll try you with another. Why am I like the Emperor of Hayti?"

"Because you are a sassy scoundrel."

"No; because I am attended by a black-guard."

"And because you are as big a blackguard yourself as could be picked up in a year's travel."

Nothing more was said till they came in front of Col. Wood's Museum, when the corduroy man once more addressed the man of the mace and rattle.

"Don't get out of heart, watchy. Better luck next time. Why are the Kentucky Giant and myself like the god of marriage?"

"Because you are humbugs."

"Bah! no. Because we are high men." (Hymen.)

"Do you call yourself a high man?"

"Yes, I do. I'm pretty high, I think; if ten smallers of whisky can make me so. Besides, I'm a trump; an ace of trumps, and you know that's always high."

"Ay; in the game of All Fours."

"That's the game I was playing when you came across me."

"You were playing low, I think; for you were flat on your back. But I'll play the deuce with you, and that will be low enough, if you don't get along without any more talk."

"You are not as bright, old fellow, as I thought you were; but here's one I guess that you can *chaw*. Why are you like sugar candy?"

"I can't exactly say," replied the watchman, a little flattered by the saccharine comparison.

"Well, it's because I'd like to lick you, if I had a chance," said the prisoner at the very moment he was thrust into the cage.

This morning, when the conundrum-maker answered to the name of Simon Pearce, the watchman's evidence was heard, and a commitment for vagrancy was speedily made out.

"Can I say a word or two?" asked Simon.

"Certainly," answered the Mayor.

"Why," said the incorrigible offender, "why is a small bob-tail brown horse with a blaze face, like Gov. Bigler?"

"Take him away," said his honor, and the last conundrum remains without solution, to exercise the guessing faculties of our readers.—*Philadelphia Mercury.*

INA TIGHT PLACE.—President of a western bank rushes up to his friend—"Charley, can't you give me change for a dollar? I see the bank superintendent is in town, and I want some specie in the vault to make a show."

NO SCARCITY OF PROGENITORS.—In Hartford, Conn., lately, at the door of a citizen, a very little boy begged very piteously for something to eat, and in a mournful tone of voice, said, "his parents were dead, and his

father could not get any work, and his mother was very sick indeed."

VETERANS IN LITERATURE, ART, AND THE STAGE.—Another year reminds us of the veterans in literature, art, and the stage, still in the body among us. Our oldest poet is, of course, Mr. Rogers, now in his 90th year. Our oldest historian is Mr. Hallam, now in his 74th year. Our oldest critic is Mr. Wilson Croker, now in his 75th year. Our oldest novelist is Lady Morgan—but we shall conceal her ladyship's age. Our oldest topographer is Mr. Britton, now, if we remember rightly, in his 83d year. Our oldest topographer in point of publication is the historian of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, whose first work was a quarto published before 1799. We refer to Sir Henry Ellis, still the active principal librarian of the British Museum. Mr. Leigh Hunt was a poet, with a printed volume of his effusions in verse, and his own portrait before it, more than half a century ago, and is now in good health, in his 91st year. Our oldest artist is Sir Richard Westmacott, the sculptor, the father of the Royal Academy. Our oldest actor (now that Charles Kemble has gone) is Mr. T. P. Cooke, who was, when we saw him the other day, ready to dance a hornpipe with all his wonted English vigor, and sailor-like skill.

Illustrated London News.

INTERESTING TO THINK ABOUT.—Scientific writers assert that the number of persons who have existed since the beginning of time, amounts to 36,627,843,273,075,856. These figures, when divided by 3,095,000—the number of square leagues of land on the globe—leave 11,320,689,732 square miles of land, which, being divided as before, give 1,314,622,076 persons to each square mile. Let us now reduce miles to square rods, and the number will be 1,853,174,600,000, which, being divided as before, will give 1,283 inhabitants to each square rod, which, being reduced to feet, will give about five persons to each square foot of terra firma. Thus it will be perceived that our earth is a vast cemetery—1,283 human beings lie buried on each square rod—scarcely sufficient for ten graves—each grave must contain 128 persons. Thus it is easy seen that the whole surface of our globe has been dug over one hundred and twenty-eight times to bury dead!

"There's not a dust that floats on air
But once was living man."

"I say, boy, stop that ox!"

"I havn't got no stopper."

"Well, head him then."

"He's already headed, sir."

"Confound your impertinence—turn him."

"He's right side out already, sir."

"Speak to him, you rascal, you!"

"Good morning, Mr. Ox."

Swipes' landlady caught a mouse in a China cream pitcher the other day. Swipes advised her to send it to the country Fair for exhibition.

"How would it be classed?" breathlessly inquired the worthy hostess.

"Cotch in China, of course," was the reply.

LEGAL ADVICE TO YOUNG LADIES.—Don't accept the hand of anybody who tells you he is going to marry and settle. Make him settle first, and marry afterwards.

"No man can do anything against his will," said a metaphysician. "Faith," said Pat, "I had a brother who went to Botany Bay against his will, faith, he did."

SITUATION ON A FARM WANTED.

A YOUNG MAN, German by birth, of respectable parentage, well educated, and who has been engaged in farming for some years already...

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The Subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of Tents of every description, suitable for Agricultural Fairs, Military Encampments, Camp Meetings, Conferences, Political Gatherings, Exhibitions, &c., &c., which will rent on liberal terms.

EXTENSIVE AND VERY IMPORTANT SALE OF FIRST-CLASS SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, AT HENDON, MIDDLESEX.

Mr. STRAFFORD has the honor to announce to the Agricultural world, that he has received instructions from JOHN S. TONQUEIRAY, Esq., to sell by auction, without any reserve, at HENDON, on WEDNESDAY, the 25th of April next...

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For the Prevention and Cure of Intermittent and Remittent Fevers, Fever and Ague, Chills and Fever, Dumb Ague, General Debility, Night Sweats, and all other forms of disease which have their origin in Malaria or Miasma.

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The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention.

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three Bull Calves, three two-year-old Heifers, one two-year-old Bull, and one five years old, that I will sell from my herd of Short Horns—all thoroughbred.

L. G. MORRIS'S CATALOGUE, WITH

prices attached, of Domestic Animals at private sale, will not be ready for delivery until the first of April.

PURE DEVON FOR SALE.—The year-

ling Bull ALBERT, calved April, 1853. Got by imported Reubens, (winner of several prizes at the Fairs of the American Institute, New-York City), out of a full blood Devou Cow.

PURE BRED STOCK AT PRIVATE

SALE.—Ethernod Farms, West Needham, Norfolk County, Mass., 12 miles from Boston by Worcester Railroad.—The animals for sale in our catalogue for 1854 have been sold to gentlemen throughout the United States...

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SEPARATORS.—The Endless Chain or Railway Powers of our own Manufacture, both single and double-gear, for one and two horses, which has never been equaled for lightness in running, strength, durability, and economy.

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MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth. THREE HUNDRED, scattered in 19 different States the past season, mostly in inexperienced hands...

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& CO.'S Machine Works, Lebanon, N. H., Manufacturers of a great variety of wood working Machinery, of the most approved style, simple construction, and effective and firm operation.

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assortment of the best varieties of improved Seed Wheat; among which are the Red Mediterranean, White Mediterranean, Soule's and Blue stem.

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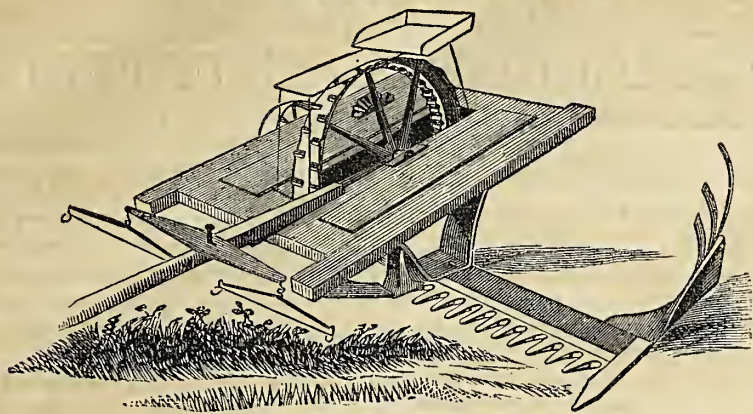
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The *American Agriculturist* is under the *control and management* of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an *experienced farmer*, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree interfere with the *truthfulness and reliability* of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

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EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "*Special Notices*," on last page.

CARROTS AS A FIELD CROP.

WE have so often and so earnestly recommended the growth of carrots for winter-feeding, that we feel reluctant to recur to the subject again. We should not do so but for its great importance, and the further consideration, that many of our present readers may not have seen our former articles.

Their Value for Market and Use.—There is no crop that we raise that is more profitable, whether we look to its immediate sales, or to its value when consumed by the farm stock. Their marketable value is rarely as low as half the price of potatoes, while their yield, on similar soil, will be more than double; and with seldom or never a failure from disease, to which the potato has been so liable of late years.

For Stock Feeding.—Carrots are highly relished by all the inmates of the stable and yard, and by most of the poultry also, either raw or cooked. They are unequaled in the vigor and healthful tone they give to the stomach, and the assistance they lend to the digestive organs, from a peculiar principle contained in them, called *pectine*. Whether fed for the purpose of securing the greatest amount of flesh, milk, wool, or farm-labor, we believe their value is seldom reached by the produce of any other crop on an equal area of land.

Their Introduction and Use as a part of the Food for Draught Animals.—They have been growing in favor of late years, and will continue to increase with increasing experience and intelligence. Although their nutritive properties are far below the relative value of oats or corn, bushel for bushel, yet considered with regard to their healthful effects on the animal system, it is doubtful, when adopted as a partial substitute, whether they are not equally as valuable as either.

The Soil selected for Carrots, should be

well-drained, rich, deep and friable. It matters little whether it inclines most to clay or sand, provided the above conditions are secured. The preparation should commence the previous year, by heavy manuring, deep plowing and the clean cultivation of some other crop which will justify strong manures, such as corn, ruta бага, sugar beet, or mangel wurtzel.

Manures.—The carrot will not endure a large proportion of fresh or unfermented farm-yard manure. It is therefore necessary to secure a liberal application the preceding year, which, by subsequent plowings, &c., becomes thoroughly incorporated in the soil; and in the absence of such condition, it must have an adequate supply of well-fermented barn-yard manure, or swamp muck, or the two mixed together, or the muck mixed with guano, which is one of the best of composts for any kind of crop. If there is any deficiency of the two first, guano should be applied at the rate of 300 to 600 lbs. per acre, according to the condition of the land. Bone-dust is an excellent manure for carrots; but unless finely ground—or, what is much better, decomposed by sulphuric acid—it can have little effect on the first crop succeeding its application, owing to its slow decomposition in the soil. An excellent substitute for bones, for its immediate effect, is superphosphate of lime, the most valuable portion of which is bone-dust, so thoroughly decomposed as to be immediately available for the crop. Pigeon and other fowl dung is a very appropriate manure. It is a matter of so much importance to avoid weeds in the carrot field, that nothing should be carried to them which contains obnoxious seeds or roots.

Application of Manures.—We are no advocates for manuring in the hill, whether with long or short manures. The only exceptions we should tolerate, are, first, in very poor soils where the roots would scarcely acquire size or strength enough during the growing season, to avail themselves of a thinly-scattered manuring; and especially where this is so porous (sandy or gravelly) as to permit a rapid evaporation or wasting of the manure; and second, when a small amount of finely prepared manure, as guano and the like, is necessary near the seed, to stimulate its early and rapid growth, and lead away the rootlets of the plants in the first stages of their growth, to a wider range of pasturage.

A Thorough Incorporation of the manures in the soil, and to a depth of 12 to 18 inches,

we deem indispensable to a large yield of carrots, or any other root crop. Light manuring and shallow plowing are illy adapted to a remunerating production of roots, however it may suffice for a moderate yield of grain or grass. When thus diffused throughout the soil, the little spongioses radiating from the main stem in every direction, are sure to find the manures, and the augmented area over which they are thus invited to extend, adds largely to the product of each plant. It is better to plow the manure in the preceding fall, unless it can be done early in the season; and especially is this the case when long or unfermented manure is used. Its recent application is quite liable to produce sprangles, or multiplied, diminutive roots, and in ruta bagas frequently, causes the disease called *fingers and toes*.

Sod-land, and Especially a rich Clover ley, if turned under long enough previous to planting to insure decomposition, (which is much more certainly secured when there is a considerable growth of grass or clover turned under with it,) is one of the best preparations for carrots and roots of every description, and indeed of almost every grown crop. There is also another important condition secured by this practice, as the thorough and deep inversion of the sward, generally secures a more cleanly surface, and renders cultivation easier.

Plowing and Preparing the Land.—The soil can not be too deeply plowed for carrots. The Flemmings and other Europeans, who raise the largest crops, generally trench their carrot-beds with the spade, taking up two and sometimes three spits of earth in depth, before they consider the soil properly prepared. The price of labor in this country, will not permit the adoption of this practice here, nor is it necessary. With a comprehensive adaptation of means to ends, the Americans have succeeded in substituting animal force and labor-saving machinery, for human muscle, in the preparation of their land for a crop, equally with most of their other operations. By the construction of well-made plows, combining every requisite for effectually turning, and at the same time pulverizing the soil it lifts; with capacity for throwing a deep and wide furrow with an easy draught; and especially by the use of the subsoil plow, which follows after and deepens the soil to any required distance, we are enabled to dispense with expensive hand labor.

Harrowing.—Most people are too easily satisfied with deeply plowing their 1

without stopping to inquire if this is all that is required for raising a good crop. With most crops, this is insufficient; and especially is it the case with the carrot, parsnip, and the like, which require the finest pulverization, to afford their delicate seeds and incipient vegetation a proper bed. To secure this, harrowing with a heavy implement, in two or more directions, if necessary, is an important step in the preparation of the ground. It assists in the early and rapid germination of the plant, and materially lessens the labor of subsequent cultivation.

Varieties for a Field Crop.—The Long Orange, the Long Red, the Altringham, and especially the White or Belgian, are deemed the best for feeding purposes. All of these are of great size, and the first three grow deeply in the ground where the soil admits of it. The White or Belgian is shorter, but much larger than either of the above, and produces immense crops under favorable circumstances, though of less nutritive value, pound for pound, than either of the others. It also grows much of its root above ground, which renders it more easily harvested; and it does not apparently exhaust the soil so much as the others, thus leaving us to infer, that it derives a much larger proportion of its substance from the atmosphere.

For Garden Culture, the Early Horn is the best variety we are familiar with. This is of early and rapid growth, solid, rich, and of fine flavor, and though small, compared with those previously mentioned, they soon reach maturity, and are fit for the table at any period of their growth.

Preparation of the Seed for Planting.—It is better to mix the seed with damp mold for a few days previous to planting, leaving the heap in a warm place and occasionally stirring. This breaks the fibers of the seed, and thus prevents their adhesion; and it promotes rapid germination. This is frequently of great consequence, and especially in weedy lands. The carrot like the beet and some other plants, is slow in getting out of the ground; and as this can not be properly worked till the young plants emerge from the surface, the weeds sometimes get under great headway before they can be put down.

Time for Sowing.—This must depend on the kind of seed sown, the soil, latitude and location. Careful observation will enable you to judge what time is just early enough to mature the roots before frost, when required for fall and winter feeding. Beside the circumstances above-mentioned, the inclination of a field to the north or south; its tendency to wetness and other things, will affect the period of ripening the roots. If too early planted, and allowed to remain in the ground after maturity, when the season is favorable to growth, they are liable to send up seed-stocks and thus become stringy and worthless.

Use of the Seed-sower in Planting.—The breaking of the fibers, has this great advantage, that after being thoroughly mixed with several times its bulk of mold, charcoal, plaster, or ashes, the seed can be sown with the seed-drill. This highly useful labor-

saving implement will open the furrow to any required depth, drop the seed in any quantity, and at any required distance, cover and roll it at a single operation. It may be propelled either by a man or horse, and it will do the work of eight or ten persons, and much more accurately.

About Two Pounds of Good Seed is sufficient for one Acre, and this ought to be of the previous season's growth.

Use of the Field-roller.—Heavy land requires to have all the lumps broken down, and this can seldom be effectually done by either the plow or harrow. If a heavy field-roller be used in addition, it will be found a most effectual pulverizer, and such lumps of stiff clods as will not yield to its pressure, it will sink below the surface, so as to be out of the way in the subsequent cultivation. Light soils equally require the use of the heavy roller and for another purpose. The surface requires to be settled closely around the seed, to afford a firm, compact footing for the young roots. The adoption of the field-roller has been greatly beneficial in such crops as have required it, increasing their products from 15 to 50 per cent.

The Distance at which the Plants should Stand in the Rows, may be six or eight inches for the smaller, and ten to twelve inches for the large white carrot. The drills should be 18 to 30 inches apart, to admit the use of a horse in the subsequent cultivation.

Implements Useful for Cultivating.—With tools properly selected for the cultivation, the use of the hoe may be dispensed with. If any hand-implements are required, they should be the hand-plow or hand-cultivator, which may be run as closely to the rows as necessary, and either bank up or withdraw the earth from them as desired. But for field-purposes, we should prefer some of the variously constructed cultivators that are drawn by horses, to run deeper or shallower, and cut the weeds or only stir the earth, as might be required. By the use of this implement, nine-tenths of the labor of hand-cultivation is saved. If the ground has been properly prepared, subsequent deep tillage is not only superfluous, but absolutely injurious. Keeping the surface rough, loose and free from weeds is all that is necessary, while all the soil below should be allowed to remain undisturbed. It is fully occupied by the smaller roots, which are pushing in all directions, and pervading every portion of the earth in search of food for the parent root, and any operation that breaks up their connection is highly injurious. Such weeds as have effected a lodgment in the drills under shelter of the plants, must be exterminated by hand. Where there is any deficiency of plants, their places may be supplied by transplanting in wet weather, though it is better to sow thick enough to bear much thinning instead of filling up.

Application of Manures subsequent to Planting.—We are advocates for the most liberal application of manures previous to planting, believing they may thus administer as effectually (if not more so) to the growth of crops, as if subsequently added. Yet if from any cause there is a deficiency of manure,

some of the finest descriptions, such as ashes, plaster, guano, superphosphate, or poudrette, may be very advantageously applied.

Tanks for Liquid Manures.—If you have been so provident as to have a supply of liquid manure, the drainage from your stables or cow yards, or ammoniacal liquor from the gas-works, you may make an application of this with great advantage to the crop. It must, however, be first diluted with water to a degree, that it will not injure the plants by contact; or, what is much better, if it can be carried to the grounds when raining, scarcely any degree of strength is sufficient to injure the plants.

Harvesting.—In many parts of England, the carrot is harvested only as wanted for use; and this is better where the frost is not severe enough to injure the roots, which is seldom the case in the United States. The carrot is easily harvested, by running a light plow as closely as possible to the rows yet not injure the roots, then pull them by hand, and as pulled, trim off the leaves, but by no means cut the crown. Better leave an excess of top than endanger the root, which keeps much better when the skin is unbroken. This is a good reason for avoiding the use of the potato-hook, or any of the many-pronged forks so useful for unearthing the shorter roots. After remaining above ground long enough to remove the moisture of the adhering earth, they should be moved to their place of deposit for the winter, and thrown into compact heaps. These may be oblong or round, trussed up against a wall, or stored in a cool cellar, at the option of the owner; but in whichever condition they are placed, avoidance of too much heat or frost must equally be studied. The proper temperature may be secured by more or less covering or ventilation. Either frost or germination while in the heap, is equally injurious to the nutritive properties of carrots. If properly stored, they may be kept in fine feeding order till June. They require spreading in a cool dry place after April, to avoid sprouting.

The Tops of Carrots are an excellent food for sheep or horned cattle, but it is better to mix with dry feed to prevent scouring, to which animals are liable that eat too freely of these or green beet leaves.

Manner of Feeding.—Carrots may be fed raw, after cutting with a knife or a large root cutting box, to horses, cattle, sheep, goats, rabbits, and aquatic fowls; but they are better when steamed or boiled, for pigs and poultry. No animal was ever made sick by eating a due quantity of carrots, and a great many that were sick have been made well by this diet. They should in no case constitute the entire food of any animal; but for one or two feeds per day, in connection with dry food, no better rations can be provided for farm stock. We know an intelligent man who buys halt and ailing horses, that are worth the curing—and there are numberless such animals about every city, slightly injured by over-driving, over-feeding or other injury or neglect—and by plentiful feeding with carrots and some coarse, cheap forage, he speedily brings them up to a high

marketable value. Numberless others might be saved from disease and prostration by a moderate supply of this healthful esculent.

Necessity of Raising more Carrots for Market.—The general merits or use of carrots is little understood as yet in America. Hence they are seldom raised for use beyond the farm where grown. We have tried in vain to procure them for our own use this season, without paying an exorbitant price for them.

Quantity Produced per Acre.—An ordinary crop of carrots may be placed at 300 to 400 bushels per acre, but 1,000 bushels or more have been raised under peculiarly favorable circumstances. Arthur Young, as long ago as 1790, stated the average yield in Suffolk County, England, at 350 bushels, while Mr. Burrows' crops averaged upwards of 800 bushels, weighing 42 pounds per bushel, or fifteen tuns gross (33,600 pounds) per acre. We doubt if there would be much complaint about hard times, or want of landed property returning a good interest for the investment, if our farmers generally imitated these examples.

The Cost of Raising must depend on a variety of circumstances, such as value of land, cost and facility of procuring manures, price of labor, &c.; but we believe the value of the crop in the locality where grown, will always afford an ample advance on the cost of production, as they are usually most valuable where lands and manure are dearest. We doubt if this cost can in any case exceed about sixteen cents per bushel, and in many instances they may be raised for ten or twelve. If their value were generally understood as food for horses, thousands of bushels might be daily sold in the New-York markets, for fifty cents per bushel, thus leaving an ample margin for conveyance to market and profit to the farmer. We hope to see these views carried out in the vastly multiplied production and consumption of this invaluable root.

For the American Agriculturist.

SELECTION OF BREEDING ANIMALS.

Allow me, through the columns of your journal, to draw the attention of farmers more to the selection of the male animals, which they breed from. Let them not be satisfied with a bull because he is handy by, or because nothing is asked for his services. Better drive the cow two or three miles, and pay the price asked for a thoroughbred or a high bred grade. The calf, if sold to the butcher, will fully pay the difference; if allowed to grow up, will do much more. I could but remark a day or two since, when looking at a couple of pigs of the same breed, the difference between American and English farmers. The sire and dam of one of the pigs were imported. The ancestors of the other one were also brought from England, and at the time were probably as good as any there. The first pig was a fine-boned, short-legged, small-nose, well-turned animal; while the other was much coarser every way; a good representation of her great grand parents, no better at any rate. A person not acquainted with the breed would not think them the same. The American had

been satisfied with her ancestors, as they were when they came into his possession, being perfectly contented if the pigs were only as good as their mother. The Englishman kept trying to improve upon them, and did so until now he has succeeded in breeding an almost perfect animal.

There is scarcely a breeder of improved stock in this country, who can show animals of his own breeding, superior to those he first started with. Many of them will be found not even equal.

The farmer will find it very much to his advantage to be very careful in selecting the male. Many a penny may be so made, and much pleasure afforded in seeing in place of his present long-legged, half-starved, raw-boned stock, easy keepers, good milkers, and well-shaped cows.

The breeders' attention may be called to the foregoing remarks with equal advantage. In selecting the male let him not be governed by price; better pay for a really good animal five times the sum asked for an indifferent one. He will find this to be the rule, whether he regard it with an eye to the money, or with the desire to improve his stock. If in the latter way, no one will deny it; if in the former, experience will teach him, that with most people it is the good points of the father, more than those of the mother that sells their progeny. S**.

For the American Agriculturist.

A POULTRY-RAISER'S EXPERIENCE.

In No. 24, Vol. 13, you solicit information respecting the successful management of fowls. As I was somewhat successful in the business, and the way or reason why I began being rather amusing, I have thought proper to first give you a short history of it as well as of how I subsequently managed them, with the results, &c.

In the year 1837, I lived high up on the eastern bank of the Kennebec river, away down in Maine, and, although the country is a cold one, I really took the hen-fever (as breeding hens is now called), in the following manner, and some time after it raged in Massachusetts too, which makes it at first appear strange: At that time my business was supplying my neighbors and so many others as I could, with any and every variety of dry goods and groceries. As credit was the custom of that place, I had to charge first, and then collect after as best I could, which was generally by taking what I called dunning excursions among my customers. Having spent the entire day without success upon one of these occasions, I felt somewhat wolf or waspish, as I called on my last customer for the amount due me. The appearances about were such as not to give me hope of the least success, but I had made up my mind to have something, for I felt almost desperate, and, to add to my bad feelings, or to take all the hope out of me, my customer's wife, with a shrill nasal voice that would have done credit to any vixen, anticipated my business, and commenced: "Yer needen't to come here for nothing, for we've got nothing for yer but the old hen and her two chicks, there, (pointing them out) and yer'll have to ketch um first; but I guess yer can't, for the foxes have tried a heap o'times, and there she is yet, good as ever, so we're safe this time from yer duns." "How much for the lot?" said I. "O! I allers gets a quarter dollar a piece for my hens, and the chicks are as good as the old 'un,

and that's seventy-five cents for the lot, if yer in'arnest." "Well," said I, "you will, of course, help catch them!" "Not a bit on't, if yer catch them all yer may have them, but it's all yer'll get, anyhow." From this time I had the hen-fever, for I am certain that I cut some curious geometrical figures in my efforts to catch the old hen. She flew well, but run better, and, moreover, was blessed with excellent respiratory organs, so much so, that I had well nigh given up the chase, though I had held out to go around the house and hovel several times, and through the latter more, as well as through the potatoes, corn, and several other fields; not a foot of ground within 100 yards but that I had crossed, fences and stones without number were also crossed in every possible way, until, at last, the old hen dodged into a rock heap, and was soon bagged with the two others. My fever was by this time very high, for within a very short period I had resolved to go into the business of breeding fowls, as these proved to be so good to lay.

Two years from that time I was settled in Massachusetts, with one hundred and fifty hens to look after, instead of debtor customers; nor have I ever regretted the change or the hen-race either. My flock consisted of peas, guineas, turkeys, doves, every variety of Polands or top-knots, creepers, all varieties and colors of common barn fowls, not excepting the rumpless and frizzled fowls, as well as the Dorkings, Games, Bantams and Malays.

A few were good, but more than four-fifths were worthless as layers. The guinea fowls that I had were shy layers, and continually at war with the turkeys, which were weakly and unprofitable enough at best. The pea fowls were of no profit, and cowardly except when they could catch a small chicken alone, and then they were sure to shake the life out of it. I soon found that early chickens would bring as much or more, when the size of robins, than late ones would when full grown, so that with early chickens, squabs, and eggs, I did a very good business. I allowed my hens to mix, and thus got some mongrels that were better layers than the pure breed of either variety, and by selecting the best shaped and quickest growers, having as many other good qualities as possible, I got a stock of nice fowls. They were large, plump, brightly-colored, with yellow legs, which in the Boston market was indispensable for the highest price. The pea and guinea fowls, with turkeys, to me were not profitable, and so I gave them up, keeping hens and doves only.

As every fancier thinks his own stock best, it was natural that I should think mine best. None were at that time kept by me except such as would lay nearly two hundred and fifty eggs per year, and raise one brood of chickens; their weight alive had to be four pounds or upwards. Such hens, well kept, will nett five dollars a piece per year for their eggs, provided the owner has a garden to cultivate, the manure of the hens, and the insects they will destroy, when allowed a proper range, will well pay for their feed, thus leaving the eggs clear profit, and the chickens to pay for the house-room; while the pleasure derived from the business ought to be a sufficient compensation for one's time.

As to the diseases of hens I know but little. My chickens once had the gapes, I suppose, as it is called, for they were continually opening their mouths, and a few died. My hens once caught the croup, or something like it, and a few of them died; a few doses of cayenne pepper, however, stopped the progress of both diseases; and ever after, when there appeared any symptoms of disease among my hens, I fed them for two

or three days with Indian meal scalded, and as much of the common red pepper as they would eat, which never failed to restore a healthy appearance in my flock. But as a preventive, I always kept their roost-house well ventilated by day, and night too; in warm weather, well cleaned, and often sprinkled with lime and plaster; and in winter, their roost-poles covered with cloth. For feed, white or yellow corn, wheat and barley in the fall and winter, with a plenty of clean water, and fresh oyster-shells pounded, and a good range; hens, if good, and other things equal, will lay 250 eggs per year apiece, or they did for me, and I tried the business for ten years. Such hens as I kept on the above feed would eat per day, equal in value to one quart of corn to every ten hens, allowing the corn and barley to be the same price, and wheat double to that of either, the hens having always at hand as much as they could eat. Barley will cause hens to be broody; and hence must be fed sparingly except in cold weather and early winter. Rye will stop them from laying or anything else, as it is very purgative to fowls. H.

MORRISTOWN, N. J.

For the American Agriculturist.

THE GLACIERS.

It is well known that, at a certain height above the level of the sea, mountains are covered with snow throughout the year. This point of elevation is called "the line of perpetual congelation." Many suppose that the snow never melts above this line. Herein is a mistake. The line of perpetual congelation is determined solely by the fact, that, during a single revolution of the seasons, all the snow that falls in that year is melted, and no more. If the snow never melted, the highest mountains on the globe, would be continually increasing in size and elevation. But such is not the fact. At the equator, the line of perpetual congelation is at 16,000 feet above the sea. In Switzerland, it falls to 8,700 feet. The line varies with the latitude. Every snow-clad mountain is not a glacier. The glaciers are not found, in all places, where the cold is sufficient to form them. They are peculiar to certain ranges of mountains. They fill the valleys among the Alps. Each glacier resembles a mighty river instantaneously congealed. Its surface corresponds with the declining bed on which it rests; except that it is thrown into swells and ridges, resembling the waves of the ocean in a storm. It is, literally, a frozen torrent. The snow that falls upon it in winter, disappears in summer, and the frozen current is constantly in motion, advancing to the plains below. How remarkable is this phenomenon: Its lower extremity is daily thrust forward into the green and sunny vales at the foot of the mountain. Immense quantities of earth and rocks are forced along, by this solid mass of ice, into the cultivated regions below. The glacier, therefore, is wasted at the base and renewed at the top.

The progress made by these frozen streams varies in different valleys, and in different years. The "Mer de Glace" the largest of the Swiss glaciers, moved one year only 40 feet; in another year, 442 feet. The velocity of different portions of the same mass also varies. The middle moves faster than the sides. The lower end of the glacier is always invading the cultivated fields of the peasants. If the motion be slow, the extremity melts away as fast as it advances, yielding a cold, turbid stream of water at its base. If it moves more rapidly, it often presses forward a mound of earth and gravel and buries the arable land to a great depth with the debris of the mountain. These hills or ridges thus formed are called

"moraines." Sometimes the fruits of autumn ripen within a few feet of the melting ice. Travelers say that they have picked ripe cherries from trees while standing upon the glacier. In 1820, at a place called, "Hameau des Bois," the glacier made a sudden descent upon the arable lands, driving huge blocks of granite up to the very doors of the inhabitants, and leaving, within a hundred yards of their homes, a formidable bulwark of earth and boulders, beyond which all vegetation ceases. Huge rocks are also carried by these moving torrents of ice upon their surface; and, when they are gradually undermined by the thawing of the ice, they are pitched into the green valley below. Thus the citizens live in constant peril, in those places where this resistless foe of agriculture drives forward its desolating engines.

The cause of the motion of glaciers has never been clearly ascertained. Different theories have been proposed to solve the problem. The most important of which are those of "dilatation" and "gravitation." According to the theory of dilatation, "the ice is supposed to be pressed onwards by an internal swelling of its parts, occasioned by rapid alternations of freezing and thawing of its parts, or rather by the formation continually of minute crevices, into which water, derived from the warmth of the sun and the action of the air on the surface, is introduced and where it is frozen by the cold of the glacier whose bulk it thus increases." It is well known that water expands when it congeals. "On the theory of gravity, the weight of the superincumbent mass of ice is the sole cause of its motion. The ice lying on an inclined plane or rock, is supposed to slide over it, by its natural tendency to descend, aided by the action of the earth's warmth, which prevents its being frozen at the bottom." Lieut. Forbes, who has spent much time in investigating the matter, finds, as he thinks, insuperable objections to both theories, and advances a third of his own invention to-wit, "that a glacier is an imperfect fluid, or a viscous body, which is urged down slopes of a certain inclination, by the mutual pressure of its parts." This he confirms by very plausible reasons.

For the American Agriculturist.

EGYPTIAN OR WINTER OATS—NEPAUL OR HINDOSTAN BARLEY.

The Egyptian oats in this climate, endure the winter as well as wheat. I have cultivated them for years. I began with two quarts of seed, and now have 100 acres of them growing. They tiller equal to rye; have a very strong straw; and in my opinion are the best kind of oats to grow on rich land. I have raised 70 bushels per acre, and this year hope to obtain 100 bushels per acre.

This may be a well established English variety of oats, yet I have not been able to find any that equals or resembles it. Some one has suggested it may be the Poland oat, changed by a southern climate.

The *Nepaul Barley* has no beard or awne, and tillers remarkably when sown on rich land. It is a spring grain, but should be sown early.

RICHARD PETERS.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 12, 1855.

We have samples of the Egyptian oats, obtained from the central part of our State, where they have been cultivated with great success for several years, and yielding most abundantly of a heavy, nutritive grain. They are represented as very hardy, not liable to disease, and resist drouth better than the common oat. From the specimen of growth we have seen, we deem them a distinct and valuable variety, well deserving the attention

of our farmers. We have a small sheaf of straw with the head on in our office. The heads are the largest of the oat variety we ever saw; they measure from 10 to 18 inches long.

For the American Agriculturist.

DRAINING—QUACK GRASS—WHEAT MIDGE—EARLY AND LATE WHEAT.

In your paper of the 7th instant, your correspondent F. I. B. says, "Draining to destroy Couch, Twitch, or Quack grass, is out of the question. For it will grow as well on upland, (if not too arid) as upon land that needs draining." Your correspondent is right in some respects, and wrong in others.

That draining *alone* will kill Quack grass, I know is out of the question; but without draining on our stiff soil, it is impossible to kill it, and I never saw land producing Quack without seeding or planting, that did not require draining. I never saw Quack grow on low land, but always upon upland, with a cold springy subsoil. F. I. B. appears to labor under the same delusion of hundreds—I may say thousands of others—who think that upland needs no draining, when in fact unless the upland is drained, you can never thoroughly drain the adjacent low land. In almost all cases, the low land requires drains chiefly to carry off the water that springs on the upland, and with which the land is gorged in winter, spring, and fall. When Quack land is thoroughly drained, and the following season is thoroughly tilled, the earth pulverizers like a sand hill, and the Quack roots harrow out as white and clean as potatoes out of a dry loam. If not drained, you may plow, harrow, and cultivate *stiff* Quack soils for a life time, and the Quack will be as strong and healthy as ever. I never had any experience with Quack on my own land, but I have watched it for the last five years on a farm adjoining, which came in possession of a friend of mine at that time. The former owner had been endeavoring to kill Quack for about twenty years—but entirely without success. Now, in five years, by thorough draining and good tillage, it is all killed, root and branch.

I will now tell F. I. B. how he will know when land needs draining: Dig holes about two and a half feet deep in different parts of the fields; put a cover over the holes so that rain water can not get into them, and if they fill with water until within a foot or so of the surface, in ten or twelve hours, then his land requires and will pay well for draining. I think I hear F. I. B. and many others say, that those holes will fill up on any land, if the ground is wet at the time. But I tell them, that is not the case. You may dig as many drains as you please on drylands, and they will never run water, unless the snow is melting on the surface. If F. I. B. had stood over the making of between forty and fifty miles of drains, as I have done, he would be a better judge of what was wet and what was dry land. To the unpractised eye, much land that looks dry, is gorged with water six inches below the surface. That is the kind of land to produce Quack. *Now mind that* F. I. B. says, "for several years the writer lived on a farm, all of which was literally overrun with this pernicious grass, except about six acres of low pasture land. On all sides of this field, the adjacent ones being upland for wheat and corn, this grass grew rankly." I have no doubt whatever that if F. I. B. will go back to that upland for wheat and corn, and dig a drain through it, he will get a stream of fine, pure water, and if not too distant, I will accompany him, and lay out the draining, and pay for the drain if there is no run of water.

Now for the result of draining upland.

Before the weevil or wheat-midge came, my drained land was noticed by every one who saw them, as producing far better crops of wheat than farms not drained, of precisely the same character of soils. But since the midge became so destructive, many farmers have almost given up the raising of wheat, excepting for their own bread—and some not that. Those who continued the raising of wheat have only got from seven to ten bushels per acre, when my drained land has been not less than twenty-three bushels per acre, and from that up to twenty-seven bushels per acre. Last season some other drained land in this neighborhood raised fully as much as mine.

I have thirty-one acres of my farm yet to drain, which I shall endeavor to do this season. On drained land the wheat grows much earlier in spring, and ripens a few days earlier than undrained land, and much of it gets so hard that, when the midge makes its appearance it can not be so destructive to it as later wheat. Were it not for rust, I think wheat might be grown so late as to head out after the midge is gone.

JOHN JOHNSTON.

Near Geneva, March 17, 1855.

Horticultural Department.

THE attention of Horticulturists is specially directed to the advertisement of the administrators of the late Thomas Hogg.

HOVEY'S MAGAZINE FOR MARCH.

In looking over the advertising columns, we are glad to see that the famous Concord grape is put down to three dollars each, and by the dozen to two dollars. This, we have no doubt, will be much better economy for the producer, and certainly much more satisfactory to the purchaser. Vines at five dollars each must be dull of sale, even though they were warranted to bear golden clusters the same season they were set out. A few verdant gentlemen, who believe all that is told them, would buy of course, even at double that price. But the mass of fruit-growers prefer to wait. A plant so easily and so rapidly multiplied as the vine, can be furnished cheaper than almost anything else sent out from the nursery.

The leader is upon the importance of deep cultivation. A contrast is drawn between our American climate and that of Great Britain, showing that the average temperature of our summer months is several degrees higher than theirs, while we have on an average 15 more inches of rain in a season. Our rains fall principally in spring and autumn, before and after vegetation is in its highest activity. There, the rains fall in moderate and drizzling showers, often for several days in succession. Our summer weather is much more clear, our atmosphere more dry, and the heat of the sun intense. Deep and thorough trenching of the soil is recommended as the only effectual remedy for these infelicities of climate.

We are happy to add our testimony to this recommendation. The very best investment we ever made in garden implements, was a trenching spade with which the soil could be worked from twenty inches to two feet deep. Putting in the manure at that

depth we have reached astonishing results in the root and cabbage crops. This deep working of the soil turns the drouth itself to good account, and renders mulching an irrigation less necessary, or if used, more efficacious. During a dry spell, and in trenched ground, roots strike deeper in search of food and moisture, become more extensively ramified, and sooner find the rich loam and manure intermingled with the soil. We never raised so fine carrots as during the fierce drouth of last summer, in an old gravel pit, where the soil was three feet or more deep. Capillary attraction is increased, and evaporation from the cold, damp earth below is increased. It is also a great safeguard against excessive rains. The more rain, the more heat, ammonia, carbonic acid, and other organic elements are left in the soil as it descends. The trenched and porous soil holds water like a sponge, notwithstanding the drainage. It retains or can command enough for the wants of vegetation.

Trenching, or its substitute, subsoil plowing, is one of the great wants of our gardens and cultivated fields. The cold, wet lands, with their deep black soils, are often the richest on the farm in all the elements of fertility, and only need drainage and thorough working to yield great crops.

Wilson Flagg has an article on illusive distances and magnitudes in his usual happy vein. It is artistic, too much so for the common reader perhaps, going into the philosophy of laying out grounds so as to coax the owner of a few acres and his visitors into the belief, that he is the proprietor of an extensive domain. Grounds may be so improved, or so let alone, if Nature has been happy in her work, that they will seem much more extensive than they are. If we would imitate nature, we must draw no perfect mathematical lines or figures, and the approximations to them should be few. Our own country is full of these charming landscapes, and perhaps no other country on earth has received so many external advantages, and such a variety of scenery from the hand of nature. We need not visit England to study and learn the work we have to do; for nature, who is the only correct teacher, is here before us, undespoiled as in the mother country, by the vagaries of ostentatious improvers. The English artists in landscape have made only a few advances towards what may be styled the natural system of laying out grounds.

Our landscapes, which nature has made so beautiful, ought to be preserved, from the besom of "enterprize," which is so rapidly sweeping them away. They are numerous and characteristic in these old houses which have been long occupied almost exclusively by farmers, and which have not been exposed to the ravages of a more advanced civilization, for what the Goths and Vandals were to the cities of Greece and Rome, the enterprizing classes of the Anglo-Americans are to all these beautiful haunts of the Rural Deities. They lay in ruins, with remorseless sacrilege, every object that would delight the heart of a true lover of nature, and then point exultingly to the bald hills and

plains, as if their ravages were proofs of their civilization.

Andrew Gray has an article on the gardens of the south, and speaks for the latitude of Savannah. Oranges and lemons grow luxuriantly, but are liable, in severe winters, to be killed down to the ground. Their roots survive, and throw up shoots six or eight feet in a season. Pears are uncertain. They often blossom in January, and the young fruit is killed by the frosts of February and March. They blossom again in October, and are again cut off by the frosts of November. The foreign varieties of the plum are subject to the same calamity. The peach is short-lived, but does well while it lasts. Pomegranates thrive well. Summer apples mature, but none are grown that keep well. Apricots are like the plums, and olives have been tried, and the experiment encourages the hope that olive oil may be raised in this country. Figs are the certain fruit in the south, and sometimes two crops are gathered. This is certainly a rather beggarly account of the orchard fruits of the south, and we think some Yankee fruit-grower, trained in the vicinity of Boston, might find a wide field of usefulness in that region. Pomological science would probably do much to remedy these difficulties of climate.

The article on the improved varieties of the shellbark furnishes valuable suggestions. This delicious nut may be improved in size, and, by the experiments on record in regard to other nuts and fruits, we may look for shellbarks a few years hence as large as hen's eggs—indeed, the "Perkiomen" shellbark, a native of Pennsylvania, which has been noticed by Dr. Brinckle in his horticultural reports, is nearly of that size already. A specimen measures an inch and three-quarters long, one and five-eighths wide, and one thick, or four inches round one way, and four and a half the other. Let our horticultural societies take the hint, offer premiums for the finest hickory nuts, to be distributed among those who will plant and grow them. The nut is the richest of all indigenous to the north, and its improvement is an object worthy of the attention of our fruit-growers.

ORIGIN OF THE OPAL.

A dew-drop came, with a spark of flame
He had caught from the sun's last ray,
To a violet's breast, where he lay at rest,
Till the hours brought back the day.

The rose look'd down, with a blush and frown,
But she smiled all at once to view
Her own bright form, with its coloring warm,
Reflected back by the dew.

Then the stranger took a stolen look,
At the sky so soft and blue,
And a leaflet green, with a silvery sheen,
Was seen by the idler too.

A cold north-wind, as he thus reclined,
Of a sudden raged around,
And a maiden fair, who was walking there,
Next morning an opal found!

ROSE RIVERS.

"When is a broker," queried Jimmy Grimes,
"Like to a vagrant in the olden times?"
"D'ye give it up?—Well, when by fortune's shocks
The poor unfortunate gets 'stuck in stocks!'"

For the American Agriculturist.

CLIMBERS.

Spring has come with its gentle influences, and its balmy breath, and is inviting us to leave our warm rooms and enjoy the open air. The bluebirds have given their first concerts, and right gladly have they been welcomed. The buds are swelling; and every thing indicates that a busy time is near.

I have been out examining the vines that clamber around the porch, and away up almost to the point of the gable, and which makes our cottage so cheerful in the summer, and are an ornament even in the winter.

I cannot deny myself the pleasure of recommending to others who have hitherto neglected the planting of vines, to neglect it no longer. There is nothing, that with so little expense, will aid so much to the beauty of a place, and give it such a home-like, comfortable air. It requires a long time for trees to grow, but a honeysuckle, or a rose, will, in two years, nicely shade the windows, and prevent that bare look which a house always has that is not surrounded by trees, or embowered in climbing plants.

It is not necessary to have an expensive trellis for their support. A cedar shorn of its limbs to within a few inches of the trunk, answers every purpose, and, in most situations, is far prettier than anything more artificial in its form. If cedar can not be obtained, any wood which does not readily decay will answer.

The honeysuckles are among our prettiest and most hardy climbers. They have abundance of foliage, which is of the greatest importance, and their flowers are very ornamental. There are many varieties. The scarlet and the yellow trumpet honeysuckles are extremely beautiful, and flower through the whole of the summer, and in autumn their bright red berries are decidedly ornamental. The hummingbirds love to visit them, and many a delicious sip do they enjoy in the deep cups of the brilliantly-colored, trumpet-shaped flowers. Their want of fragrance is their only deficiency, but still I should be very unwilling to part with them. I never weary looking at the exquisite beauty of these flowers. They are unrivaled in grace of form, and in their rich and perfect hues.

The sweet-scented monthly honeysuckle is very desirable, and, like those I have mentioned, continues in blossom through the summer, and until late in autumn. The coral honeysuckle is very pretty, and so is the white.

The Chinese honeysuckle is my especial favorite. It is a sub-evergreen. In sheltered situations, and in a moderate winter, it retains its foliage through the year—even the long, cold winter, to which we have just said good bye, has not entirely stripped mine of their leaves—it is perfectly hardy, grows rapidly and to a great height. Its mode of flowering is unlike the trumpet honeysuckle, being in pairs or threes. It is exceedingly fragrant, filling the air with the most delicious perfume. It blossoms in

spring and autumn, the whole plant being then almost completely covered with flowers. Its greatest recommendation, however, is its foliage, which is of a dark green, and more abundant than that of any other variety with which I am acquainted. I have sometimes planted this, and the scentless trumpet honeysuckles together—thus securing the foliage and fragrance of the one, and the showy flowers of the other.

These honeysuckles may be obtained of gardeners at low prices—the trumpet at not more than a York shilling a plant, the others, I think, are a little higher.

Climbing roses are of great beauty, though they are short-lived. The multiflora blossoms early and profusely, it is a red rose. The Queen of the Prairie and Baltimore Belle are both very beautiful—one blossoming a little later than the other. The Grevell rose is larger and fuller, but does not run so high. Their are a great variety of Prairie roses, very handsome, and deserving a place around every dwelling, where there is room for them to grow. The stems of the higher climbing roses are apt to become somewhat bare; for this reason, when wishing to shade a porch, I have planted the Chinese honeysuckle near them.

The Wistaria is another vine which deserves mention. It runs high, and is loaded in summer with long racemes of purple flowers. I purchased one of these plants four years ago, this spring, expecting to see it immediately reward my care by running up over the bay window. But it did not grow more than a few inches the first summer; the second season it did no better, and I became entirely discouraged, supposing it never would be a vine, and purchased another plant. The third year my Wistaria grew twelve or fifteen feet, and the coming season I hope to see it laden with blossoms. The other Wistaria grew well the first year.

The Madeira vine is a pretty annual climber. The leaf is thick and glossy, and the flower is finely perfumed. The tubers cost only a few cents.

There are many other valuable climbers, but I have mentioned only such as I have planted myself, and can recommend from personal knowledge. The American woodbine, the Nunipet creeper, and the Ivy, do well on stone or brick houses, but are rather objectionable on those made of wood, on account of the way in which they attach themselves.

The daughters in families can do much to beautify their houses, if they are interested in doing so, and can most of them doubtless obtain what assistance they may need, from a father, or elder brother. I am sure they can accomplish the planting of vines and ornamental shrubs if they attempt it. It requires only a little determination and a willingness to exert themselves. If they can not have help, they can use a spade, or a hoe with their own hands. They would feel abundantly repaid for their labor by the improvement they would effect.

Morning-glories and scarlet runners are by no means to be despised, if nothing better can be obtained. If I could get nothing else, I would train Lima-beans over the windows

and about the porch, before I could consent to have my dwelling entirely unadorned by nature.

ANNA HOPE.

For the American Agriculturist.

AN INFALLIBLE REMEDY FOR THE LOCUST BORER.

"Prone on his grievous deadly scathe, dauntless
We'll beard the victim in his very den."

In many localities in central and western New-York, the yellow locust has been entirely destroyed by the borer; so that many farmers have abandoned the idea of growing it, either for timber, or ornament. The yellow locust is a beautiful tree for ornamental purposes, and valuable for timber—being very durable. It grows very rapidly, and makes a fine, clean shade-tree about the dwelling. It flourishes remarkably well in our climate, both on the hard and barren uplands, and in the fertile vallies. But, since it is so liable to be destroyed by the borer, it seems, in a measure, incumbent on those who have been successful, in repelling or destroying the borer, and protecting their trees from his ravages, to communicate the facts, through the medium of agricultural journals to the public, that those who have the yellow locust on their premises, where the borer has not yet made his appearance, may be prepared for his aggressions; and that those who have been so unfortunate, as to have them all destroyed, which is the case in many parts, may again plant the seed, with the assurance that they may be secured from destruction by the borer.

The locust borer springs from eggs, which are deposited by a beetle, in the bark of the living tree, in the month of July, where they remain until the ensuing spring, when they hatch, and commence their depredations, in the shape of a little white grub, at first not more than one-twentieth of an inch in length. The beetle seldom ascends a tree to deposit eggs, more than from six to ten feet in height. Two or three warm days in April, and some times in May, according to the locality, will hatch all the eggs which have been deposited; and the little grub, or borer, may be examined by any one, between the epidermis and the parenchyma, or the outer and middle layers of the bark of a tree. But they increase in size very rapidly; and if the weather is warm, they will, in a few days work through the parenchyma and the cortical layers, into the living wood, where they are, in a measure, beyond our reach, unless the tree be very much haggled and wounded in getting at them. After they have been at work a few days, we can readily discover the exact point, where they may be found, by observing where the sap oozes out, and by the very fine bark and wood-like sawdust, which they work out of their holes.

Many have endeavored to exterminate them, by thrusting the blade of a penknife, or pointed wire into their holes; and have recommended the practice as effectual; but their course is often so tortuous—many times turning at a right angle—that it is often impossible to touch them, even when they may be within reach of the instrument. Many have recommended washing the trees with spirits of turpentine, and injecting it into their holes—which is, probably just about as effectual as the oft-recommended application of human urine.

Should it reach them—which is a matter of doubt, on account of their course being almost always upwards, seldom or never downward—such fluids might cause them to squirm and writhe in great agony, but would not destroy them.

Those who have experimented with insects, know very well, that in almost every state of their transformation, they are ex-

ceedingly tenacious of life; and that often, the most pungent odors, and offensive perfumery, and sharp penetrating liquids, applied externally, appear totally ineffectual for their immediate destruction; and that mechanical violence in the majority of instances, is the only *efficient*, and often the only feasible mode of destruction. If the locust borer worked *downwards*, we might hope with some assurance that fluids applied to a tree, as a wash, might reach it by setting in its holes; but the reverse of this is the result; and, furthermore, the bark being very porous and spongy, readily absorbs such liquids.

The locust borer made its first appearance on my farm, in the spring of 1853. I have a number of fine trees in my yard; and when I first discovered them at work, they were most of them in the wood, or about entering the wood of the trees. Determined on their destruction, I immediately applied the blade of my knife, harness awls, crooked and straight wires, and in many instances, cut holes into the trees an inch deep, and two inches in diameter—following the course of the borer—before it could be found. But notwithstanding all my most persevering efforts, many escaped. In the spring of 1854, after we had had a few warm days, every locust tree was wet with sap. Immediately, with the drawing knife to cut off the rough bark, and a wagon maker's spoke-shave to smooth it, and to work on trees where the epidermis was very thin, and with firming chisels and gouges to cut out the epidermis from the depressions of the trees near the ground, every tree was completely denuded of the outer bark, and the parenchyma laid completely bare, for eight or ten feet high. This was covered with dark spots, where the borer had hatched, as thickly as the spots on the face of a man who has had the small pox. Thousands and thousands of the little victims scarcely perceptible to the naked eye, were destroyed in the operation.

After the trees had been treated in this manner, they were all smeared with a lorication, consisting of about one part of linsed oil, and two or three of pitch, (resin, or "rosun," is as good, but more costly) well mingled together, in an iron or tin kettle, over a moderate fire, and applied to the tree boiling hot, with a painter's brush. If one has a small portable furnace to carry from tree to tree, to keep this composition constantly boiling hot, it would facilitate the operation very much. It is very important that it be kept hot; because it works much better—adheres better—and can be put on more evenly. The operator, in applying it, must work very lively, holding the vessel which contains it, close to the tree; and dip the brush often, and spread it as quickly as possible. If it is applied when cold, in order to get any of it to adhere it must be applied three times as thickly as is necessary; and when it is very thick, it is more liable to cleave off. A thin film—say one twentieth of an inch thick—is better than if it were one eighth of an inch thick. It is not necessary to be very exact in the proportions of pitch and oil. It needs to be hard enough so that it will not be melted by the sun. When applying it if it does not become hard in twenty or thirty minutes, and settles down the tree in ridges, more pitch must be added. If it hardens before it can be spread, more oil must be poured in. Raw oil is better than boiled. Care must be exercised not to let it ignite, when over the fire—as it is very inflammable. The pitch should be broken up in fine pieces before the oil is mixed with it. In heating, it should not be allowed to boil very highly.

The main object of this lorication or coating is, to furnish the tree with an *artificial epidermis*, which will protect it from the in-

fluence of the sun and weather; and which will prevent the beetle from depositing its eggs in the bark. That which was applied to my trees prevented a smooth unbroken surface, until late in August—when the day of the beetle was over—when by the enlargement of the trees, of course it became full of cracks, up and down the bodies. But it adheres as firmly now as when it was first applied. A very smooth epidermis was formed beneath; and when the warm weather comes on, I intend to smear them again.

It may appear to many like a hazardous operation, to shave off the epidermis of a living tree, and apply this boiling-hot liquid to the tender bark; but every one of my trees, treated in this manner, grew luxuriantly the past season; and I have no apprehensions of seeing a vestige of the borer the coming season.

The doubting and incredulous may test its efficiency; for it is exceedingly feasible. Ten or fifteen minutes to one tree, is all that is necessary to perform the work thoroughly. After a few warm days, the borer will commence its work. Let the yellow locusts be saved now.

S. EDWARDS TODD.

LAKE-RIDGE, Tompkins Co., N. Y.

ON THE ORIGIN OF APHIDES.

BY MR. PETER MAKENZIE, WEST PLEAN.

We are informed by some philosophers, that a mind without immediate employment naturally recurs to the past or future. The reflector finds that he was happy, and knows that he cannot be so now. He sees that he may yet be happy, and wishes the hour was come. Thus every period of his continuance is miserable, except that very short one of immediate gratification. We would tell such persons to engage in some department of gardening, and there will be no fear but they will get an abundance of employment all the year round, which will increase their happiness, and banish misery from their minds.

At this season they may have an opportunity of knowing much about the small yet powerful enemies that injure many of our cultivated plants, we mean the aphides, or plant-lice. In their destructiveness to growing crops, they are placed by some next to the locusts of warm climates, and farmers and gardeners annually suffer considerable losses by their depredations. Yet we are informed that a knowledge of their history is but very imperfectly diffused among those who suffer most from those minute enemies. We may have many things to say about them, but the following account of their fecundity and rapid increase may be new to some of your readers.

The double mode of reproduction in the plant-lice, supposed by Dr. Darwin to resemble the buds and seeds of trees, will serve to account for the very astonishing increase of these insects. Dr. Richardson, in the plantation of the rose, reckons in one season ten generations, each generation averaging fifty individuals; so that, by multiplying 50 nine times by itself, one egg will give origin to the almost incredible number of 25,065,093,750,000,000,000. To this must be added the number of eggs laid by the tenth generation before winter, for the renewal of their progeny the following season. M. Reaumer, however, on the observations of M. Bonnet, reckons 90 for the first generation from a single mother; and reckoning that each of these produces 90 more, the second generation will be 8,100, and the third will be 729,000, the fourth will be 65,610,000, and the fifth will be 5,904,900,000; the ninth generation in this case would be 350,970,489,000,000,000. That this calculation is founded on the best ascertained facts, appears from the experiments of M. Bonnet, to which we

have above referred; and he has been so particular as to record the day and hour of each individual insect. In one of his journals we find 95 plant-lice produced from one mother between the 1st and 21st of June; in another, 90 plant-lice from the 30th of May to the 15th of June. M. Latreille, a high authority, states the increase at 25 young a day from the same mother; though, on looking over M. Bonnet's tables, we find the numbers never exceed ten, and are usually from four to six young a day; so that, supposing the facts relate to the same species, there must be some mistake in M. Latreille's statement.

Even, however, at the lowest estimate, the rate of increase is almost inconceivable, and hence, we need not wonder that these insects sometimes appear in such numbers as to obscure the air.

"On the 1st of August," says White of Selborne, "about half an hour after three in the afternoon, the people of Selborne were surprised by a shower of *Aphides*, which fell in these parts. They who were walking the streets at that time found themselves covered with these insects, which settled also on the trees and gardens, and blackened all the vegetables where they alighted. These armies, no doubt, were then in a state of emigration, and shifting their quarters, and might, perhaps, come from the great hop plantations of Kent and Sussex, the wind being that day at north. They were observed at the same time at Farnham, and all along the vale at Alton.

To a gardener this must appear frightful. It, however, teaches one useful lesson; at the sight of *one insect* in a house or frame of plants, strongly fumigate with tobacco, or dip the plant overhead in a strong solution of tobacco-water. The genuine liquid may be bought at the tobacco manufacturers, at but a few pence per gallon.—*Floricultural Cabinet*.

MANUFACTURE OF PORT WINE.

A London paper gives the following account of the manner in which port wine is manufactured:

When port is required to be manufactured, two separate processes are deliberately and systematically gone through; first, the wine itself is made, and then the bottles are prepared into which the liquor is to be transferred. When the mixture itself is deficient in the fragrant peculiar to the grape, a bouquet is contributed by means of sweet scented herbs, by orris-root, elder flowers, or laurel water. A vinous odor is sometimes imparted by small quantities of the liquid known as "the oil of wine." The pleasant juice of the sloe imparts a port-like roughness to the compound, and sawdust or oak bark effect the same purpose. A fruity taste is given by a tincture of raisins, and the rich ruby color has probably once flowed in the vessels of the sandal-wood tree.

But the bottles have to be crusted. This is done by tincture of catechu and sulphate of lime. The corks are steeped in a decoction of Brazil wood, and the very casks are prepared with a layer of cream of tartar, which is formed at the bottom in glittering crystals. Thus a pipe of port which was young in the morning is made to fall into extreme old age in the course of the afternoon. These are no exaggerations, and the following has been given as the chemical analysis of a bottle of cheap port wine, though for obvious reasons we suppress the quantities: Spirits of wine, cider, sugar, alum, tartaric acid, and a decoction of logwood. In most instances, when the wine is not manufactured in this country, the consumer is victimized by a three-fold adulteration. The exporter adulterates, the importer adulterates, and finally the retail dealer adulterates

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, March 22.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

LOOK OUT FOR THE GOLDEN STREAMS.

The spring rains are upon us; the manures accumulated in the yards during the winter are becoming rotted so that they dissolve in water; and from ten thousand of these yards, all over the country, are now flowing yellow streams of golden liquid—golden not in color alone, but golden in value if treasured and used upon hungry soils, instead of being lost in roadside ditches and running streams. In our lectures we have often stated, that five barrels of water, after being leached through a cart-load of rotted manure, contain more plant-food than all that is left behind. This is a positive truth, generally speaking, and yet how few farm-yards are so arranged that their contents are not actually washed by more than five barrels of water to each cart-load.

It is not uncommon for a barrel of rain-water to fall upon every plot of ground two feet square, during the months of April and May, and often the amount greatly exceeds this. Now though some of this evaporates, yet in most yards the greater portion runs off, carrying with it the very richest part of the manures. From a comparatively small yard this wasted liquid is fully equal in value to a tun of the best Peruvian guano, costing \$50. Last week a farmer purchased in this city four tuns of guano for \$200, when we know that, during the past and present month, he has lost from his yard by washing of rains, what would have been equal to six tuns of guano, if there had been a small outlay in properly saving it. We would not discourage the use of Peruvian guano—for in nine cases out of ten it pays a first-rate profit—but our motto is, *first save and use the home-made "guano."*

How to Save this Liquid.—Put all kinds of manure under cover, as fast as produced. Pile it up under a shed; or, if shed-room is scarce, place it in heaps where water will not run upon it, and cover with any old boards or slabs—with anything that will shed off the bulk of the rain-water. A good arrangement is to put up a few crotched stakes, with poles across them; cover these with boards, or lay on rails 'slanting' and cover them with straight straw, held on by another layer of rails or poles. Under this extempore covering throw *every particle* of animal droppings, straw litter, &c. Such work **PAYS**. Any one having twenty animals can afford to hire one man to take care of the manure. One gill of manure washings, placed in a hill of corn, will give it such a

start that it can afterwards take care of itself and produce a large yield. If the manure is preserved unwashed, this valuable portion will be retained, and be ready to supply the first wants of the plant. We repeat, "look out for the golden streams," and do it now if not already done.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CURCULIO—J. Mason, Ulster County.—The Matthews remedy, so much talked about, remains in *statu quo*. The committee have taken another year to think about it and try it. We have not much faith in its success. See page 118, vol. xii.

LIME QUERIES—S. Ramsey, Tenn.—On a "loose black soil with a gray bottom," and indeed on any soil, lime may be sown broadcast and plowed in. The best plan, however, is to sow it upon the plowed surface and work it in with a harrow, or cultivator. The end to be aimed at is to get the lime incorporated as thoroughly and uniformly as possible with the soil several inches in depth.

The quantity and time of application depends much upon the condition of the soil. If it is dry, warm, and light, the application may immediately precede planting or sowing. On such soils a small quantity is needed, say 5 to 25 bushels per acre, according to lightness of soil. On wet, heavy soils, the longer the time allowed for the lime to act, the better. So the amount may be profitably increased to from 30 to 50 or more bushels per acre, depending upon the coldness, "sourness," &c.

It should be kept in mind that the effect of lime is to decompose (or decay) the vegetable matter in the soil; and that too large quantities upon a dry, light soil may do this too rapidly. See vol. xii, page 193, first column.

DISSOLVING BONES—E. Sanford, Steuben County, N. Y.—Answer in a week or two. In the mean time see vol. xi, page 113, and vol xii, page 56, in both of which places this subject is treated of at length.

FERTILIZERS, FOREIGN—Wm. H. W., Massachusetts.—An article will appear on this subject soon.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This society held their annual meeting at Washington, D. C., commencing on the 21st ult. Twenty-six States were represented by accredited delegates from State and County societies. The exercises opened with an address from the President of the society, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, in which he recapitulated the operations of the society during the past year. This address was well received, and has been printed in pamphlet form for distribution.

A variety of resolutions, &c., were discussed, an address delivered in the evening, by the venerable George Washington Park Custis, after which the officers and committees were entertained at the National Hotel with a sumptuous repast by Col. C. B. Calvert, the proprietor of "Riversdale." On the second day, Mr. King, of New-York, re-

ported from the nominating committee, consisting of one from each State, and the following officers were chosen for 1855:

PRESIDENT.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, of Massachusetts.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

John D. Lang, Maine.	J. T. Worthington, Ohio.
H. F. French, N. H.	B. Gratz, Ky.
Fred. Holbrook, Vt.	M. P. Gentry, Tenn.
B. V. French, Mass.	Jos. Orr, Ind.
Jas. J. Cooke, R. I.	J. A. Kinnicut, Ill.
John T. Andrew, Conn.	Thos. Allen, Mo.
Henry Wagner, N. Y.	T. B. Flournoy, Ark.
Isaac Cornell, N. J.	J. C. Holmes, Mich.
Isaac Newton, Pa.	Jackson Morton, Fla.
C. H. Holcomb, Del.	T. G. Rusk, Texas.
H. G. S. Key, Md.	J. W. Grimes, Iowa.
G. W. P. Custis, Va.	B. C. Eastham, Wis.
Henry K. Burgwyn, N. C.	J. M. Horner, Cal.
James Hopkinson, S. C.	Jos. H. Bradley, D. C.
D. A. Reese, Ga.	S. M. Baird, New-Mexico.
A. P. Hatch, Ala.	H. H. Sibley, Minnesota.
A. G. Brown, Miss.	Joseph Lane, Oregon.
J. D. B. DeBow, La.	J. L. Hayes, Utah.
Gen. Whitfield, Kansas.	Mr. Giddings, Nebraska.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

John A. King, N. Y.	B. Perley Poor, Mass.
C. B. Calvert, Md.	A. Watts, Ohio.
A. L. Elwyn, Penn.	John Jones, Del.

SECRETARY.

WM. S. KING, Boston, Mass.

TREASURER.

B. B. FRENCH, Washington, D. C.

On a report of the executive committee, Dr. Elwyn, of Penn., Henry Wager, of New-York, Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of Mass., Col. Anthony Kimmel, of Md., and Chas. L. Flint, of Mass., were appointed delegates to attend the coming Industrial Exhibition at Paris.

A great variety of reports were read, which will be embodied in the forthcoming volume of the proceedings of the society. This will be furnished to the members, and will of itself amply repay the expense of membership. We defer further reference to the doings of the society till the reception of the official record of transactions.

PERSONS wishing information as to buying, selling, leasing or renting farms, securing laborers, procuring situations and the like, will do well to consult our weekly advertising columns, where they will be likely to meet with something of interest.

GOOD MILKERS.—Mr. B. H. Andrews, of Waterbury, Conn., informs us that one of his Devon cows made 9 lbs. 6 oz. butter in seven successive days, and another cow yielded, in the season of 1851, 210 lbs. of butter, and raised a calf till three months old.

ENGRAVINGS FOR THE AMERICAN HERD BOOK.

—As numerous inquiries are made of us in respect to these, we desire to say, that all such should be addressed to L. F. Allen, Black Rock, Erie Co., N. Y. The party who wishes to have his animals appear in this volume, must be at his own expense for the sketching and engraving, as it is for his own interest entirely that his own animals appear in the Herd Book.

Our thanks are especially due to correspondents for their numerous favors, and we solicit their continuance. We have a number of communications on hand which will soon appear.

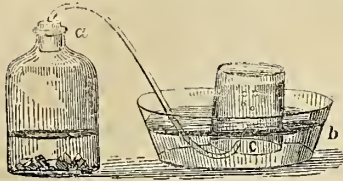
CHEMISTRY

FOR SMALL AND LARGE BOYS AND GIRLS.

CHAPTER IX.

Hydrogen—Symbol *H*—Atomic Weight 1.

75. In the figure below we have an illustration of the manner of catching or retaining hydrogen as fast as it is set at liberty from the oxygen, with which it is combined to form water. This apparatus is very simple, and any one of our readers can make it.



For ordinary experiments the bottle may be of any kind of glass, and of any shape and size, though one holding about a pint, having a wide-mouth neck, is more convenient. We have used large vials, syrup, pepper-sauce, common junk, and beer bottles. Through a tightly-fitting cork a hole is made for inserting the small bent tube *a*. This tube may be of lead pipe, glass, tin, or even of wood. Our first gas tube (which we used on the farm where we could get no other) was a long hollow reed, which bent easily. The most convenient tube is one of small lead pipe. Care should be taken to have it fit tightly in the cork. The opening through the cork may be made with a round file or burning iron. The vessel *b* may be a deep tin pan or wash-dish, or a small tub, bucket, or pail, filled nearly full of water. *c* is a tumbler filled with water, standing bottom upward in the water, but raised from the bottom of the vessel far enough for the crooked tube to go under its edge.

To use this apparatus, the cork is taken out, a handful of small slips of zinc are put in, then water enough added to cover them, and finally a little sulphuric acid (common oil of vitriol) is slowly poured in from a vial or bottle, until bubbles begin to rise quite rapidly. The cork with the tube through it, is now pressed firmly into its place. The hydrogen gas that is formed, having no other place of escape, goes over through the tube, and escapes under the tumbler at *c*; and rises up and takes the place of the water, just as air would, should you take one end of a tube in your mouth and blow under the tumbler. But there is considerable air in the tube and bottle, and on this account a good many bubbles should be allowed to escape before the end of the tube is put under the inverted tumbler.

You can fill a bottle or glass jar, or any other vessel, with gas in the same manner. First fill the vessel with water, and place the hand or a piece of pasteboard over its mouth, to prevent air from entering while you are turning it bottom upward into the water over the end of the tube at *c*. You will see that the water keeps the air from mingling with the gas.

We have been thus particular in describing this simple apparatus, because it will serve for producing and collecting other gasses or air-like substances.

76. When you have a tumbler filled with hydrogen gas, you can raise it up gently from the surface of the water, and the gas will remain in it for some time, because it is so much lighter than the air (70); but after a time it will become mingled with it, because the air is always in motion. If you turn the tumbler right side up, the hydrogen gas will instantly rise up, and the heavier air sink into the tumbler.

77. Raise the tumbler up gently and bring a lighted candle under it, and the gas will take fire and burn slowly. If the candle is thrust up into the tumbler it will go out, because it can not burn without the oxygen of the air; but though the candle goes out while in the gas, the gas itself will continue to burn at the edge of the tumbler where it comes in contact with the air. You will remember we said (74) that, in burning, the hydrogen unites with oxygen from the air, to form new particles of water.

Here is another example of *elective* (or choosing) affinity, described in chapter vi. In air, N_2O , or NNO , the oxygen (O) is united with nitrogen (N), but when heated by the flame, it exerts a choice (or its stronger affinity), and leaves the nitrogen and unites with the hydrogen (H) to form a new substance—water. So we shall find that all ordinary kinds of combustion, or burning, are produced by oxygen leaving the air and uniting with the burning substances, on account of having a greater affinity for them than for nitrogen.

78. Another very pretty experiment, and one easily performed, is made as follows: Fit the stem of a common smoking-pipe into a cork adapted to the neck of the bottle containing the hydrogen-producing materials (water, zinc and acid). This is shown in the figure. Let the gas escape for some minutes, so that the air may all be driven out, and then light the jet of gas at the upper end of the pipe-stem. It will burn with an almost invisible flame, as long as any gas is produced. Hold an inverted tumbler over this flame for a moment, and the inside will be coated with a condensed vapor of water, formed by the union of the hydrogen with the oxygen of the air during the burning.



N. B.—Before bringing flame near the gas jet, a towel should be placed around the bottle, so that, in case the air should not all be expelled and an explosion take place, the towel may prevent any pieces of glass from injuring the experimenter. (See note at end of last chapter.)

79. A glass or tin tube held down over the burning jet, will often produce a shrill musical sound.

80. Hold a large-size pistol barrel over the gas jet when not on fire, and let a little of the gas rise and mingle with the air inside the barrel, keeping the thumb over the priming-hole, to prevent its escape upward. Close the muzzle with a previously fitted cork, and, removing the thumb, apply a lighted match, when a loud report will take

place, owing to the rapid union of the hydrogen and oxygen (of the air).

We advise you to read over chapter vi and vii and this one, and try to understand fully where the hydrogen comes from, and how it is obtained.

For the American Agriculturist.

RECIPES—DRUGGING FOOD.

A LADY'S PROTEST.

A late number of your paper contains some very sensible remarks from one of your lady correspondents, upon the subject of Recipes and Recipe Books, and their advantage to young housekeepers. I class myself under this head, and am always happy to obtain *good* or *new* ideas from experienced housekeepers, be they young or old, and regard that portion of your paper devoted to hints upon household affairs and domestic economy as not the least important. While I cordially agree with your correspondent in her remarks upon this subject, I must beg to *disagree* in the Recipes which she furnishes. Why must soda and cream of tartar, enter so largely into the composition of all our cakes, be they for breakfast or tea?

In my experience I have found *well-beaten* eggs to serve every purpose in rendering the article "light," which I suppose is the object aimed at, in introducing the soda and cream of tartar. If we *must* be drugged, let us have it in some other form. If the medicine *must* be taken, let us find it in its proper place, not on the shelves of our kitchen pantries, nor on our breakfast and tea-tables. It seems to be quite a prevalent idea that good bread can not be made without the addition of soda or saleratus. If housekeepers will but take a little more trouble in preparing *yeast*, see to it that none goes into the composition of the bread but such as is perfectly sweet, and a little care that the bread is baked before it becomes acid from being *over-raised*, I think they would soon find an improvement. You have already given us so many valuable hints with regard to this, the most important branch of household art, that I need not dilate upon it. It would require but little experience, and a slight knowledge of chemical combinations, to show that bread rendered light by saleratus, soda, &c., is *not as sweet, is less moist, and tastes less like fresh bread, than that made with well prepared yeast alone*. Let us see upon the tables of our farmers, and of our young housekeepers, *light, sweet and digestible* bread, rendered so by fresh yeast, and not by an admixture from the shelves of the druggist. Let your correspondent try her recipes, *without* the soda and cream of tartar, but *with thoroughly beaten* eggs, and give us the result of her experience, and I am certain she will find her cake better in every respect. It will taste better, keep better, (if that be any object,) and I am sure after one or two trials, she will be pleased with the change. Our grandmothers and fathers never *heard* of such a mode of cooking, and though we are progressing in the culinary art, as well as in all others, I think if we build upon their foundations we shall find it a good one. I have already found myself the gainer, by making

use of some of the recipes, which have appeared in the Ladies Department, and trust your lady readers will furnish many more; but pray, Mr. Editor, banish all *medicated* cake and bread from your columns, that we may the sooner see them banished from the "Recipe Books" and tables of our housekeepers. I have a *horror* of this mode of cooking and beg you will use your influence in inducing your lady friends to lay it aside.

Brooklyn, Conn. P.

For the American Agriculturist
CATTLE AND SHADE TREES.

In a late number of the *American Agriculturist*, there is an article on the subject of shade trees, as being injurious to pastures, &c. This article is the practical experience of Mr. A. B. Dickinson, of Hornby, Steuben, Co., N. Y. Mr. Dickinson has come to the conclusion that shade trees in pastures are an injury and a nuisance, causing his cattle to spend so much time under the "shade," that they will not eat, and of course will not fatten so well as in open pastures; so he has commenced a general "death" to the trees by laying the ax at the root. Very well. Now I shall not attempt to say that Mr. D. is not right, when he says that his cattle do much better in open pastures—that is to say, they make more beef in such pastures than when fed in well shaded fields. Still, this policy, to me, looks like a narrow-contracted and short-sighted management, even where farming is carried on for "profit" and nothing else.

Mr. Dickinson has a lone farm of some 2,500 acres, probably owning in all some 3,000 acres of land, and he buys about 1,000 head of steers every spring for fattening, and still he has come to the conclusion that he can not afford to let his cattle have shade to stand under during the heat of the season, as he loses money by the operation. * *

But, in some editorial remarks upon the article, you, Mr. Editor, say in substance that trees injuriously affect young crops under them; that grass will not contain as much nutriment when grown in shade as in the open sunlight, and that cattle will not feed as well under trees as out, owing to the grass being of an inferior quality. And, that although cattle and sheep may appear to enjoy themselves much better under the shade in a very hot day than in the sun, yet flies and insects follow them under the shade and annoy them quite as much as in the sun. Very well. Now, allowing all this to be true, yet the shaded cattle have an advantage—namely, they are protected from the sun, and can afford to whip off and kick flies under the shade better than when grazing. But I claim that this is only one side of the question.

How much groups or shade trees protect cattle and sheep from storms throughout the season, is a consideration not entered in the account. It is well known that, in our climate, from the middle of May to the middle of June, we have many cold storms of rain, and also from September to the 20th of October, including the usual equinoctial storms, of more or less severity. Every farmer can

see that the trees break a storm of two-thirds its force, and the cattle will resort to such shelters in all cases when they are at hand. Is not this fact worth something, and did Mr. D. consider this point well when he commenced a general "onslaught" upon his shade trees?

Again, Mr. D. is opposed to running streams and ponds of water for cattle to stand in, as they are an injury to the growth of fattening cattle. Rather a new idea, but it may be a true one after all. But one thing is certain, cattle should at all times have pure, running water to drink, whether in large quantities or small. And would not our cold, drenching storms of rain, in spring and fall, without any protection whatever by trees, be as injurious to cattle as resting about or in a pond of water during the heat of summer? Neither is it always true that grass growing under trees is rejected by grazing stock, as I have often seen instances to the contrary, where grass has been fed down quite as closely as in the open pasture. But when such grass is rejected, it is generally owing to the stamping of the cattle and their droppings.

Pasture lands remain green much longer when they are well protected by trees, than if the lands are entirely open. This fact, I think, every grazier could see for himself during the season just past, if he gave the subject any attention. L. DURAND.

DERBY, Ct., March 1855.

HOP GROWING.

SOIL AND MODE OF CULTURE, CONTINUED.

The preliminary processes are well described in a letter from a hop grower of great experience in the town of Wilmington. "Deep, loamy soil," says he, "is the best for hops. Good corn land is always good hop land. To prepare land for hops, plow nine or ten inches deep; spread eight cords of manure to the acre; mix it with the soil by cross-plowing; furrow or mark out the land the same as for corn; plant the hop roots in every other hill; this gives three-fourths of the ground for corn or potatoes the first year. Hops have running roots, from one foot to three feet long, with joints or eyes to them. These roots are cut from the old hill every spring after they have been planted two years. The joints or eyes are two or three inches apart. These are the roots to plant; cut them so as to have three joints to a piece, and put three pieces to a hill. Cover them three inches deep. The first year they produce no hops. The second year the quantity and quality are likely to be as good as ever from the same field. Hops are commonly planted at a distance which gives eight hundred hills to the acre. They do not commonly receive, after being planted, more than two shovelfuls of manure to each hill. This makes about four cords to the acre. They are on poles from thirteen to twenty feet long. There are some farmers in the west part of our town who are making some improvements in growing hops. As I pass by their yards, I notice the poles are longer than they were in former years.

"In the early part of my life I lived with the largest hop grower then in Reading. After leaving him I raised hops for myself four years, and from experience I am satisfied that it is as easy with new white birch poles twenty-five feet long, instead of poles from thirteen to twenty feet long, and with eight cords of manure to the acre in the place of four cords, to raise from one thousand to sixteen hundred pounds to the acre, as to raise one-half that quantity with the short poles and small quantity of manure. The hoeing would be the same, and the picking would be less. The long pole, if it has ever so many hops on it, is always easier and

quicker picked than the short pole. It is seldom we see first-rate hops growing on a short pole; equally as seldom do we see refuse hops growing on a long pole. It is said by some that long poles strain the roots. I think it more straining to the roots to have vines go beyond the top of the short pole, bend and split open, the sap of the vine running out, and the hops starving for the want of it. I once knew a man who tried the experiment of white birch poles twenty-five feet long. The result was, that two men built a hop bin in the morning, carried it out into the field, and picked forty-two hills, which produced one hundred and one pounds of first-sort hops, inspected by Col. Jaques, and pronounced by him to be the best that season. Fifty pounds would have been a great day's work of short poles."

Another practical hop grower, writing from Lunenburg, says: "In answer to your request for information respecting the cultivation of hops in this town, I would reply, that there are fifteen hop growers, and the quantity yielded the present year was about fifteen thousand pounds. With respect to the mode of cultivation, the ground is plowed as early in the spring as it can conveniently be done. The hills are then opened and the running roots cut off. They are then manured upon the hill with one or two shovelfuls of good compost manure, which is immediately covered with the hoe. They are then ready for the poles. After these are set, and the vines are of suitable length for tying, this is done. They are then plowed and hoed. This is usually performed three times before haying, and once after, this last being principally for the purpose of keeping down the weeds. At the proper time, usually about the first of September, picking is commenced. Some two or three weeks after picking and drying they are pressed into bales of suitable size, and are then ready for the market."

From what has been said, it will be seen that the proper time for setting out the roots or cuttings is in the spring. These do not grow luxuriantly, and need not be poled the first year. Some cultivators are accustomed to cover the hills in the winter with a shovelful of manure, to prevent any liability to injury by the frost. What has been said above from practical and experienced cultivators in this State will give an idea of the mode of treatment during the first season, and to some extent during subsequent seasons, of the hop plantation. From the following extract from the *British Husbandry*, it will be seen that the practice is a little more thorough in England, though substantially the same: "When the spots for the different hills have been marked out, the earth is dug out of each to the depth of about two feet, and of nearly the same width; and then, if a portion of fine garden mold can be got, or, if not, a compost of well-rotted dung and earth, it is placed in the holes, which are filled with finely-pulverized soil. The plants are then put in. Some put three or more in a circle, [hill,] others two, and some only one good plant; put the most general plan is to place three in each hole, at the depth of about six inches, and great nicety should be observed in fixing them. The holes made by the dibble for that purpose are in a slanting direction, outward, so that the roots of the hop may grow in an inclined position, in which the poles are afterward placed, without allowing their vines to be interlaced. Some careful growers, indeed, put the fine mold gently in, around and upon the plants, with the land. The plants should also be raised above the natural level of the ground, both in order that the hop may rise high enough to form the hillock to be made around them, and that the roots may have a great depth of loose earth below them; for, when

the land is very open, they penetrate so far into the soil that they have been found on a very rich, deep loam, in the neighborhood of Farnham, to the depth of twenty feet."—*C. L. Flint's Second Annual Report to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture.*

(To be Continued.)

BREADSTUFFS IN THE INTERIOR.—That the price of breadstuffs, more especially Indian corn, will largely decline in the spring, when the western rivers and lakes are freed from ice, cannot be doubted. The drouth of the past summer was limited to a belt of country extending from Iowa to Tennessee. North of the center line of Iowa the crops of corn and potatoes were good—quite equal to those of former years. *The whole of that crop and a part of that of the previous year* are still there awaiting transportation. One of the first effects of the drouth was to impede the navigation of the Upper Mississippi and the Illinois rivers, and, by raising the charge for freight, prevented the corn last fall from being sent to market. Of the previous year's crop, only a portion was sent forward for the same reason (low water), and also because the farmers, being able to do so, held portions of their crop for an anticipated rise of price.

We heard the quantity of old corn on hand last fall on the Illinois river alone estimated at three millions of bushels.

In Iowa and Northern Illinois there is a very large quantity of Indian corn and wheat which will be sent to market as soon as navigation opens.

We have conversed with persons from Iowa, who state as a fact that around Iowa City, and at other points in the interior, the price of corn this fall and winter was fifteen cents per bushel, and that on the river could be purchased for twenty-five cents.

If these figures are correct (and we have no doubt of the truth of them), it is obvious that when navigation opens a part of this grain must reach this market and be sold at a price below that which it now rules.

Louisville Journal.

SHEEP DYING.—The sheep in some of the western wool-growing regions have suffered severely during the past winter—the great drouth of last autumn having destroyed their pasturage. The Cleveland (O.) Leader of Monday week, says:

The farmers of Carroll County have lost a very large number of sheep. One man's flock in that county has suffered a diminution of 500 head.

Almost every sheep-grower has sustained loss. The clip of the great wool region of Ohio will be considerably reduced from that of last year.

CROPS IN GEORGIA.—From Atlanta, north, as far as Dalton, in this State, the grain crops are said to present flattering prospects for a bountiful yield the coming season. The country generally appears to be in a high state of prosperity. Notwithstanding the high prices ruling at present, especially for grain, there seems to be no complaint for want of money with which to purchase, as was the case but a short time back.—*Savannah Republican, March 15.*

THE WHEAT CROP—THE COMING SEASON.—We learn from the Alton Courier, the editor of which has recently made a trip across the central portion of Illinois, that, however short the crops might have been last year, it has not deterred the farmers of the State from seizing every portion of favorable time during the fall for sowing their wheat, and the result shows that there is at least twenty per cent more acres now in wheat than in

any previous year. The winter has been exceedingly favorable, and if we should be blessed with our extraordinary spring, Illinois will have an amount of wealth in that single crop, which it would be difficult to estimate.—*St. Louis Democrat.*

CATTLE DYING.—The Abingdon (Va.) Democrat states a distressing mortality exists among the cattle of that part of the State, caused by the want of food. Several gentlemen in Russel county have lost forty or fifty head. Others have preserved the lives of their stock by felling peculiar kind of trees, the twigs and branches of which the cattle feed on.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

PARODY.

'Tis the last cake of supper,
Left steaming alone,
All its light brown companions
Are buttered and gone.
No cake of its kindred,
No cookie is nigh,
To steam on the platter,
Or near its mate lie.

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one,
To meet a cold fate,
Since thy mates are all eaten,
Come lie on my plate!
Thus kindly I'll butter
Thy steaming sides o'er,
And think on thy sweetness,
When thou art no more.

Thus all cakes must follow,
Three times every day,
When breakfast is ready
They vanish away.
When hunger is mighty,
And sickness has flown,
No cake can inhabit
The table alone.

A MERITED REBUKE.

Among the good things that pass before us, we have rarely found anything better than the following merited rebuke, told by a western correspondent. He says: "At Lafayette, a well-dressed man, accompanied by an interesting-looking lady, evidently his wife, and two sweet little children, entered the cars. He was short of stature, with a short, turned-up nose, a short, thick lip, small eyes, and imperceptible eye-brows. The lady had a pleasing expression on her pale countenance, that bore the impress of suffering patience. Her younger child appeared sick, and tossed fretfully on her wearied knee. The other soon grew tired of the irksomeness of the car, and became fretful and impatient. The man, for I can not call him a gentleman, lay lazily reading a paper, lounging on a whole seat he monopolized to himself, though other passengers were standing. At length, the lady perfectly unable to attend to the two little ones, in a tone of gentleness that had something of fear in it, besought him to attend to the wants of the elder. She was answered in a loud and abrupt tone that attracted everybody's attention: "Don't bother me!" Her eyes dropped; a look of mingled sorrow and shame came over her face, but she said not a word. A few moments afterwards the conductor, Mr. Paul, came along, and the man inquired of him the distance to Michigan City. With a tone modeled to the life after that previously used by his interrogator, Paul hissed out, "Don't bother me!" The

man's eyes glared fury, as he demanded the reason of such an insult, and threatened to resent it unless a proper apology was offered. "I shall offer no apology for my language," said the noble-hearted conductor, "neither will you resent it; for a man who deems himself injured by having applied to him the same language he has disgraced himself by applying to a lady, is too little of a gentleman to be apologized to, and too much of a coward to dare to resent it!"

WHERE'S THE SKULEMASTER?—The Boston Transcript gives the following as a specimen of the literature of one of the new officials of Massachusetts. The note was addressed to one of the Directors of the House of Industry, by one of the new-elected overseers of the poor. It is possible that his pen was out of order. Here is the note:

Boston Feb 12, '55.

Mr. _____

Sur, Mrs _____ wishes to Go to the Horspittle. She was Born in Boston
Respect yours

overseur of the
Poor ward _____

The "overseur" in his turn ought to apply immediately for permission to enter "a primary skule."

A COLD PUN.

A certain wit declared of late
That every acting magistrate
Was water in a freezing state.

—That is, JUST-ICE.

A TANDEM.

The correspondent of the Detroit Advertiser thus poetically describes Louisville:

"This town does very curious seem,
For boys run loose at random;
And when the folks want a splendid team,
They hitch two jackasses before a dray and get a big nigger with a red shirt on up behind to drive 'em tandem."

"Madam, has your piano an æolian attachment?" asked Sam, the other night, of the wife of a man who appeared to live up to it not beyond his income.

"Hush," whispered Seth in his ear, "it has a sheriff's attachment!"
Sam dropped the subject.

"Never pull out a gray hair," said a gentleman to a daughter, "as two generally come to its funeral." "I don't care how many comes to the funeral if they only come dressed in black."

If you put two persons in the same bedroom, one of whom has the tooth-ache and the other is in love, you will find that the person who has the tooth-ache will go to sleep first.

A WIT'S EPITAPH ON RICHELIEU.—Benserade, the Court Poet, wrote the following epitaph on the great Cardinal:

Here lies, his life and labors through,
The far-famed Cardinal Richelieu;
But what brings forth my tears and sighs,
Is that my pension with him dies.

"Do you think you are fit to die?" said a step-mother to her neglected child.

"I don't know," said the little girl, taking hold of her dress, and inspecting it—"I guess so—if I ain't too dirty."

The fellow who slept under "the cover of night," complains that he came very near freezing.

BREAD AND BEGGARS.

The New Orleans Picayune, in speaking of the vast number of the stout and hearty-looking beggars, of both sexes, which now infest that city, relates the following anecdote:

An old acquaintance of ours, a man of large heart, but of a shrewd and inquisitive intellect, who had been annoyed by the frequent calls of these strapping, sturdy, but piteous applicants, hit on an expedient which worked so very well in his case, that we feel inclined to recommend it to the consideration of those who are similarly annoyed. Going one day to the door, he found at it a young man of about eighteen or twenty years, and looking able at least to earn a dollar a day, who begged for a picayune to buy him a loaf of bread.

"Don't you want the money to buy whiskey?"

"No; to buy bread."

"Are you hungry?"

"Very."

"Could you eat a loaf of bread if I was to give you one?"

"Yes."

"Come in, then, and I will see what can be done for you."

He was led into the dining room, a stout man servant summoned, and a loaf of bread and a glass of water put on the table. He was then invited to lay to and help himself, and particular instructions were given to the servants to give the fellow a sound whaling in case he did not eat the loaf, crust and all. The poor fellow, who evidently was no more in want of bread than he was of a coat with nine tails to it, went at the task bravely, but couldn't accomplish it—all the food he had swallowed before rose in rebellion at such an idea, and after an hour's labor, he was forced to yield and plead sickness of the stomach. He was well thrashed and kicked out of the house, and the choice blackguardism that he hurled back when fully free, convinced every one that he was not fit for their sympathy.

MRS. PARTINGTON ON THE MARKETS.—"I don't understand the bills," says Mrs. Partington, as she wiped over her specks to read over a second time the market returns. "They say the market is 'firm'; well, so it ought to be, for they've newly paved it with granite. And I wonder what they mean by 'a better feeling in the market.' I am *shore* I don't feel any better there; and I don't believe anybody does but the butchers, and that's when they're pocketing the money—things are so dear. Then it says that the trade 'embraces ten hogsheds of tobacco;' I should like to have seen that; it must have been a real *teching* sight. Why do they say, 'coffee was a *drug*?' I always thought coffee was a *vegetarian*; but, perhaps, that's before it undergoes the necessary *procession*. Tallo, it says, was 'firm'; well, I'm glad of that; let's hope now that our candles won't *ignate* away so *dreadful* fast. The tea market, I find, was 'dull'; that must have been before it was *lit* up. In wheat and barley there was 'no *alteration*'; I should think not, indeed—how should there be? But 'on the whole, the trade ruled *brisk*, at last *quotations*;' why, what *quotations* could they be to make the farmers so *brisk*? 'We hear that in the potatoe district the diseased produce does not exceed one potatoe in a bushel!' Why, its *enuff* to breed a famine. 'Hay was *stationary*;' well, that must have been a *topogrothical* error, unless they have found out the way of making paper out of *fibres*. 'There was a *liberal supply of flour*;' ah, that must have been the work of some *filanprofests* who cared for the poor. Heaven bless 'em! And 'last week's *rates* were

readily obtained;' well, that's a good hearing; considering how bad the times are, it's a wonder to me how *rates and taxes* can be readily obtained." Bless thee, Dame Partington, for thy simple and honest criticisms upon market returns! Evidently thou art not deeply versed in technicalities.

SCENE IN BROADWAY.—A prostrate horse—street blocked up by officious citizens assisting—policeman stands by, whistling cheerfully, hands in his pockets—gentleman approaches him carefully and walks away.

Scene changes.—Same policeman reads a newspaper leisurely at the corner of a cross street and Broadway. Gentleman approaches as before:

(To Policeman.) Will you oblige me with your name, sir?

Policeman.—What do you want to know for?

Interlocutor.—That is none of your business, sir. A policeman must give his name to any citizen who asks it.

Policeman demures, but gives it. Interlocutor walks away. Presently the parties re-pass each other. Policeman, who has been ruminating, rushes out and accosts the questioner:

"Aren't you the gentleman who asked me my name a little time ago?"

"Yes."

"Well, now, I want to know what you asked that question for?"

Answer refused.

Policeman (getting fierce)—Tell me what your name is, will you?

Questioner (cheerfully)—With great pleasure. My name is FERNANDO WOOD.

Policeman is very humble, apologizes, and has visions of stern reprimands, or possibly a dismissal.

Isn't that pretty well for the first story about the Mayor? People about town are talking of it, in connection with remarks on "new brooms."—*N. Y. Times*.

BYRON AND PEEL.—There was at school a fine clever boy, who was known as "little Bob Peel." One day it happened that one of the older boys, a stout, brutal fellow, undertook to make "fag"—that is, a sort of school slave of young Peel; but the little hero resisted with all his might. This tyrant, however, soon conquered, and then proceeded to beat him in a most cruel manner. In the midst of this another boy somewhat older than Peel, but too small to hope to master the large boy, came running up, with tears in his eyes, and his cheeks hot with indignation, asked how many blows he meant to inflict.

"Why, what is that to you, you young rascal!" was the reply.

"Because, if you please," said the noble lad, "I would take half."

This boy was afterwards Lord Byron. Little Bob was the great Robert Peel; but the big bully who beat them, nobody knows anything about him.

A young man and a female once upon a time stopped at a country tavern. Their awkward appearance excited the attention of one of the family, who commenced conversation with the female, by inquiring how far she traveled that day? "Traveled!" exclaimed the stranger, somewhat indignant, "we didn't travel! *we rid!*"

A bachelor, the other morning, remarked that wives who use the needle are like the enemy spoken of in the parable—they *sew tares* while the husbandmen sleeps.

Lengthened sweetness long drawn out—a pretty girl seven feet high.

BY AND BY.

There is music enough in these words for the burden of a song. There is a hope wrapped up in them, and an articulate heat of the human heart.

By and by! We heard it as long ago as we can remember, when we made brief but perilous journeys from chair to table, and from table to chair again.

We heard it the other day when two parted that had been "loving in their lives," one to California, the other to our lonely home.

Everybody says it some time or other. The boy whispers it to himself, when he dreams of exchanging the stubbed little shoes for boots, like a man.

Then man murmurs it; when in life's middle watch he sees his plans half finished, and his hopes yet in bud, waving in a cold late spring.

The old man says it when he thinks of putting off the mortal for the immortal, to-day for to-morrow.

The weary watcher for the morning whiles away the dark hours with "by and by; by and by."

Sometimes it sounds like a song; sometimes there is a sigh or a sob in it. What wouldn't the world give to find it in the almanac, set down somewhere, no matter if in the dead of December, to know that it would surely come. But fairy-like as it is, fluttering as a star-beam over the dewy shadows of the year, nobody can square it; and when we look back upon the many times these words have beguiled us, the memory of that silver "by and by" is like the sunrise of Ossian, "pleasant but mournful to the soul."

ANECDOTE OF REV. E. H. CHAPIN.—At Ballard's Seminary, where young Chapin was prepared for College, it was customary for the teachers to call on the boys to relate some incident which had come under their observation. It was in the spring of the year, when it was customary for farmers to have an over supply of mutton on the family board, that young Chapin was called upon to "tell the truth." He rose very slowly from his seat, and quietly remarked, in answer to the teacher's request. "It's a *positive fact*—I've lived upon mutton so long that I am ashamed to look a sheep in the face," and sat down again amid roars of laughter from the whole school.

The eloquence of the celebrated Whitfield, it is said was at times irresistible. The accomplished skeptic, Chesterfield, was present when this popular preacher presented the votary of sin under the figure of a blind beggar, led by a little dog. The dog had broken the string. The blind cripple, with his staff between both hands, unconsciously groped his way to the side of a precipice. As he felt along with his staff, it dropped down the descent, too deep to send back an echo. He sought it on the ground, and, bending forward, took one careful step to recover it. But he trod on vacancy, poised for a moment, and then fell headlong. Chesterfield sprang from his seat, exclaiming, "By heaven! he is gone!"

Jones stepped up to a gentleman who was engaged in conversation with about a dozen others, and said:

"It seems to me I have seen your physiognomy somewhere before, but I cannot imagine where."

"Very likely, I have been the keeper of a prison for upwards of twenty years!"

Gold and silver are metals quite too heavy for us to carry to heaven; but in good hands they can pave the way to it.

WESTERN ETIQUETTE.—Our Yankee traveler, who saw the live hoosier, has again written to his mother.

“Western people go to their death on etiquette. You can't tell a man here that he lies, as you can down east, without fighting. A few days ago, a man was telling two of his neighbors, in my hearing, a pretty large story. Says I, 'Stranger, that's a whopper!' Says he, 'lay there, stranger.' And in the twinkling of an eye I found myself in the ditch, a perfect quadruped, the worse for wear and tear. Upon another occasion, says I to a man I never saw before, as a woman passed, 'that ain't a specimen of your western women is it?' Says he, 'You are afraid of the fever and ague, stranger, aint you?' 'Very much,' says I. 'Well,' replied he, 'that lady is my wife, and if you don't apologize in two minutes, by the honor of a gentleman, I swear that these two pistols (which he held cocked in his hand) shall cure you of that disorder entirely—so don't fear stranger!' So I knelt down, and apologized. I admire the western country very much, but blame if I can stand so much etiquette, it always takes me unawares.

JOHNSON AND SWIFT.—Dr. Johnson, being one evening in company with some of the first-rate *literati* of the age, the conversation turned chiefly upon the posthumous volumes of Swift, which had not been long published. After having sat a good while collected in himself, and looking as if he thought himself prodigiously superior in point of erudition to his companions, he roundly asserted, in his rough way, that “Swift was a very shallow fellow—a very shallow fellow.” The ingenuous Mr. Sheridan, not relishing so despotic an assertion, and, in his opinion, so false a one, as he almost venerated the Dean of St. Patrick's literary talents, replied warmly, but modestly, “Pardon me, sir, for differing from you; but I always thought the Dean a very *clear* writer.” To this modest reply the following laconic answer was immediately vociferated, “All shallows are clear.”—*Notes and Queries.*

UNDER THE SNOW.—The following story is told by the Berkshire (Massachusetts) Eagle: “At the time of the snow-storm of the 3d of February last, two sheep on the farm of Nathaniel B. Williams, Esq., of Lamesboro', strayed away and were given up by their owner for dead, being covered up in a snow-drift which filled a ditch behind a fence to the depth of about twelve feet. But on the 27th—three weeks and three days after their disappearance—there being a thaw, it occurred to Mr. W. to look after their bodies, when he discovered a small hole in the snow; and upon enlarging it the sheep were discovered in a little cavern in the snow worn to the size of some six feet or less by the heat of their bodies. Nothing disturbed by their hermit fast of three weeks, on being released they scampered off briskly to the barn—with, doubtless, a comfortable appetite.”

THE WINTER AT THE SOUTH.

CISTERN WATER A PREVENTATIVE AGAINST CHOLERA.

General Brandon writes from Arcoli, near Fort Adams, Miss., underdate of March 9th:

We have had a very remarkable winter, cold and dry. I am certain the people on the plantations have not been prevented by rain from field work one day since the 1st of November last. The river is very low, and those relying on their cisterns for water must suffer great inconvenience, for I do not think any of them have caught ten gallons of water the whole winter. The impression is very

general, that plantations on which cistern water is used by the negroes is exempt from cholera, and I believe it is well founded. The consequence is, that almost all the planters have adopted this means of supplying water, and they are anxious to have their cisterns filled by the winter rains, for the water is cooler, more palatable, and freer from animalcules.

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT BACK NUMBERS, &c.—Back numbers from the beginning of the present volume can still be supplied at 4 cents per number.

Volumes XI, XII, and XIII can be supplied at \$1 per volume unbound; or \$1.50 per volume bound.

The first ten volumes (new edition) can be furnished bound at \$1 25 per volume, or the complete set of ten volumes for \$10. Price of the first thirteen volumes \$14 50.

No new edition of the volumes subsequent the tenth will be issued, as the work is too large to admit of stereotyping.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour remains at about the prices of our last week's quotations. In the present unsettled state of European affairs, consequent upon the death of Nicholas, Czar of Russia, it is impossible to predict future prices. The supposed general scarcity of grain, has kept back much of it from the market, so that in this city millers find it difficult to obtain necessary supplies. Corn is on the average about one cent per bushel lower than one week ago. The opening of navigation will probably produce some falling off in the prices of grain, as large quantities are now in store in the interior waiting shipment.

Cotton has experienced a large advance upon last week's quotations, amounting to nearly or quite 1/2 cent per lb. Tobacco, and other southern products, no material change.

Money continues quite easy. Banks are discounting almost all asked of them.

The weather is gradually becoming quite spring-like; in this latitude we have cold nights, and warm days, just the thing for maple sugar makers, and for pulverizing the surface of the ground nicely.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, March 20, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

We make scarcely any change in prices to-day. The supply of produce continues moderate, while there is not money enough in market for speculation. Last year the same supply of produce would have commanded double the price they do at present.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—New-Jersey Mercers.....	℥ bbl.	\$3 75@4 25
Western Mercers.....	do	3 50@4 00
White Mercers.....	do	3 75@4 00
Nova Scotia Mercers.....	do	— @3 50
New-Jersey Carters.....	℥ bbl.	4 00@4 25
Washington County Carters.....	do	3 25@3 75
Junes.....	do	3 50@3 75
Western Reds.....	do	2 75@3 00
Yellow Pink Eyes.....	do	2 75@3 25
Long Reds.....	do	2 25@2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes.....	do	5 00@—
Philadelphia sweet.....	do	none
Turnips—Ruta Baga.....	do	1 75@2 00
White.....	do	— @1 50
Onions—White.....	do	5 00@5 50
Red.....	do	3 00@3 50
Yellow.....	do	4 00@—
Cabbages.....	℥ 100	6 00@10 00
do.....	℥ doz.	1 00@1 87
Beets.....	℥ bbl.	1 75@2 00
Carrots.....	do	1 50@1 87
Parsnips.....	do	1 75@2 12

FRUITS, ETC.

Apples—Spitzenbergs.....	℥ bbl.	\$4 00@4 50
Greenings.....	do	3 50@4 00
Gilliflowers.....	do	3 50@4 00
Baldwins.....	do	3 75@4 24
Butter—Orange County.....	℥ lb.	25@28c.
Western.....	do	18@23c.
Cheese.....	do	11@12c.
Eggs.....	℥ doz.	—@23c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY March 21, 1855.

There is a decided superiority in the cattle to-day, over anything we have seen for a long time. We saw scarcely any of that ungainly stuff which has been so abundant of late, most of the animals presenting a good appearance, and many of them being really excellent. Notwithstanding this, the market is not very lively. The butchers complain a good deal of high prices, and yield to the brokers very unwillingly. They may be sure, however, that good cattle, in these times, can not be bought for nothing, and will doubtless have occasion to hold that opinion for some time to come. We subjoin a few specimens.

Mr. Joseph Williams had a very choice lot from Ross Co., Ohio, which were selling from 11 1/2 to 12 1/2 c. ℥ lb. They were fed by R. R. Seymour, and were estimated to weigh 950 lbs.

Cunningham & Walton had a fine lot of heavy cattle, 101 in number, from South Branch, Va., sold by John Merritt. They would weigh about 850 lbs. each, and were selling from 11c. to 12c.

Mr. W. Florence was on hand again to-day with 70 fine cattle, from Pickaway Co., Ohio. They were sold by Barney Bartam, for about the same prices at those above.

Chas. Teed was selling a good lot of cattle from Ohio, at an average of about 11c.

Mr. S. M. Baker, from Pickaway Co., Ohio, was in market to-day for the first time this season. He had 162 cattle, sold by David Belden. Mr. Baker is one of the most extensive feeders in Ohio. He has 36,000 acres of land, which is entirely devoted to raising corn and grazing. He raised last year 600 acres, and fed 500 cattle. He has 2,000 cattle in market, about half the number he had last year. He has been holding on this winter for an advance in prices.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality at.....	11 1/2 @ 12 1/2 c.
Good retailing quality beef is selling at.....	10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 c.
Inferior do. do.....	9 @ 10 1/2 c.
Beeves.....	9c. @ 12c.
Cows and Calves.....	\$30 @ \$65.
Veals.....	4 1/2 c. @ 7c.
Sheep.....	\$4 @ \$5 00.
Swine, alive.....	5c. @ 5 1/2 c.
“ dead.....	— @ 7 1/2 c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves.....	2881
Cows.....	175
Veals.....	625
Sheep and lambs.....	4619
Swine.....	8582

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves..... 1479
Swine..... 8009
Sheep..... 1006
Veals..... 540
By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves..... 35
Cows..... 34
Veals..... 487
Sheep and Lambs..... 331
By the Hudson River Railroad..... 516
Veals..... 24
Sheep and Lambs..... —
Swine..... 582

New-York State furnished..... 287
Ohio, “..... 890
Indiana, “..... 187
Illinois, “..... 215
Virginia, “..... 101
Kentucky, “..... 100
Connecticut, “..... 13
New-Jersey, “..... —

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	1784
Beeves.....	370
Veals.....	70
Cows and Calves.....	50
The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:	
300 Beef Cattle.....	\$1 @ 11c.
95 Cows and Calves.....	\$30 @ \$60
3,200 Sheep.....	\$2 75 @ \$6.
85 Calves.....	5 @ 6 1/2 c.

SHEEP MARKET.

Wednesday, March 21, 1855.

There are no sheep in market to-day at all. Stock is readily taken up as soon as it comes in, and at very high prices. Good sheep sell for 10c. ℥ lb. The receipts at Browning's for the last week are only 1,784, a less number than has been received before this season. There are sheep enough, it is said, in the country, but the farmers wish to make good their precious losses, by an advance in prices.

171 Sheep.....	\$395 00
106 do.....	583 00
1 do.....	4 88
334 do.....	1289 25
162 do.....	688 50
161 do.....	981 88
935	\$3,942 51
Average.....	\$4 21.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table listing prices for various agricultural products including Cotton, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, Provisions, Rice, Sugar, Tallow, and Wool.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

CHOICE POULTRY FOR SALE.

A VALUABLE LOT. The subscriber has on hand one of the best collections of POULTRY in the country, as proved at the recent exhibitions of the National Poultry Society.

PERUVIAN GUANO.—First quality of

FRESH PERUVIAN GUANO, just received in store. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

FERTILIZERS.—Bone Dust, Guano, Poudrette Plaster, and Super Phosphate, all warranted of the best quality. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON, 57-82n1163 No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

SITUATION ON A FARM WANTED.—

A YOUNG MAN, German by birth, of respectable parentage, well educated, and who has been engaged in farming for some years already, in this and his native country, wishes to find a situation with an intelligent, scientific farmer, in the vicinity of New-York preferred, where ample opportunity, practically and theoretically, is afforded to him, to cultivate and perfect his knowledge of agriculture and keeping of stock.

L. G. MORRIS'S CATALOGUE, WITH prices attached, of Domestic Animals at private sale, will not be ready for delivery until the first of April.

PURE DEVON FOR SALE.—The yearling Bull ALBERT, calved April, 1853. Got by imported Reubens, (winner of several prizes at the Fairs of the American Institute, New-York City.) out of a full blood Devon Cow.

ATKIN'S SELF-RAKING REAPER and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth.

Price at Chicago, of Reapers, \$170; of Mowing Bar, \$30. Discount on the Reaper, \$13, and on Mowing Bar, \$5, for cash in advance, or on delivery. Price of Mower, \$120.

DURHAM STOCK FOR SALE.—I have three Bull Calves, three two-year-old Heifers, one two-year-old Bull, and one Cow 3 years old, that I will sell from my herd of Short Horns—all thoroughbred.

FARMERS ATTENTION.—Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied.

EXTENSIVE AND VERY IMPORTANT SALE OF FIRST-CLASS SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, AT HENDON, MIDDLESEX.

Mr. STRAFFORD has the honor to announce to the Agricultural world, that he has received instructions from JOHN S. TONQUERAY, Esq., to sell by auction, without any reserve, at Hendon, on WEDNESDAY, the 25th of April next, the entire and far-famed Herd of SHORT-HORNED CATTLE.

TENTS! FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, MILITARY COMPANIES, EXHIBITIONS, &c.

The Subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of Tents of every description, suitable for Agricultural Fairs, Military Encampments, Camp Meetings, Conferences, Political Gatherings, Exhibitions, &c., &c., which he will rent on liberal terms.

He has a large number of Camp Meeting and Military Tents of the following sizes:—24 feet by 30; 16 by 24; 12 by 17; 9 by 12.

Also, for Conferences, Agricultural Societies, &c.—80 feet diameter; 70 feet do.; 60 feet do.; 50 feet do.; and 30 feet by 110; 60 by 90; 50 by 80.

These tents are of his own manufacture, of the very best material, and at every way desirable. When parties renting Tents desire it, a competent person will be sent to erect and take charge of them.

He has furnished Tents to the Agricultural Societies of New-York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Canada, and to many other prominent Agricultural and other Associations, and can therefore with confidence refer those who are about purchasing or renting Tents, to any of the officers of these Associations as to the character of his work and fairness of his dealings.

TENTS AND FLAGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, MADE TO ORDER.

He has on hand the largest assortment of Tents on the Continent, sufficient to accommodate seventy thousand persons, and can fill orders for any number of Tents, on short notice. All orders by Mail will meet prompt attention.

February, 1855. E. C. WILLIAMS, 79, 84, 93, 7, 102, 5n1182 Rochester, N. Y.

GUANO OUTDONE.—THE GAS WORKS TURNED TO GOOD ACCOUNT.

C. B. DeBURG has the pleasure of announcing to his former patrons, and to other farmers who may wish to improve their lands, that he has, during the past year, succeeded in manufacturing from the gas works, in and around New-York City, a superior quality of Sulphate of Ammonia, in large quantities, and he is now prepared to furnish.

C. B. DeBURG'S SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME. Highly charged with AMMONIA, which is now acknowledged to be the most valuable ingredient in Peruvian Guano and other concentrated fertilizers. Price \$45 per ton. DeBURG'S Superphosphate is warranted to contain SEVENTEEN PER CENT OF AMMONIA.

Agricultural Societies and distinguished farmers tried many experiments during the last season, and with almost universal success. Detailed accounts of several of these will shortly be placed before the public for examination.

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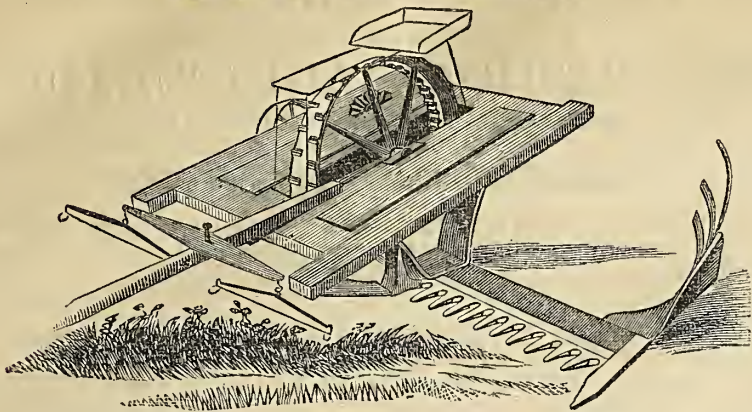
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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

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AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

FOREIGN MANURES.

WE are daily making the subject of fertilizers or manures our chief study. How to better husband and apply the stores of the farm-yard, is a question of the highest importance to every farmer; and next to this is one every day put to us, viz: "What foreign fertilizer do you advise us to procure?" To the former question we shall often recur in a future series of articles now in course of preparation. The latter we will now briefly advert to. But first let us give one article of our creed, to-wit:

No intelligent farmer can afford to buy any foreign fertilizer, until he has first used those produced upon his own farm.

Of foreign manures there are four classes:

1. Those of which the general utility for most kinds of crops and soils has been established.
2. Those which are applicable to special soils or crops.
3. Those worthy of experiment.
4. Those which for at least some crops or soils are valuable in themselves, but whose market-value depends upon the honesty of the manufacturers.

1st Class.—In this catalogue we can only place *unburned* bones, ground or dissolved; and genuine Peruvian guano. Leaving out of the question the real or supposed value of the mineral portion of bones (the phosphate of lime), we know that they contain a large amount of animal matter, and that there is hardly a plant or crop that grows which is not more or less nourished, fed, or stimulated, by the products of decaying animals or vegetables. When bones are finely ground, or dissolved in an acid, the animal matter is reduced to a state in which it becomes immediately available. Let the crop be wheat, corn, rye, oats, or other cereals; turnips, carrots, beets, or other roots; the various grasses; or any of the garden

plants or vegetables, finely ground *unburned* bones, or those dissolved, will not fail to increase the growth in a soil properly prepared, whether applied directly to the seed, put on as a top-dressing, or mingled with the soil. The degree of benefit immediately derived will depend much upon the completeness of the grinding, or dissolving, and the consequent readiness of the materials to at once supply the wants of the growing plant. This will also be governed by the amount of the application, the time and mode of using, the sterility of the soil, and the physical condition as respects pulverization, dryness, compactness, &c.

There is at the present time a supply of bone-dust in the principal markets, which can be purchased at prices varying from \$2 to \$3 50 per barrel of 150 to 300 lbs. The variation in price depends chiefly upon the quality. It is economy always to get the best that can be procured. Bear in mind what we have said about *fineness* of grinding if immediate effect is desired. The more coarsely ground will operate less speedily, and last longer. If a soil is comparatively poor, it should be entirely treated to a dose of the fertilizer, and an additional application be made to the seed to supply its first wants, which is a matter of paramount importance, since the first organs being developed, the plant will afterwards better provide for its own wants. If the soil is comparatively rich in vegetable or organic materials, it will then be better to make the application near the seed to supply the first wants alluded to.

We do not know of any artificial preparation in the market, which is manufactured from *unburned* bones. In another article in this number, (page 40,) we have given the method of dissolving bones in acid.

Guano.—There are various kinds of this in the market, such as the Peruvian, Mexican, Chilian, African, Patagonian, &c., but our experience and observation is, that none of these except the first named, (and of this only that procured direct from the agents of the Peruvian government), have a character sufficiently high and definite to warrant farmers in purchasing them. A considerable quantity of some of the others, has been manufactured or revamped in this country, and when brought from abroad there is no guarantee that they are much superior to *washed* barnyard manure.

Peruvian guano, as usually sent to this country by the authorized agents of the government, consists of the remains of birds

and their droppings, which have been dried under a tropical sun, where no rain falls to wash away the more valuable soluble portions. It is much such a compound as would be formed by shutting up in a warm dry roost a number of fowls, and allow them—well fed the while—to die and dry up, mingled with their droppings. The experience of every farmer is sufficient to convince him, that the compound thus formed would be a valuable fertilizer for any crop. Just such a compound is good Peruvian guano.

What we have said of the manner of using bone-dust, applies to guano, with this exception, that guano is a more caustic substance, and it should never be put directly in contact with plants or seeds. It may be first mingled with a considerable quantity of muck, earth, or manure in the compost heap or otherwise; or it may be mingled with soil by plowing in previous to planting or sowing or it may be put near the hill and mingled with a quantity of earth, but separated from the seed by a layer of soil; or, finally, where it has not been practicable to mingle it with the soil before, it may be sown broadcast upon the surface after the seed is in the ground. In this case it should be worked into the soil with the cultivator or hoe.

The most effectual mode on poor soil is, to divide it into two portions, plowing the larger portion into the soil for some time previous to sowing or planting, and at the same time intimately mix the other portion with a large quantity of muck or manure, to be applied with seed, after it has lain for a time and lost its causticity. In this way the first wants of the plant are supplied at once, and there still remains another portion for the future nourishment of the extending roots.

Of the exhausting effects of guano upon the soil, we have not room here to enter into the discussion. Suffice it to say, that we have not yet found sufficient reasons, derived from theory or experiment, to believe that guano is ever exhausting, in the proper sense of that word. That, when applied to crops, it supplies their first immediate wants, and develops larger organs for appropriating more speedily what of organic food there is in the soil originally, there is little doubt. This is a matter of time and economy. If, for example, a soil contains only organic food for fifty bushels of wheat, and five successive crops of ten bushels each would, by the ordinary course of cultivation, be required to use up all that organic matter, it would certainly be economical to stimulate two crops by an application of guano

and get the whole 50 bushels in the two crops, even though the soil should be exhausted at the end of two years instead of five.

The discussion of the remaining three classes of foreign manures will be continued in our next.

For the American Agriculturist.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THOROUGHLY PULVERIZING THE SOIL.

The importance of thorough tillage, of effectually pulverizing the soil under cultivation, so far as it can conveniently be done, is not sufficiently appreciated. It is not supposed that rocks can be crushed or boulders and pebbles disintegrated; but earth plowed when wet, and left like brick to bake in the sun's heat, can and should be pulverized to a perfect mold, before entrusted with seed or a remunerating crop expected.

Corn planted upon an uncovered rock will not grow, and the reason is obvious, there is no soil to shield its tender roots from the scorching effects of the sun, and yield it moisture and nourishment. Planted in a soil, composed one half of coarse gravel or hard baked clay lumps, and the other half of fine earth or loam, it will grow and ripen grain; but the drouth will curl its leaves, its growth will be less luxuriant, and the yield about one half, all things the same, as it would have been if planted in a soil wholly composed of a fine rich loam. Hence the inference is just, that a soil only half pulverized or composed one half of coarse pebbles, is only half way removed from rocky sterility.

Fertility depends very much upon the pulverized condition of the soil and the fineness of its component particles. The finer the soil the greater is the relative surface which that soil presents to the roots of plants, and the power which plants possess of deriving from the earth their requisite nourishment, is increased in the same proportion.

It has been said that "the most productive soils have the greatest absorptive power for moisture." The absorptive, as well as the retentive power of soils, is in exact proportion to the fineness or pulverent condition of their component particles. A rock or a baked mass of unpulverized earth, derives no moisture from a damp atmosphere, or from the dews of night. Dampness may gather upon their surface, to be evaporated again into the atmosphere by the first rays of the morning sun. Not so with finely pulverized earth, which imbibes the dew and the moisture from a damp atmosphere, and holds it in reserve for the roots of plants as they may desire.

Every farmer knows that the alluvial soils, in valleys and bordering rivers, are the most productive and inexhaustible; that with the same culture they will stand drouth better, and yield heavier returns, than the surrounding uplands. The reason of this is mainly attributable to the fact, that such soils are not only composed of a happy blending of organic and inorganic elements, but, being washed down from surrounding elevations, are of the unequaled fineness and disintegration.

I have said that a soil half composed of coarse gravel and stones, was but half way removed from rocky barrenness. Every farmer knows that such soils require almost an endless quantity of manure, frequently repeated, and extra tillage, to produce from them remunerative harvests. Now, any soil, though its composition may be the most desirable in the world, if allowed to bake, and, in the process of tillage, remain only half pulverized, is no better than that above mentioned. Hardened or integrated lumps of clay or earth, so far as contributing to the

growth of plants is concerned, are no better than the same amount of boulders.

Plants in their process of growth, can derive nothing from the soil but what is held by water either in solution or suspension. Hence, the necessity of thorough pulverization applies as well to manures as to earth. Dried lumps of manure, around corn hills or upon the surface of a meadow, so far as contributing to fertility, are but little better than the same amount of chips or stones.

How many farmers plant, pulverizing with the back of the hoe just enough of soil to cover the seed, and trust to the roots of the coming plant to seek for a meager subsistence among the surrounding hardened lumps of earth, and then perhaps reproach Providence for an unproductive harvest! How many cart manure enough to bountifully enrich their lands, but, leaving it in lumps, within or upon unpulverized soil, it yields its richness to the desert air, instead of imparting it to the earth available for vegetable nutrition to the no small disappointment of the cultivator. It is fine earth only, that absorbs and retains, for the purposes of vegetable growth, the rich gases and soluble portions of manure.

This subject is one of paramount importance to the agriculturist. The thorough pulverization of soil and manure, is second to no other subject connected with the farmer's interests.

O. C. GIBBS, M. D.
PERRY, Lake Co., Ohio.

For the American Agriculturist.

FARMING IN ULSTER COUNTY, N. Y.

THE EFFECTS OF THE PAST WINTER—IMPLEMENTS—MORE HELP SHOULD BE EMPLOYED BY FARMERS, ETC.

SHAWANGUNK, Ulster Co., March 17, 1855.

While the past year has been one of prosperity to the farmers in some parts of our widely extended country, it has been a time of peculiar embarrassment to the majority in this region of the State. The cold and backward spring of last year, succeeded as it was by an unparalleled drouth, resulted in a great decrease of all the ordinary products of the soil, excepting hay, which was nearly or quite an average crop. Wheat is not raised here to any considerable extent; but the few fields which were cut last year were almost an utter failure. The result has been that, last fall scarcely any wheat was sown in this vicinity. The granaries of our farmers at this time present a very lean and meager aspect. Not a few are under the necessity of purchasing supplies of grain for the use of their families, at prices ranging quite above those which obtain in the New-York markets. The stock of fodder is also much less abundant than was expected. This is to be ascribed to three causes. The prevalence of the drouth greatly diminished the fall pasturage, and compelled many to make early drafts upon their winter supplies. The winter has been long and excessively cold, (the mercury several times sinking below zero, and on one occasion to 20 degrees below zero,) and consequently more food for stock has been required. In addition to this, farmers who have been accustomed to feed grain freely, have this year been compelled greatly to diminish the quantity, and of course to draw more heavily upon their hay. Very few farmers in this region have, as yet, provided themselves with any suitable cutting apparatus for reducing their straw, corn-stalks and coarse hay to chaff, whereby so great a saving in fodder is secured. Few roots are raised for stock, and it is very rare to see even a small patch of corn sown in drills, or broadcast, for feeding to stock while green, or in a cured state. I should think that the costly experience of the past year would be effectual in opening the eyes

of multitudes of our farmers, to the importance of making all possible provision against the evils of drouth, and other causes of the failure of crops, to which they were always liable.

I am sorry to say that farmers, as a class, are slow to learn, even in the school of experience, when the lesson to be learned relates to their own peculiar avocation. It is by no means easy to convince them of the propriety of any change in their modes of cultivation, and in the crops to which they shall direct their attention. Or even, if convinced, and half resolved to attempt something in the way of progress in their calling, the purpose is to often forgotten, or deferred in the hurry which each season brings with it; which unreasonable hurry, in turn, is to be ascribed, in no small degree, to the fact that most farmers undertake more work than can be properly accomplished with the force of hands engaged. This is a serious evil. A man alone, or with the aid of a boy, with a few days' help at distant intervals, undertakes to perform all the operations of a farm of a hundred or more acres. The necessary consequence is that the farmer himself is reduced to the condition of a mere drudge, and, daily, toils quite beyond his strength; his crops suffer in detail, for want of labor bestowed on them at the proper moment, and improvements are unattempted. Either let the industrious farmer lay his plans on a smaller scale, or else let him engage a larger force of hands to perform well the necessary labors of the season. I doubt not that the result in most cases would be an increase of health, enjoyment, and greater freedom from vexation, without any real diminution, but rather an increase of profits. It is a wise adage, though a trite one, "what is worth doing at all is worth doing well."

The severe cold of the past winter has been disastrous to tender fruits in this region. On my own premises, peach buds were all killed as early as December; and this I believe is true with regard to all the adjacent country. Possibly there may be exceptions on the higher grounds, and in peculiarly sheltered situations.

I have not taken pains to ascertain particularly what has been the effect of the severe cold upon other and more hardy fruits. I hope that they have escaped serious injury.

We have had numerous snows, but they have generally been light. When this was not the case, the drift was so great that we have had very little sleighing during the winter. Much of the ground having been bare during the severe weather, the effect upon winter grain, I fear, has been injurious. The fields at present wear an unpromising aspect; although our prospects may brighten materially with the coming of warm weather. At present there is still a great deal of frost in the ground, and the weather (though it has generally been favorable since the beginning of March), still remains cold and backward, and farming operations must necessarily be deferred for a few weeks longer. M.

FALL OF BLACK SNOW.—Prof. Fairchild, of Oberlin, Ohio, states that on February 7th, they had in that region a fall of dark-colored snow. The crystals were in the form of dense icy pellets, about the twentieth of an inch in diameter. It fell to the depth of nearly an inch, and when melted it yielded about a half inch of water. The snow had a distinct smoky taste, and on filtering it through paper a dark, sooty substance was obtained.

WIDOWS' TEARS.—A few barrels of liquor, on their way through Rutland, Vt., from Troy to Boston, were observed to be labeled, "Widows' Tears."

For the American Agriculturist.

PROFITS OF BEES.

BEES versus POULTRY.

In the *American Agriculturist* of January 24, No. 72, there is an article on Poultry, in which are some tall statements of profit. The subject is so well finished, and the profits so fairly stated, that it seems a pity to insinuate as a possibility that some specimens occasionally "eat their own heads off." But I don't intend to object to the article; on the contrary, I like it. I should have kept silent, however, but for the challenge in these words, "will any of our political economists please to indicate in what branch of rural, or other industry, an equal return can be made for capital and labor?"

Now I am disposed to put in the claims of my little favorites, the Bees, and see how they will stand the comparison. To pursue the course of the article alluded to, I could say with equal truth that, "more than double their value may be realized per annum in net profit;" and should they happen to exceed it over "four times," as they do in some seasons, there is no necessity of deducting "economical feed," for it should be remembered that "the bee works for nothing, and finds itself."

But, as a bill of items is more satisfactory than indefinite sundries, I shall give it, as I can furnish all the figures without guessing at a single item, having had one apiary the past season, of which a young man in my employ was half owner. The figures are copied from our settlement—he took the principal care, and I furnished the materials.

June 1st, 1854, this apiary consisted of 83 stocks; a few of them first best, most of them light, with stores just sufficient; some fifteen were entirely out, and had to be furnished with food in the spring, but they were all strong in numbers, having been wintered in the best possible manner, and the combs all clean and bright, without mold, &c. I find these bees charged with 60 new hives, at 25c. each..... \$15 00
 50 Covers to boxes, at 10c..... 5 00
 81 Stands, at 7c..... 5 67
 188 Glass hives, at 10c..... 18 80
 48 do. do. 15c..... 7 20
 Honey fed to some of the lightest.. 3 00
 12 Firkins for strained honey..... 5 13
 12 Cases for packing glass boxes for market, 29c. each..... 3 48
 Team work..... 5 00
 Freight to market..... 5 17
 Time in attendance at \$15 per month 34 00
 Board, \$2 per week..... 16 86
 Interest on stock, 83 hives at \$5.... 29 05

\$153 36
 They are credited with honey and wax sold.....\$438 41
 After selecting out the poorest (over 40) such as contained diseased broods, &c., there were left 123 good stocks for winter, an increase of 38, at \$5 each... 190 00
 628 41
 Expenses deducted..... 153 36

Net profit.....\$475 05
 It will be seen that they have more than doubled in value notwithstanding the dry weather. Also all the new hives are charged to this year, 40 have been emptied and ready for another year are not credited. Hives last several years; the same of covers and stands. The time is the greatest item of expense, being every hour required in attendance, (an item seldom reckoned when figuring the profits of poultry), and includes the time of taking the bees out of the cellar, cartage, placing stands, looking for and destroying worms, putting on and taking off

boxes, watching and hiving for several weeks in the swarming season, from 8 o'clock A. M. till 4 P. M., examining stock for diseased broods, taking up poor stocks, removing the combs, straining the honey, making wax, packing the boxes, taking to market, putting stocks in the house for winter, &c. Having an apiary at home, this one was located a mile and a half distant; consequently, much time was lost in going and returning, being more than it all amounted to while there. With but one apiary, and that at home, this part of the time would be saved, besides many other matters of waste which might be detected in season and prevented.

Now would you not enhance the value of farmer's products by encouraging *this branch* of rural industry, as well as poultry, which has this advantage, that while fowls are consuming much that is suitable for the food of man, the bee takes nothing! Thousands of this delicious food are annually wasted that might "be had for the gathering." It is produced by the forest, field, garden, and roadside; no place but the barren desert is destitute. It is yielded in quantities for ten thousand times the number of gatherers that we have at present. "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few." Probably one acre of buckwheat will produce 50 lbs. of honey, and white clover the same. The thousands of acres growing buckwheat and clover in the United States, or even this State, multiplied by 50 would compare somewhat favorably. Reduce this yield per acre on the average even down to one pound, and take the 640 acres on the square mile, the 47,000 square miles in New-York would show some 30,000,000 lbs.; or, when the square miles of all the States are multiplied by the same rule, we have in the aggregate a product worth looking at.

One locality can not be over-stocked with either poultry or bees without diminishing the profits of a proper number; but here again the advantage is with the bees, as it is impossible to keep fowls enough in one place for the net profits to amount to one half of the sum here shown.

Another thing: The reports of poultry profit gives us only the cost of feed. Why not give the time necessary for feeding, looking after eggs, packing, taking to market, &c.? I know that to feed a brood of chickens once takes but a short time, that it is a very small matter to set an old hen, and that it only takes a minute to get the eggs from the nest in the grass—after you have found it. "But these items are small trifles; children can do the most of it, or some one that would do nothing else at the time." Yet, most of these things must be done every day; a brood of chickens fed several times; then small matters in the aggregate amount to something. Now, to make a *fair comparison*, let us have the *whole* debit side of the chickens.

I will anticipate one objection which will be urged against raising honey, that is, the "uncertainty of success; that while any one has skill sufficient to raise poultry, few possess requisites for managing bees profitably." I would say in answer; only get a tenth part as many to engage in bee-keeping as have raised chickens, and the amount of experience gained would make success next to certain, or, as common in one as in the other; both would be equally plain. A dollar invested in a practical book on the subject would furnish all the "mysteries" necessary for successful management by any one of common ability. It can be done, too, with the cheapest possible hive *not patented*. I will challenge the whole fraternity of patent venders, to produce one more profitable than those I use! I have little doubt that the patent-hive business has done more to retard

success in bee-culture than all other causes combined! It discourages by the expense; by failing to perform what is promised; by falsely representing that there are secrets and difficulties in the way, which *their* particular hive alone will obviate; that a peculiar shape to the hive is *all important*; that it is *first* and *last*, and everything necessary for complete success throughout the whole business. In this matter it would be well to do like some of our politicians—"go back to first principles"—he nature of the bee, and take a new start. Remove this erroneous impression respecting expense, that now extends through all the intermediate ranks, from the patent-buyer to the patent-granter, the whole of whom seem to know about as much of the *real* nature of the bee as Sambo did of the telegraph.

M. QUINBY.

Palatine Church, N. Y.

For the American Agriculturist.

REMINISCENCES OF WINTER EVENINGS.

Thirty or forty years ago, the means of intellectual improvement for the young were far less than they now are. Newspapers and periodicals were less common. Lyceums and lectures were unknown. In the rural districts, there were very few amusements for young persons, during the long winter evenings. There was but little social intercourse among farmers' boys. If they could be spared to attend school three months in a year, their services were needed, morning and evening to take care of the cattle, chop wood, build fires, bring water, and attend to other duties incident to their condition. But after the services of the day were ended, there was a long evening unoccupied. Books were few. There was no stimulus to the young mind to awaken a love of letters. A single newspaper during the week, scarcely attracted the notice of the children, who knew nothing of political matters and cared less. It was a desideratum therefore to occupy the time of the younger members of the farmer's family and make their evenings profitable to them. My father had been an old schoolmaster. He loved books and wondered that his boys were so indifferent to those he provided. They were taken from the "Social Library," owned by a long list of proprietors, living in all parts of the town and kept near "the old meeting house," so that books might be exchanged on the Sabbath. This was deemed "a work of necessity and mercy," which might be performed on Sunday; and well it might be so considered, for most of the books treated of religious themes, and many of them were volumes of sermons. Occasionally an ancient work of history was found there. Such books had few charms for children.

Grieved at our own want of taste for literature, my father resolved himself into a "committee of ways and means" to occupy the time of the younger members of the family, during stormy weather and winter evenings. He, therefore, established a little school in which various exercises were introduced to enliven our heavy hours. There were six of us to be taught. A little emulation was excited. Sometimes a spelling school was set up. Time was given for preparation and then the hour of trial came. No reward but commendation was bestowed. Sometimes reading, or music, or writing, was substituted. Often general questions were propounded and each was eager to solve them all. In geography, the capitals and boundaries of countries were called for; or the animal vegetable and mineral productions of a particular State or Kingdom were proposed as a lesson. Interesting events from the weekly paper were added by the teacher. Sometimes the great bible, having a concord-

ance bound up with it, was called for, and each child with a small bible was directed to find every passage that contained a particular word. All looked, at the same time, for a single reference. The first that found it was commended for his familiarity with the order of the books in the Bible. The practice was a good one. We early became acquainted with the different portions of the scriptures and knew where important passages were found. Sometimes the references were to be committed to memory, and the lesson consisted in a simultaneous recitation of all the passages referring to a particular subject. At other times, the order of the books, the number of chapters in each, and the character of Scripture worthies were assigned as our evening study. Again, arithmetic would be substituted. Interesting problems were solved; compound numbers were written with their appropriate signs and then variously combined. Sometimes notes, orders, accounts, or receipts were required to be written on the slate, and the use of capitals and punctuation were illustrated. Another variety of employment consisted in the recitation of poetry. If no other book was at hand, Watts furnished an un-failing supply for all present. Father, mother and children all vied with each other in reciting these almost divine lyrics. All these exercises were useful. They occupied our attention and stored our minds with useful thoughts. With the multiplication of books and journals, such exercises might be indefinitely varied and serve to promote both the intelligence and happiness of families. How much better are such diversions, than games of chance or noisy amusements. Try it, my friends, and share the toils of study and the joys of acquisition with your children.

BAD EFFECTS OF GRASS ON COLTS.

When horses are turned out to grass in the spring of the year, the succulent nature of the food causes them to purge, often to a great extent; this is considered by many persons a most desirable event—a great misconception. The herbage is overcharged with sap and moisture, of a crude, acrimonious nature, to such an extent that all cannot be taken up by the organs destined for the secretion of urine, or by the absorbant vessels of the body; the superfluous fluid therefore passes off through the intestines with the indigestible particles of food, and thus the watery feces are thrown off. Flatulent colic or gripes is a frequent attendant. The system is deranged; but the mischief does not terminate here. If the purging is continued, a constitutional relaxation of the bowels is established, very debilitating to the animal, and often difficult to control. I am so decidedly opposed to an unrestricted allowance of luxuriant grass to horses at any age, that nothing could induce me to give it to them. After the second year, hay should form a considerable portion of the daily food in summer, to every animal intended for hunting or riding.

If a horse is supported entirely upon the grass which he collects in a rich pasture field, or upon that which may be cut and carried to him in his paddock, he must consume a much greater bulk than of hay in an equivalent time, to afford nourishment to the system. Grass being very full of sap and moisture, it is very rapidly digested, consequently the horse must be continually eating it. This distends the stomach and the bowels, and the faculty of digestion is impaired; for the digestive powers require rest as well as other organs of the body, if they are to be preserved in perfect condition. By the custom of grazing, the muscular system is enfeebled, and fat is substituted. This may

escape the notice of superficial observers, who do not mark the distinction between the appearance of a fat and a muscular animal; who conceive, so that the bones are covered, and the points are rounded, all that is requisite has been attained. But that is a very fallacious impression. Let any person who is skeptical on this point ride a horse in the summer who has just been taken out of a grass field, along with another kept on hay and corn, at the moderate rate of seven or eight miles in the hour; the grass-fed horse will sweat profusely, while the other will be perfectly cool and dry. This proves that the system of the one eating grass overabounds with fat and those portions of the blood which are destined to form that deposit.

Those who advocate grazing will no doubt exclaim, "Oh! this is a test of condition, which is not required in young and growing animals." I beg to state that it is highly important, if the acme of condition is to be attained by animals of mature age, that the growth and gradual development of their frames should be composed of those healthy and vigorous elements upon which the structure of future condition can be raised. Animal substances are to a very great extent subservient to the nature and quality of the food with which the individuals are nourished. I believe farmers would find it much to their advantage if they were to consider this subject with reference to feeding cattle and sheep, so that they might select those kinds of food which abound with properties more conducive to the production of flesh than fat. There is no kind of food which the horse consumes which has not a tendency to deposit fat. It is a substance which must exist to a certain extent; but as it is muscular power, not a predisposition to adipose rotundity, which enhances the value of the animal, the reasons are obvious what guide should be taken in the selection of food.

I have on a former occasion hinted the propriety of bruising the oats, and I will now state my reasons for doing so. The first I will mention is economy. Three bushels of oats which have undergone that process are equivalent to four which have not, and the animals which consume them derive greater benefit. Various schemes are adopted to induce horses to masticate their corn, all of which are ineffectual. Scattering them thinly over the surface of a spacious manger, mixing a handful of cut hay or straw with each feed, and such like devices, will not cajole the animal to the performance of mastication. A horse that is disposed to bolt his corn, however carefully it may be spread along his manger, will soon learn to drive it into a heap with his nose, and collect as much with his lips as he thinks fit before he begins to masticate. Whatever food enters the stomach of any animal, and passes away in an undigested form, may be considered as so much dross or extraneous matter, which, not having afforded nutriment, is prejudicial to the creature which consumed it. A mistaken notion of economy is often the incentive to turning horses out in summer, to be entirely dependent upon grass for their support. A few remarks will surely dispel that error. Twenty-two bushels of oats—allowing one bushel per week from the 15th of May to the 16th of October—may be as the produce of half an acre of land, and half a tun of hay that of another half-acre, although a tun and a half per acre is not more than an average crop. It requires at least an acre of grass land to support a horse during the period above named.—*Mark Lane Express.*

APPROPRIATE NAME.—Most of the marriage ceremonies in Appleton, Wisconsin, are performed by the Rev. Mr. Yocum.

HOP GROWING.

(Continued from page 27.)

Setting the Poles.—The proper length of poles requires much judgement. The vines themselves indicate sufficiently how long a pole to use. The poles are of various lengths; and if the vines in a hill are very large and thrifty, they will need a longer pole than if they are smaller and more feeble. The quality of the land is also some indication, as well as the quantity of manure used. If the land is very rich, it will produce a much more luxuriant growth than if of a poorer quality. The expense for poles is a large item in the original outlay for hop growing. It will be seen, from the opinions of the writer of the communication before quoted, that the method of poling is a matter of considerable consequence. The English growers often use a much larger number to the acre than experienced growers with us. It is very common in the Kent and Sussex hop plantations to see as many as two thousand five hundred or three thousand poles to the acre. Sixteen or eighteen feet is as long as it is thought best to use them by many English growers, and it is not uncommon to see them from ten to twelve, or fourteen, feet; and the reason given for using short poles is, that the use of poles longer than the natural growth of the plant coaxes it too high, and stimulates it beyond its strength, and causes a feebleness in its roots the next year; while, if the poles used are found in summer to be too short, the tops of the vines may be supported by others. The usual time for poling hops with us is in May; for plants grown from cuttings, the second year of their growth; and for plants grown from seed, the third year. The poles, two in a hill, eighteen inches apart, are usually inclined a little outwards, at the top, and towards the south, in order to give the greatest freedom of circulation to the air, secure greater sunlight, and a greater chance for the vines to swing free from the poles; and unless this inclination is given the tops of the poles, the vines are said to "browse;" that is, they become matted together and injured, and are much more liable to blast. And the same objection exists to the use of more than two poles to a hill; the vines are more apt to "browse." Cedar, hemlock, spruce, ash, chestnut, maple, pine, willow, and other kinds of poles are often used, and in some locations in this State the birch is not uncommon in hop grounds. This latter is considered bad in England. In many localities birch poles are cheaper, and far more easily procured; though, for lightness, beauty, and durability, the cedar or the hemlock are preferred by those who can procure them without too great expense. The American hop seems to prefer to cling to a white birch. The main objection to this wood is its rapid decay, making it unsafe to use it more than one year. Perhaps, on the whole, if the birch is not used and renewed every year, the spruce is the neatest and cheapest, considering its lightness and durability. It will last five or seven years, or even longer, and, when the bottom is decayed, may be cut off and used shorter. The number to the acre will of course depend upon the number of hills, which are usually at least from six to eight feet apart, making from sixteen to eighteen hundred poles to the acre. The farmer already quoted says: "The poles are worth \$2 or \$2 50 a hundred, ready for setting, and will cost, at sixteen hundred per acre, from \$32 to \$40. But, as good poles will last ten or twelve years, the expense per year will not be much increased."

After the poles are set in the manner indicated, in rows perfectly straight both ways, two to each hill, and inclined a little outward, and the vines are long enough, two or

more of the most thrifty stems should be selected and tied to each pole by a woolen yarn, or soft rushes—great care being taken to perform this operation at the proper time, and before they have become too hard and confirmed in their inclined position so as to be injured by slanting them up from the roots.

The English and French cultivators have adopted in some cases, by way of experiment, a system of espalier training, by which the vines run in a horizontal direction on a series of trellises five or six feet high. This is thought by some to avoid the great expense of poles, and also the liability to injury by high winds and storms to which long poles are subject. Some have also recommended trellises of iron wire in France, by it is thought that a fifth part of the expense for poles is saved; but, surrounded as most of our farmers are by abundant and suitable material on their own premises, it is not probable that any resort to such experiments will at present be necessary.

Careful cultivation after the hops are poled—that is, the second and subsequent years—is required to keep the ground free from weeds and grass; and during times of drouth, the more frequently the plow and the horse cultivator are used both ways the better. From what has been said, it will be evident that the plant comes to its most perfect development in a soil thoroughly tilled and pulverized. The hop requires frequent stirring of the soil in times of drouth more than many other crops. The plants are greatly invigorated by it. The soil is hoed up around the hills in June or July, and many cover the hills in winter either by plowing or by manure. Whether this is done or not, the hills are opened early in spring, and the large part of the last year's shoots, the running roots, cut off with a sharp knife to within an inch or two of the stem. But the old bine, or the tap root, which descends vertically into the soil, is not touched. The hills are opened by back-furrowing from each row of hills both ways. This brings all the soil into the spaces between the rows. Before the first hoeing the back furrows are split with the plow, which turns the earth back upon the hills. After the hill are opened by back-furrowing, they are covered with a shovelful or two of compost; or, in want of this, the finest and richest soil will be found useful.

It has already been seen that the hop vines are frequently gathered up and burned on the ground in the winter or spring. This may be done, and the ashes are of great value to the succeeding crop; but perhaps one of the most valuable manures, as well as the cheapest, is made of the vines, gathered into a heap, and left to decompose and form a rich black compost, to be applied in the spring in the manner indicated for other manure. This use of the vines has been too much neglected. Not only accurate experiment, but every principle of agricultural chemistry, shows at once how important this hop-vine manure is; for the vine contains in a concentrated form almost every constituent which it has taken from the soil; and those parts which are taken away in the seeds and strobiles of the plant can be abundantly supplied by composting these vines, chopped up, through the winter with barnyard manure, woolen rags, fish, or other nitrogenous substances. In this manner the land is not only restored to the condition in which it was before the crop was taken away, but made as much richer as the amount of other manures used in the compost exceeds the amount carried off in the seeds and fruit of the plant.

As soon as the shoots are of sufficient length the poling is commenced, as has been said, and the vines are tied to the poles.

The shoots not tied to the poles are, as already indicated, buried up in hoeing, and this whether they are wanted to form layers or not, for otherwise they would shut out the light and heat from the vines.—*C. L. Flint's Second Annual Report to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture.*

(To be Continued.)

MATERIALS IN THEIR INVISIBLE STATE.

If a piece of silver be put into nitric acid, a clear and colorless liquid, it is rapidly dissolved, and vanishes from sight. The solution of silver may be mixed with water, and to appearance, no effect whatever is produced; thus in a pail of water we dissolve and render invisible more than ten pounds worth of silver, not a particle of which can be seen. Not only silver, lead, and iron, but every other metal can be treated in the same way, with similar results. When charcoal is burned, when candles are burned, when paper is burned, these substances all disappear, and become invisible. In fact, every material which is visible can, by certain treatment, be rendered invisible. Matter which in one condition is perfectly opaque, and will not admit the least ray of light to pass through it, will, in another form, become quite transparent. The cause of this wonderful effect of the condition of matter is utterly inexplicable. Philosophers do not even broach theories upon the subject, much less do they endeavor to explain it. The substances dissolved in water or burned in the air, are not, however, destroyed or lost; by certain well-known means they can be recovered, and again be rendered visible—some in exactly the same state as they were before their invisibility; others, though not in the same state, can be shown in their elementary condition; and thus it can be proved, that matter having once existed, never ceases to exist, although it can change its condition like the caterpillar, which becomes a chrysalis, and then a gorgeous butterfly. If a pailful of the solution of silver be cast into the sea, it is apparently lost by its dispersion in the mighty ocean; but it nevertheless continues to exist. So when a bushel of charcoal is burned in a stove it disappears in consequence of the gas produced being mixed with the vast atmosphere; but yet the charcoal is still in the air. On the brightest and sunniest day, when every object can be distinctly seen above the horizon, hundreds of tons of charcoal in an invisible condition pervade the air. Glass is a beautiful illustration of the transparency of a compound, which in truth is nothing but a mixture of the rust of three metals. This power of matter to change its conditions from solid opacity to limpid transparency, causes some rather puzzling phenomena. Substances increase in weight without any apparent cause; for instance, a plant goes on increasing in weight a hundred-fold for every atom that is missing from the earth in which it is growing. Now the simple explanation of this is that the leaves of plants have the power of withdrawing the invisible charcoal from the atmosphere, and restoring it to its visible state in some shape or other. The lungs of animals and a smokeless furnace change matter from its visible to its invisible state. The gills of fishes and the leaves of plants reverse this operation, rendering invisible or gaseous matter visible. Thus the balance in nature is maintained, although the continual change has been going on long prior to the creation of the "extinct animals." SEPTIMUS PIESSE.

Scientific American.

Geologically speaking, says Hood, the rock upon which hard drinkers split, is *quartz*.

Horticultural Department.

THE HORTICULTURIST FOR MARCH.

The leader, this month, is upon Pomological societies and their influence, and contains some historical facts that should be put upon record in all journals that take note of the progress of this art. The first general meeting of fruit-growers was held at Buffalo, in the month of September, 1848, under the auspices of the New-York State Agricultural Society, of which Lewis F. Allen, Esq., of Buffalo, was then President. This gentleman was one of the principal movers in the matter, and participated actively in the proceedings of that meeting. Delegates were present from fifteen of the States, and from the Canadas; large collections of fruit were presented; and the discussions continued three days. In the following month, the "American Pomological Congress" assembled at New-York, under the auspices of the American Institute. The display of fruits was magnificent, and the meeting highly satisfactory.

The next year, the Buffalo organization met at Syracuse, and adopted the title, "North American Pomological Society." At this meeting, overtures were made to the American Pomological Congress, for a union of the two societies, which were accepted, and in the following month the union was consummated at New-York, under the name of the American Pomological Society. This society has held five sessions; two in New-York, one in Cincinnati, one in Philadelphia, and one in Boston; and the next will be held in Rochester, in 1856. There is not at this time in the world an organization of this kind so efficient, and that extends its influence over so wide a range of territory, as this. It has its committees, and gathers its reports from the most northern limits of the United States to the shores of the Pacific.

The local societies that have been formed in many parts of the country will be efficient aids to the national society. The information, which has been gathered in these societies, and which finds its way into the reports of the national society, is of great value to all classes of cultivators. Though the discussions have, thus far, been principally confined to the best varieties of fruits, this is a point of prime importance to all who are planting orchards, and making selections for garden cultivation. A list of the most popular varieties throughout the country concludes the article. There are 36 varieties of the apple, 49 of the pear, 25 of the peach, 20 of the plum, 19 of the cherry, 4 of the apricot, 4 of the grape, 5 of the raspberry, and 9 of the strawberry.

Ten pages, or more than a fifth part of the whole magazine, are devoted to the biography of the Hon. M. P. Wilder, his private and public life, his efforts in behalf of horticulture, extracts from his speeches, fine passages, &c. Whether it is substantially the same that has just appeared in Hunt's Merchant's Magazine or not, we have not compared critically to see, but presume it is from a notice that we saw in Hunt's. It is

written in the eulogistic style of a political admirer, and were it in a political paper or pamphlet, we should think that some indiscreet friend of his had put him upon the track for the next Presidential campaign. But as it is here in this journal, we can only attribute it to an error in judgement, in discussing the genus homo, where some horticultural genus had been a little more appropriate. The engraving which accompanies this biography is exceedingly fine and life-like, and will recall very vividly to all his friends, the presiding genius of the last meeting of the American Pomological Society. This is announced as the first of a series of sketches of distinguished pomologists. We trust sketches rather than biographies will be given. Biographies of fine fruits, and their illustrations, are the proper illuminations of the pages of the leading horticultural journal of the country. Thomas Hogg, of Yorkville, is announced to appear next, with a portrait. Please let the life be razed, Mr. Editor.

There is an article on Daisy Chrysanthemums, to accompany a very beautiful bouquet of eight varieties, taken from a collection of sixty sorts. These are much cultivated in England and France, and are growing in favor with us.

B. Munn has an article on evergreen shrubs. Though the materials are rather meager, he thinks the artist who is familiar with his subject can, with them, create much of picturesque, or of graceful beauty, even with the winter scenery of a country residence. He fears the European Holly will always be scarce, as there are few situations in which it will succeed. But the American, which is so very beautiful, is entirely overlooked. Though it can easily be raised by the thousands from seeds picked up in the woods, it is rare to find this shrub at our nurseries. The Rhododendrons and Kalmias of our own woods may be introduced with good effect. Many of the hybrid varieties of Rhododendron, which have been originated in Europe of late years, may be found eligible for ornamental purposes. There is hope also, that the varieties from the Himalaya, introduced by Dr. Hooker, may prove hardy in our climate.

A Yankee subscriber has a chapter on the beauty of neglected things, which is one of the most sprightly articles of the number. He touches that poor, commonplace evergreen, the Red Cedar (*Juniperus Virginiana*), and really makes quite a lion of it. It seeks the driest, and most sterile soils along our roadsides, and in our neglected pasture-fields, clothing the bleakest aspects, as in charity, with its mantle of green. But though partial to granite hill-tops, and barren fields, no tree will show quicker the results of generous culture. It is beautiful as a *single* tree. It seems to sport from seed into almost innumerable varieties of every habit of growth, and every shade of green; some throw out long and sparsely-foliaged branches at stiff right angles with the trunk; some have the loose and airy appearance of the hemlock, hat queen of evergreens; and others are as closely conical as an arbor vitæ. Their shades

of color vary as their forms, from the liveliest green, to the most somber mixture of that color and blackishness. We have often noticed this sporting of the cedar in its native localities. As a hedge or screen it is equal to almost any of its fellows. He speaks from experience, having thoroughly tried it. Its great hardiness and thrifty growth insure success, if the least care is used in its transplantation. If the plants are set about a foot or eighteen inches apart in a continuous line, and suffered to grow untouched by the shears, they will in a few years form an impervious and picturesque screen, whose beauty is exceeded by few evergreens. But it bears trimming as well as the buckthorn, and you may make of it as trim and beautiful a verdant wall as you may desire. It loses somewhat of its brightness in the winter, but not so much as the arbor vitæ; and withal, it is not that dead, yellowish, Russia-leather look which belongs to the latter, but rather a sober and becoming livery. It has an evanescent and borrowed beauty, for which it is well worth cultivating a single specimen, if no more. When the first still snow storm of winter comes, its dark branches become sprinkled over with a fleecy burden, until they bend beneath it, and the tree looks like a fairy chandelier, prepared for Titania's revels.

This now will be right good news to all lovers of home-bred trees, and Sam is a goose if he does not henceforth take to Red Cedar for his evergreen hedges. It is particularly good news to those who live along the shore, for this plant seems to love the smell of the sea breeze, and is found in greatest abundance near tide-water. It is visible all along the shores of Long Island Sound, even to the water's edge. We have a native in our garden that extends its roots into soil strongly impregnated with salt. We have noticed that where this tree stands alone and is left to nature, it throws out its branches as near the ground as a Norway spruce. If any of our readers have experience with Red Cedar as a hedge plant, we shall be glad to hear from them.

William Saunders, of Germantown, Pa., has an article on grape mildew. He thinks the mildew is the result of disease in the vine, and has long been persuaded that it may be prevented by judicious airing. He rejects the theory that it is caused by dampness.

Mr. Chorlton has a very full and excellent article on the tomato. They may be improved in shape and flavor to very great excellence. They yield to the law of progress as readily as any plant that man has taken under his care. Pick the very best smoothest samples for seed each year. We have had samples of this vegetable of two pounds weight, and should hardly consider a further enlargement any improvement. We think with Mr. Chorlton, that the flavor improves with the size. They are easily preserved in tin cans, cooked a little and seasoned, and then sealed tight, so that any housekeeper may easily have them, the year round, with a little care.

"My life in the Country," is continued, and

some good hints to house-builders are dropped by the way. First determine the rooms you want, and build your house to suit the rooms. Never build a house in a hurry, or you will repent at your leisure. Don't think you can build a large house, for a small price. Arrange every detail before you begin. Get estimates of cost from several builders, and rest assured that you can not build it for any thing less.

In the Editor's Table, fears are expressed, that the severity of the winter has been fatal to the fruit crop for 1855. The peaches are gone at Rochester; not only are the fruit buds killed, but he fears the trees themselves are frozen to death down to the very roots. In cutting through the bark, he finds the wood quite discolored, and to all appearance completely disorganized. We have just had the curiosity to examine our own peach buds, and find very few of them discolored at all, which leads us to hope, that no very serious injury has been done to the orchards along the sea board, where the thermometer did not sink so low, by some twelve or fifteen degrees, as at Rochester.

An imposition is noticed: a man selling the *Northern Muscadine* grape in Ohio, for three dollars a plant, an article not worth planting. It is not quite time for the usual advertisements of the Charter Oak grape to come out, at 2, 3, and 5 dollars a plant; but they are sure to come, and the green ones who do not take the papers are sure to buy, and repent of it at their leisure.

Lucy Fitch's Prolific Strawberry, a new western seedling, is noticed, and in the advertising department is offered for sale. It is a pistillate plant, and appears to be a cross between the Alpine and Hovey's seedling. It continues in bearing much longer than Hovey's seedling. We do not see that it has been approved by any Horticultural Society, and we doubt the propriety of *purchasing* any fruit, that has not the approbation of some responsible body of fruit-growers. It may do very well pecuniarily to sell it. Horticultural Societies are a protection against humbugs.

Lime refuse from the gas works is pronounced worthless for a manure. We should like to know the evidence on which this opinion is based. A large per cent of it is still caustic lime, and we have never seen any evidence, that it would not answer to decompose peat and coarse vegetable matter as well as other lime. If we recollect rightly, the late Professor Norton recommends it for this purpose. It is the cheapest source of lime accessible to those who live near our large cities. A farmer near us uses it in large quantities, and we have never heard that it was not satisfactory in its action. If any of our readers have had experience in its use, we should like to have their opinions, and the reason for them.

High culture of dwarf pears, is a good top dressing of three or four inches deep of compost every autumn, and a light mulching of decayed leaves, or some other such substance, during summer. To this, add regular and judicious pruning, and your dwarf pears will answer all reasonable expectations, if not

far exceed them. They must have right culture, to be successful, and profitable.

An ambition for a few trees, brought to the greatest thrift and productiveness, is far more laudable than a mania to have all the varieties in the market. Make the most of the trees you already have, before you purchase more, if you are an amateur. Capital laid out on these will save the purchase of many to replace those that die of neglect.

TREES.

BY ALFRED B. STREET.

Whether pluming the mountain, edging the lake, eye-lashing the stream, roofing the waterfall, sprinkling the meadow, burying the homestead, or darkening leagues of hill, plain and valley, trees have always "haunted me like a passion." Let me summon a few of them, prime, favorites and familiar to the American forest.

The aspen—what soft, silver-grey tints on its leaves, how smooth its mottled bark, its whole shape how delicate and sensitive! you may be sitting on the homestead lawn some summer noon, the trees all motionless, and the hot air trembling over the surface of the unstirred grass. Suddenly you will hear a fluttering like the unloosing of a rapid brook, and looking whence comes the sound, you will see the aspen shaking as if falling to pieces, or the leaves were little wings striving to fly. All this time the broad leaf of the maple close by does not even lift its pointed edges. This soft murmur sends a coolness through the sultry atmosphere; but while your ear is drinking the music, and your eye is filled with the tumultuous dancing, instantly both cease as if the tree were stricken with a palsy, and the quiet leaves flash back the sunshine like so many fairy mirrors.

Next the elm. How noble the lift and drooping of its branches! With such graceful downward curves on either side, it has the shape of the Greek vase. Such lavish foliage also, running down the trunk to the very roots, as if a rich vine were wreathed round it! And what frame-works these branches shape, breaking the landscape beyond into half-oval scenes which look through the chiaroscuro as if beheld through slightly shaded glass. And how finely the elm leans over the brook—its native place—turning the water into ebony, and forming a shelter for the cattle from the heat. It is scattered, too, over the meadow, making shady nooks for the mowers at their noontide meal, shadowing the farmer's gate and mantling his homestead in an affluence of green.

Then the maple. What a splendid cupola of leaves it builds up in the sky—an almost complete canopy from the summer shower. It reddens brilliantly when the bluebird tells us spring has come, and, a few days later, its drooped fringes gleam in the fresh grass like flakes of fire. And in autumn, too, its crimson is so rich, one might term it the Blush of the Wood.

And the beech. How cheerfully its snow-spotted trunk looks in the deep woods, how fresh the green of its regularly scalloped leaves! At spring-tide the tips of its sprays feather out in the glossiest and most delicate cream-satin, amid which the young leaf glows like a speck of emerald. And in autumn what rich clusters of fruit! The pattering of the brown, three-cornered beech-nut upon the dead leaves, is constant in the hazy, purple days of an Indian summer, and makes a sweet music, almost continuous as the dripping of a rill, in the mournful forest.

The birch is a great favorite of mine. It

reminds me of the whistles of my boyhood. Its fragrant bark—what delight it was to wrench it from the silver wood for the shrill music I delighted in, particularly by the hearthstone of my home.

"Conscience!" my aunt Katy used to gesture, holding her ears; "is that whistling coming again? John, do, do stop."

And when came a shriller blast:

"John, you little torment! if you don't stop I'll box your ears!"

What splendid tassels the birch hangs out at the bidding of April—tassels that Indian Sachems were proud to wear at the most honored feasts of their nation.

And into such a rich gold is it transformed by October, a light is almost shed of its own within the sylvan recesses. The speckled bark of the black birch is glossy and bright, but give me the beauty of the white birch's coat. How like a shaft of ivory it gleams in the daylight woods—how the flame of moonlight kindles it into columned snow.

Did you ever, while wandering in the forest about the first of June, have your eyes dazzled at a distance with what you supposed to be a tree laden with snow? It was the dogwood. Glittering in its white blossoms, every one spread over a broad leaf of the brightest verdure, pointed gauze upon emerald, there stands the pretty tree like a bride. The shad-bush and cherry, have dropped their white honors a month before, but the dogwood keeps company with the basswood and locust in brightening the last days of spring with its floral beauty. Up into the soft blue it lifts its wreathed crown, for it gathers its richest show of bloom on its head, and makes the forest light as with silver chandeliers.

While admiring the dogwood, an odor of exquisite sweetness may salute you; and, if at all conversant in tree knowledge, you will know the censor dispensing this fragrance. But you will travel some distance, and do it as the hound tracks the deer, by scent, for the perfume fills the forest long before the tree catches the eye. At length you see it—the basswood—clustered with yellow blossoms, golden bells, pouring out such strong, delicious fragrance, you realize the idea of Shelley:

"And the hyacinth purple, and white and blue,
Which flung from its bells a sweet peal anew
Of music so delicate, soft and intense,
It was felt like an odor within the sense."

And the deep hum, too, about it—an atmosphere of sound—the festival of the bees surrounding the chalices so brimmed with honey.

I have mentioned the flowers of the locust and the chestnut in connection with the basswood. Delicate pearl does the former hang out amid the vivid green of its beautiful leaves and sweet is that pearl as the lips of that maiden you love.

And the chestnut, scattered thickly among its long, dark-green leaves are strings of pale gold blossoms, haunts also of the reveling bee. Does the school boy ever forget "the days that he went" truanting after the auburn fruit embedded in velvet within, but without protected by porcupines of husks. With what delight did the young good-for-nothings pelt down those yellow husks to be crushed open by indefatigable heels! Ah! the aurora of life—how bright! how merry!

Forever linked in the minds of those truant with the chestnut is the walnut. How the green smooth globes that insphere the fruit make the eyes of the young vagabonds dance. And how eagerly they mount to shake down those globes, each fracturing at the fall, and unloosing the round ivories that in turn imprison the golden meats.—*Knickerbocker Gallery.*

(Concluded next week.)

THE HYDRANGEA.

Although this must be admitted to be one of the most showy plants we have, it has certainly been very much neglected of late years. It is, however, still prized by a few, who find it particularly useful for greenhouse and conservatory decoration, displaying its enormous heads of pink and blue flowers in abundance, and remaining a long time in perfection. The following method of treatment being pursued, will enable all who practice it to have large heads of blossom from plants even in small pots. If cuttings are taken off in August, and potted in a mixture of leaf-mold, loam, and sand, in a well-drained pot, and be placed in an old cucumber or melon frame, they will root freely, and should be potted into four-inch pots as soon as they have become sufficiently rooted. The plants should be kept to one leader, the top bud of which should not be pinched out, but all lateral or side shoots be removed as soon as they appear. When sufficiently established in their pots, move them to the greenhouse, where they should be wintered. Early in spring shift them into five or six-inch pots, as may best suit your convenience, and as soon as they have commenced growth liberally supply them with water, using the syringe freely at all times. Perhaps the most convenient place for them at this season is a vinery, which I find suits them well, and brings them on gently until the blossoms make their appearance. Water at this stage must on no account be neglected. If large specimen plants are required, they should be grown another season, when they will form a fine bush and produce many heads of blossoms, although inferior in size to those on plants kept to one leader. I have grown the same plants for years; in this way they have made huge specimens, and amply repaid me for my trouble; but if small plants with large heads are preferred, they should be grown from cuttings every season. I have also struck cuttings in February, and grown them on until the following season, using a slight bottom-heat, and disbudding the useless eyes; such plants have produced enormous heads, superior in size to those struck in August, but then the plants are longer in hand, which, in many cases, is a consideration. The soil best suited for their culture is equal portions of cow-dung, leaf-mold, fibrous loam, peat, and sand, well mixed in a rough state. The pots should be thoroughly drained, and, during the blooming season, the plants will be benefited by being placed in a pan of water. Manure-water may be used freely while the plants are in bloom. In order to change them from pink to blues of different shades, put them in Norwood loam, or common red sand; potting in peat and watering with alum-water will also produce the same effect; but the two former kinds of material are the best. If planted on well-drained ground, and slightly protected in winter, the Hydrangea will form an ornament in the flower garden such as few can equal; but it must be liberally supplied with water during the blooming season.—*Floricultural Cabinet.*

A SHORT SERMON ON MANLINESS.—Learn from the earliest days to inure your principles against the peril of ridicule. You can no more exercise your reason if you live in the constant dread of laughter, than you can enjoy your life if you are in constant fear of death. If you think it right to differ from the times, and to make a point of morals, do it, however antiquated, however pedantic, it may appear; do it not for insolence, but seriously—as a man who wore a soul of his own in his bosom, and did not wait till it was breathed into him by the breath of fashion.—*Sydney Smith.*

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, March 29.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES.—Questions of various kinds have been received with no names accompanying. These we do not reply to, from certain considerations not necessary to repeat. The name of a writer will always be withheld from a published question, or communication, when it is requested.

DISSOLVING BONES.

We have before treated this subject somewhat at length (see vol. xi, page 113, and vol. xii, page 56), but large editions of the numbers containing those articles have been exhausted by the calls for them, and every week brings inquiries from new subscribers. To answer these we will again briefly describe the process.

Where a good mill for grinding bones is near at hand, it is best to have them finely ground, and they may then be applied directly to the soil; though in most cases we should prefer dissolving even the bone-dust in sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol). To do this, dilute the acid with two or three times its bulk of water, and moisten the ground bones with it. This can be done best in a half barrel, tub, or trough. Shovel over the mass thoroughly, so that every particle may be brought in contact with the liquid. The mixing may be completed upon a floor, or on a hard ground surface—under a shed or other cover to keep off the rain. When the mixing is thoroughly accomplished, put the whole in a heap, and let it lie for a few days, and then treat it as described below.

WHOLE BONES.—In a majority of instances a bone-mill is not accessible. It is then necessary to resort to dissolving the whole bones. This is not a difficult process, if sufficient time is taken. The following method we have both practiced ourselves, and seen it repeatedly performed under our directions, with the best success:

Take any water-tight, wooden-hooped barrel or cask, and fill it one-third full or less with a mixture of sulphuric acid and water. The water should be put into the barrel first, or the acid undiluted would char and in a short time destroy the wood. The acid should be added in small quantities at a time, as a high degree of heat would be produced if it were all added at once. The water should constitute from two-thirds to three-fourths of the bulk of the liquid; that is, between two and three gallons of water for each gallon of acid to be used.

When the liquid is thus prepared, the bones may be put in and punched down with

a stick, until they rise some distance above the liquid. The closer the bones are packed in, the greater the economy of time, as more of them will be at once exposed to the action of the liquid. It is better to break the bones into small pieces with a hammer or sledge, unless you have several months before you for completing the process.

Let the mass stand for a few weeks, frequently working it over with a stirring stick. As fast as the bones sink down into the liquid, more of them should be added. The liquid will often dissolve two or three times its bulk of bones. When the liquid ceases to act longer upon the bones to diminish their bulk, we may conclude that its strength is exhausted; and it may then be poured off for use, and more fresh liquid be added to the bones remaining, and the process be continued in the same vessel. As the dissolved bones will not deteriorate if kept for years, it is economical to use the same cask and add bones or acid as may be wanted. The barrel or cask should be examined occasionally, to see if there is danger of the hoops or bottom giving way, in which case the whole contents should be at once transferred to another vessel.

USING THE DISSOLVED BONES.—To the liquid, or to the mass of ground bones, let there be added dry muck enough to render the whole so dry that it will readily crumble to powder. The more complete the mixing of these the better. The mixing can be done with a shovel, hoe, and garden rake. In the absence of muck, dry manure, or even dry soil of any kind may be used. The mixture may be added to the manure or compost heap if desirable. It will be all the more valuable if no more than two gallons of the liquid, or a peck of the ground bones, be mingled with a cart-load of muck or manure, though so large a proportion of the latter is not necessary.*

This compost may be spread over the land, and mixed with the surface soil by harrowing, and the whole then be plowed under; or it may be sown upon the surface, to be washed down by rain. In planted crops it may be put into the hill with the seed. If it has been well mixed with a large quantity of muck or other materials, there will be no danger of injury to the seed or plants from its direct application. If this has not been done, care should be taken to cover it with earth before dropping in the seed. This preparation is probably more valuable to the root crops—turnips, carrots, beets, &c., than to grains and grasses, though containing, as it does, large amounts of animal matter, derived from the unburned bones, it will be found valuable for any crop.

* If the liquid is poured off for use, before it has entirely ceased to act upon the bones, it contains some free acid, and we have formerly recommended a small quantity of unleached ashes to be added to neutralize this excess of acid; but as this may be improperly done by the inexperienced, we have ceased to advise this course. The acid can be entirely freed from any injurious effects by a free use of muck or other divisor.

TO OUR SOUTHERN READERS—AN INQUIRY.—We have recently conversed with several intelligent gentlemen, whose observations have differed from our own in regard to the vital-

ity of the "Spanish Moss," after the death of the tree supporting it. Will some one who has opportunity for carefully examining this subject give us the result of his observations? Does or does not the moss continue in growth after the sap ceases to circulate in the tree upon which it grows?

HOW WE KEEP OUR HENS.

Hen-house, in the appropriate sense of that word, we have none. We have no doubt of the utility of those structures, and that something very much better than our contrivance could be got up with a little leisure to plan it, and money to build with. But we have had eggs and chickens enough, for the last five years, to satisfy our editorial ambition, without the trouble of putting up a hen-house. Our barn stands on the south side of a hill, and under a part of it we have a cellar excavated, stoned and pointed with mortar. It makes a snug, warm room, about 20 feet by 10, opening to the south. A large ventilator communicates with the barn above, and the door is kept open at all times, except in snow storms and the coldest nights when the thermometer is in the neighborhood of zero. On such occasions, when Jack Frost is out in state, we close the door. On either side of the cellar there are large, long poles put up for roosts, three on a side, and at such heights from the ground that they are easily reached by the fowls, and that the droppings from the upper row of fowls fall clear of their neighbors below them. Underneath the roosts we keep a good supply of charcoal dust or muck, and in addition to this we make a constant use of plaster. As often as every morning, in mild weather, and every other morning in cold, we sprinkle a large shovelful upon the droppings. This keeps the air perfectly sweet, and absorbs the most of the ammonia. The olfactories are a very good meter for the necessary quantity of plaster, and the rule is to sprinkle as much and as often as you can detect any unpleasant odor. This is essential to the health of the fowls, and we have no doubt that more fowls die of bad air, from lack of attention, than from all other causes united. The manure made in this way is very powerful; not equal in value to guano, pound for pound, but much cheaper than guano at the cost of its manufacture. It forms a very handsome item in the annual profits of keeping fowls.

In the yard upon which the cellar opens, we have a large pile of refuse cabbages, not quite good enough for market, and a little too good for the compost heap. These are gathered late in the fall, when frozen, and covered with salt-hay or other refuse matter. They keep in a frozen state nearly all winter. The hens have constant access to them, and get all the green food they want. This, with the other attentions, keeps them in fine health. They have pounded oyster-shells both in the cellar and in the yard, and fresh water every day. The staple feed is Indian corn, raw, soaked, and in meal scalded. This is varied with oats, and the sweepings of grain stores and screenings from the city

We should probably get some eggs without further effort, but to make success certain we give fish, two or three times a week. A small fish, caught in all our salt-water creeks and ditches, called the mummyhaug, makes excellent feed for fowls. Fish offal from the market, or butcher's offal, would probably answer as well. Beginning the fowl season November 1st, with a flock of pullets hatched the preceding April, we have eggs, constantly and in abundance, through the coldest weather. The quantity increases after February, and in the three following months it rains eggs on our hill, and the thunder of Shanghai eloquence wakes the echoes of every morning hour.

We keep, in their purity, White Dorkings, Buff Shanghais, and Chittagongs. The Asiatic fowls are the only reliable winter layers, and make early chickens for broiling, better than any variety we have tried. The cross of the Dorking with the Shanghai makes a very plump, fine-fleshed fowl for the table; and they are not bad layers. The Buff Dorking, made by this cross, is a very handsome, sprightly bird. With a stock of forty or fifty fowls we raise all the eggs and chickens used in a large family, and from a debit and credit kept for several years, it appears that each fowl pays about a dollar clear profit. No other investment on the premises pays so well.

HARROWING GRAIN.—We have often found great benefit in harrowing winter grain in the spring of the year, as soon as the ground is well settled and dry, more especially wheat somewhat winter killed. It stirs the earth, encourages tillering, and adds to the vigor of the growth of the plant. The harrow should be followed by the roller, so as to replace the roots of the plants which may be laid bare by the harrow, and crowd them into the earth. It is hardly necessary to add, that the harrow should be light, with short, fine teeth. Among the German population of this country, we have seen wooden-tooth harrows frequently made use of for this purpose; they asserting, that the teeth were not so liable to injure the plant. We believe that barley, oats, and all spring crops of grain may be harrowed to advantage, whenever the surface of the ground becomes somewhat hard and encrusted, which all clay soils are liable to after a hard rain. Harrowing the hemp crop under such circumstances, we were informed, in Kentucky, has been found highly beneficial.

LADIES REPOSITORY.—We have an utter aversion to that class of periodicals known as "ladies' magazines," filled as they generally are with *light*, trashy literature, love-stories, &c. It is an insult to the intelligent ladies of our country to present them such reading, as being adapted to their tastes or necessities. There are, however, exceptions to this wholesale denunciation, and among these exceptions we would place foremost the **LADIES' REPOSITORY**. We have been familiar with it for years, (it is now in its XVth volume,) and can heartily commend it as one of the very best magazines for the family circle. A high moral and intellectual

tone characterizes its pure, interesting and instructive pages. Each number contains two fine original steel engravings, which are alone worth the price—\$2 a year. Published monthly by Messrs. Carleton & Phillips, 200 Mulberry-st., New-York.

CHEMISTRY

FOR SMALL AND LARGE BOYS AND GIRLS.

CHAPTER X.

Oxygen—Symbol O—Atomic Weight 8.

81. We have now come to the description of one of the most important of all the simple or elementary bodies, Ox-y-gen. It is important, because it is very abundant, constituting, as it does, one half or more of the weight of the whole earth. Eight pounds in every nine of all the water of the ocean, the seas, lakes, rivers, &c., is oxygen. We can name but very few substances, mineral, vegetable, or animal, of which oxygen does not form a considerable portion. Perfectly dry common salt is one of the few abundant mineral substances, which does not contain oxygen. It is owing to the oxygen of the air that substances burn or decay. It is this element in the air which supports life, and keeps up the renovation of our bodies; and this same element is also the cause of their speedy decay after death, and of their emaciation during life.

82. Oxygen was once thought to be the cause of all acidity or sourness, because it is found abundant in sour substances, such as vinegar, sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol), nitric acid (aqua fortis), &c., and on this account it received its name. *Oxy* means sharpness or sourness, and *gen* the producer of; that is, *oxy-gen* signifies sour-producer. You will remember (69) that *hydro-gen* signifies water-producer.

83. Oxygen is distinguished for its strong affinity, or liking, for nearly all the other elements; and though we find it abundant in the air and other gasses, it seldom exists alone. When set at liberty during the various changes in nature, it speedily unites with some other element to form a compound body. When not combined with any other element it takes a gas form, and is then much like air in its physical properties. It is, like air and hydrogen (69), transparent or colorless.

84. The oxygen in a jar containing 100 cubic inches (nearly 2 quarts), weighs about 34½ grains (34.29), while the same amount of air weighs about 31 grains (31.01). Oxygen gas is, then, about one-tenth heavier than common air.

85. *How to obtain Oxygen.*—To obtain hydrogen from water (HO), we put in zinc, which took away the oxygen and let the hydrogen go free; but we have not been able to find any substance which will take away the hydrogen and set the oxygen at liberty. The reason is, that oxygen has so much stronger affinity (or liking) for other substances than hydrogen has, that it will be the first to desert the water compound. The most convenient method of getting pure oxygen is, to take some solid substance containing a large amount of it, and then heat it so

as to evaporate or drive off a part or the whole of its oxygen. There are many substances of this kind, such as red lead (Pb₃O₄, or Pb₃O₄), saltpetre (KO,NO₅, or KO,NO₅), chlorate of potash (KO,ClO₅, or KO,ClO₅), &c.

86. If we put some red lead (Pb₃O₄) on a shovel, and heat it to redness over the fire, one atom of oxygen will be driven off from every particle of the red lead, and we shall have a brown substance left called litharge (Pb₃O₂). By placing an inverted tumbler over the heating mass of red lead, we should catch some of this oxygen gas, but it would be mingled with much air. If the red lead be put into a gun barrel, or in an iron bottle or flask, with a tube attached to the neck, we could then catch the oxygen as it escaped in a gas form from the tube. A similar change will take place if we put upon the shovel or in the iron bottle some chlorate of potash (KO,ClO₅), but in this case *all* the oxygen will be driven off and we shall have left a substance similar to common salt, called chloride of potassium (KCl); and from each particle of the chlorate of potash we shall get six atoms of oxygen in a pure gas form.

In the next chapter we will explain a simple process of getting oxygen for experiment.

THE WHEAT CROP AT THE WEST.

We learn, says the Chicago Tribune, from a gentleman who has traveled pretty extensively through the States of the northwest during the past six weeks, that the prospect of the wheat crop was never better. In Iowa, a large quantity has been sown, but so great is the emigration to that State, and so rapidly did it fill up last season, that a large portion of the surplus will be required for the new settlers there and in Kansas and Nebraska.

Throughout Illinois, it is represented that the crop never looked better. The high prices of the last few years, and the almost certainty that there will be but little abatement during the present year, have stimulated the farmers to sow to an extent beyond former precedent. And the same may be said of Wisconsin. The prospect there is, that the abundant crop of last year will be succeeded by one equally as good this.

We hear good reports, too, from Indiana and Michigan. On the whole, if no untoward event interposes between now and harvest, the northwest, which is in fact the granary of the Union, will turn out a surplus which will gladden the hearts of the breadless in our eastern cities.

There will be comparatively few men engaged in the construction of railroads in the west, during the present season, all the great lines being nearly completed. This will reduce the consumption of non-producers and cause a large amount of labor to return to agriculture—thus increasing our supply by the operation of two causes. So, we may look for an active fall business and a full supply of breadstuffs, unless blight, or mildew, or some other destroying agent, shall blast the fair prospects of the present.

A WORD TO YOUNG EMIGRANTS.

Notwithstanding the poets have so often sung of the ease and retirement of rural life, many of our youthful friends seem bent on seeking fortunes elsewhere. Perhaps some of our young readers are even now meditating a remove to the city; but before they discompose their wardrobe and arrange their linen with a view to departure, we beg leave to say one word.

There are some features of country life which, we confess, are rather allied to prose than poetry. In our boyhood, for instance, we saw little poetry in driving the cows to pasture before breakfast on frosty mornings. Neither did we feel particularly inspired while mowing away hay in the top of a barn where it was hot enough to parboil pumpkins—to say nothing of having both eyes and nose filled with dust and hay-seeds. Neither did it smack much of Pegasus to ride upon crooked rails with the sharp side turned upwards; and even now, we think it the most disagreeable equestrian exercise we ever went through with. Last of all, turning grindstone we thought absolutely prosy.

And yet the recollection of our early years is any thing but dull. We remember with what pleasure we used to wander over the fields, scale fences, leap across brooks, race through the woods, climb trees, and shout and sing to the echo of our own voices. How often have we clambered up rocks, and gathered mountain flowers, and rolled down stones, and laughed to hear them crack and crash among the trees, and break and bound and rattle, far below.

And then come recollections of sitting beside the old fire-place, big as a pair of barn-doors, with its trammels and andirons, and rows of apples strung across the hearth. And what a huge back-log there was, and how it sizzed and simmered at the ends, and how the fire crackled and roared up the chimney. We affirm, with all the gravity of a theologian, there was more freedom in that old fire-place, than all the grates and furnaces of a modern mansion.

But now we live in "town," where we daily experience the beauties of contrast. Instead of the quiet and stillness of the country, we have the endless roar of carts and stages, and narrow side-walks instead of meadows, and in place of the beautiful birds, a solitary gull floating about East River, and in place of fragrant clover-fields and glorious apple-trees, a little back yard relieved with a grape-frame, and a dirty allanthus, and a high board fence.

Believe it, boys, the country is the place for genuine happiness, though the city yields in point of omnibusses, men and mud.

ALL LETTERS TO BE PREPAID HEREAFTER.—The new postage law, which takes effect on and after April 1st, requires all letters to be prepaid—3 cents per half ounce for less than 3,000 miles, and 10 cents per half ounce for over that distance. This new regulation is a good one. As we understand the law. Postmasters are not allowed to forward any unpaid letters. Every person should take

care that his communications do not lie in the home "Dead Letter Office," through his own carelessness or neglect to pay the postage.

GREAT SALES OF SHORT HORN CATTLE.—We would call attention to the advertisements of cattle sales in this week's paper. That of Mr. Tanqueray, in England, for the 25th of April, is the most important advertised since the celebrated sale of Earl Ducie. It will be seen that many of the animals in his herd are the get of Duchess bulls, bred by the late Mr. Bates, or their direct descendants.

Col. Sherwood's, stock is principally of the Princess tribe, famous for their deep pedigrees, high quality, and fine points; and consequently highly valuable for crossing on other tribes not so high bred.

Mr. Tredwell and Mr. Cowles, also offer Short Horns and Devons for sale.

GRAPE VINES.—Attention is also directed to Dr. Underhill's, announcement of grape vines.

DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL ALLEN.

The sudden death of this excellent man occurred at Morristown, N. J., on the morning of the 21st inst., in his 78th year, after a brief illness of three days. Mr. Allen was the father of the publishers of this journal, and has long been known to our readers both as a contributor to its pages, and a zealous promoter of agricultural improvement.

Mr. Allen was born in Petersham, Worcester County, Massachusetts. The active period of his life was spent chiefly in commercial business. At about sixty years of age he retired, and from that time to his decease devoted himself to rural pursuits, which he ever loved.

He wrote frequently for the columns of our journal, with point and force. His manners were courteous, bland, and affectionate; his conversation refined and instructive; and to all he was a friend and a brother.

He was a religious man—ever acknowledging his deep responsibility to his Maker, and bending in humility daily at his altar.

For forty years he had been an officer of the Presbyterian Church—twelve of which were in connection with the associated Dutch Reformed Church in this City, with which his connection remained until his death.

He died, as he had lived, in the full confidence of salvation through his Redeemer, and in humble faith of a blessed immortality.

BEAUTIFUL OLD AGE.

Mrs. Sigourney, in her book "Past Meridian," just published, gives the following charming picture of contented and virtuous old age:

I once knew an aged couple, who for more than sixty years had dwelt in one home, and with one heart. Wealth was not theirs, nor the appliances of luxury, yet the plain house in which they had so long lived was their own. Humble in every appointment, that they might keep free from debt, they were respected by people in the highest positions, for it was felt that they set a right example in all things. Every little gift or token of remembrance from friends—and all who

knew them were friends—awakened the fresh warmth of gratitude. Though their portion of this world's goods was small, benevolence, being inherent in their natures, found frequent expression. Always they had by them some book of slight expense, but of intrinsic value, to be given as a guide to the young, the ignorant, or the tempted. Cordials also, and simple medicines for debility, or incipient disease, they distributed to the poor—for they were skillful in extracting the spirit of health from herbs, and a part of the garden, cultivated by their own hands, was a dispensary. Kind, loving words had they for all—the fullness of their heart's content brimming over in bright drops, to refresh those around.

That venerable old man, and vigorous, his temples slightly silvered, when more than four score years had visited them, how freely flowed forth the melody of his leading voice, amid the sacred strains of public worship! His favorable tunes of Mear and Old Hundred, wedded to these simply sublime words,

"While shepherds watched their flock by night,"

and—
"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,"

seem even now to fall sweetly, as they did upon my childish ear. These, and similar ancient harmonies, mingled with the devout prayers that morning and evening hallowed his home and its comforts; she, the loved partner of his days, being often sole auditor. Thus, in one censor, rose the praise, which every day seemed to deepen. God's goodness palled not on their spirits, because it had been long continued. They rejoiced that it was "new every morning, and fresh every evening."

By the clear wood-fire in winter, sat the aged wife, with serene brow, skillfully busy in preparation or repairs of garments, as perfect neatness and economy dictated; while, by the evening lamp, her bright knitting-needles moved with quickened zeal, as she remembered the poor child, or wasted invalid, in some cold apartment, for which they were to furnish a substantial covering.

In the later years of life, their childless abode was cheered by the presence of a young orphan relative. She grew under their shadow with great delight, conforming her pliant heart to their wishes, and to the pattern of their godly simplicity. When they were seated together, she read to them such books as they chose, and treasured their Christian counsel. Her voice in the morning was to them as the carol of the lark, and they seemed to live again a new life in her young life. She was to them "like the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley."

Love for the sweet helplessness of unfolding years, seemed to increase with their own advancing age. Little children, who know by instinct where love is, would draw near them, and stand lamb-like at their side. Thus they passed on, until more than ninety years had been numbered to them. They were not weary of themselves, or of each other, or of this beautiful world. Neither was time weary of bringing them, letter by letter, the full alphabet of a serene happiness, and when extreme age added the Omega, they were well educated to begin the bliss of eternity.

The machinery of that immense piece of mechanism, the great London clock, is thus described in the Foreign Quarterly:

The pendulum is 14 feet long, and the weight of the end of it is 100 pounds; the dial on the outside is regulated by a smaller one within; the length of the minute hand on the exterior dial is 8 feet, and the weight of each 75 pounds; the length of the four figures 2 feet 2½ inches; the bell is about 10 feet in diameter, and weighs 4½ tons, and is

said to be audible a distance of twenty miles.

For the American Agriculturist.
THEORIES IN FARMING.

The indiscriminate censure of theory is absurd, as will readily appear from a slight consideration of the matter. Facts are like blocks of stone—of little use until they are brought together and built into some edifice. And we can not have the edifice—unless it be a “castle in the air”—without the stones. Now what is theory but a compact expression of the truth contained, or supposed to be contained, in facts? Every man capable of reasoning, acts upon theory, whether he will or no, though he may be as unconscious of it, and as much astonished at being informed of the fact, as was the sagacious gentleman in one of Molière’s plays, who had been talking prose all his life without knowing it. The truth is, every person, whatever may be his business, is continually forming and often exploding theories in relation to it; and this is the way in which, so far as his experience and observation go, he arrives at the principles which guide him in his pursuit.

A farmer, for instance, applies lime to a certain field and obtains a greatly increased crop in consequence. He therefore somewhat hastily infers—*i. e.*, forms the theory—that it will be as useful on any other part of his farm: and, acting upon this theory, applies it to a portion which is already well supplied by nature with this constituent, or is poor in vegetable matter or otherwise unsuited for its use. Here he finds that his theory will not hold, and is led to investigate the conditions under which lime is useful or otherwise. And by extended experiment and reflection he may arrive at a theory which will guide him in the application of this substance.

Now, in the whole of this process, we have, first, the collection of facts; second, their embodiment in a theory, which, third, rises into a principle—if the supposed facts are true and sufficient in number, and if the reasoning founded on them is correct. The advantage, then, of theory, is this, that it brings together facts and furnishes a standpoint from which the truths they contain may be discerned. And if the theory is a false one, still it is not without its use, for next in importance to ascertaining what facts *do* teach, is discovering what they *do not* teach, in order that the pursuit of truth may be resumed in another direction. False theories may arise either from incorrect reasoning on real facts, or from correct reasoning on false facts; or, lastly, the reasoning and the facts may both be untrue. The first of these species is the least injurious, and not entirely useless, as we have just attempted to show; and, furthermore, when such a theory is swept away, the foundation remains for some more skillful architect to build upon. But the most prolific source of error in theory is the want of a *sufficient number* of facts—a difficulty which is peculiarly felt in the science of agriculture, where so many and such varied causes are influential in the production of a given effect.

The problems which agriculture presents do not, like those of mathematics or inorganic chemistry, depend for their solution upon a few well-known and fixed principles, but chemical, mechanical, and vital forces, as they act upon earth, air, and water, and through them on organized life, require to be taken into the account, and make it difficult to arrive at a correct conclusion. Agricultural science seems to be, at present, in about the same condition as the science of medicine. Both are richer in facts than in principles, and both have similar obstacles to contend with. That portion of the phenomena of nature which they attempt to investigate lies in a great degree out of sight, and those phenomena which are more exposed to observation are so numerous and complicated, and the share which each separate cause contributes to the general effect is so difficult to ascertain, that the slow progress of these sciences toward perfection is not surprising, nor is it wonderful that they should be taunted with fallacy and uncertainty.

But we are not to conclude from all this that little has been done for agriculture, as a science, nor that much more may not be done. The number of unknown facts is daily decreasing, and the facilities for communication of thought are now so numerous, that the experience of any one, however obscure, can easily be made known to thousands. And this is one office of an agricultural journal; to become a repository of facts as well as principles; by placing on record the one, to aid in furnishing materials for the other. Its motto might be, “Gather facts, and scatter principles.” The influence of a well-conducted agricultural paper upon the farming community is almost indispensable to true progress. This influence may be slow in its workings, but it is sure to produce improvement after a time. Now and then an error is demolished; here and there a truth is brought to light; and established principles are illustrated and enforced. All this, going on as it does from week to week, from one year’s end to another, furnishes the “line upon line, and precept upon precept,” which are so necessary to overthrow error and lead to the adoption of correct views. A systematic treatise on agriculture may be read, to be laid aside, and its contents perhaps forgotten, while the weekly messenger, with its condensed instruction, and its reiterated words of truth, produces an effect greater than the former, as a continual dropping is more effectual to wear away the stone than the heaviest solitary shower. W.

SHORTENING-IN PEACH TREES.—I would recommend that you keep before your readers, the importance of heading-in the coming spring, all such peach trees as have ceased to produce strong and thrifty shoots. It is well known to every horticulturist, that the finest specimens of this fruit, are produced upon free growing branches, and on the contrary, when they become old, and stunted in growth, the fruit is not as large, nor as juicy, two qualities more desirable in the peach than some other kinds of fruit. There is no kind of fruit tree, the top of which can be so surely and so quickly renovated as the peach

tree, and as no fruit is expected the coming season, a thorough *heading-in* of all peach trees that have ceased to make strong and thrifty shoots, will better prepare old orchards for a valuable crop the following year, than where this course is neglected.—G., in *Rural New-Yorker*.
NEW-HAVEN, February 28, 1855.

WHAT SHOULD BE THE OBJECTS AIMED AT BY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We have received a printed copy of the able address of Mr. William Kelley, on retiring from the Presidency of the New-York State Agricultural Society—delivered at the Albany meeting, February 10, 1855. There are many valuable suggestions in this address. We give the following extract:

The diversified objects of these societies, seem not to be known nor appreciated as they should be. Many suppose their whole business is to get up an attractive annual exhibition and distribute premiums to the best specimens in every department there shown, but this, though important, is but a means to an end.

I was struck lately in reading the charter of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, with the enumeration of the means it employs to advance the great object for which it was constituted—allow me to read them to you.

1. To embody such information contained in agricultural publications and in other scientific works, as have been proved by practical experience to be useful to the cultivators of the soil.

2. To correspond with Agricultural, Horticultural and other scientific societies, and to select from such correspondence all information which, according to the opinion of the society, may be likely to lead to practical benefit in the cultivation of the soil.

3. To pay to the occupier of land or any other person, who shall undertake at the request of the society, to ascertain by any experiment how far such information leads to useful results in practice, a remuneration for any loss he may incur by so doing.

4. To encourage men of science in their attention to the improvement of agricultural implements, the construction of farm buildings and cottages, the application of chemistry to the general purposes of agriculture, the destruction of insects injurious to vegetation, and the eradication of weeds.

5. To promote the discovery of new varieties of grain, and other vegetables useful to man or for the food of domestic animals.

6. To collect information with regard to the management of woods, plantations and fences, and on every subject connected with rural improvement.

7. To make provision for the improvement of the education of those who depend upon the cultivation of the soil for their support.

8. To take measures for improving the veterinary art, as applied to cattle, sheep and pigs.

9. At the meetings of the society in the country, by the distribution of prizes, and by other means, to encourage the best modes of farm cultivation and the breed of live stock.

10. To promote the comfort and welfare of laborers, and to encourage the improved management of their cottages and gardens.

“Jim, I believe Sam’s got no truth in him. You don’t know; dar’s more truth in dat nigga dan in all de rest on de plantation.”
“How you make out dat?” “Why, he never let *any* out!”

THE SIGNS OF THE THRIFTY FARMER.

That some farmers thrive while others seem just to drag along is a palpable notoriety. In looking round among our farmers and noticing their operations, we have concluded that we could tell the thrifty farmer by a few unmistakable signs, even if we know but little about his affairs. You will notice something in his appearance, or the ideas which he appears to be following out, which will tell plainly enough that the farmer is getting ahead in the world. What are the signs? They are not seen in the richness of his dress or the equipage with which he appears abroad, or in the display which he makes in public places. We have seen farmers out in even splendid attire, with fast horses and fine trappings and carriages, who are slovenish farmers, and whose out-standing debts would more than swing the homestead. No, no; we do not take such things for evidence of the farmer's thrift. Then again we do not allow that it is any sign that he is getting "fore hand" when he is seen trading and trafficking, buying, selling and swapping horses, oxen, &c., even, though he be a sharper and makes what he calls good trades. Such very frequently go "astern" by wasting their time in hunting up good bargains and neglecting their farms. These farmers do not love their farming; and they sell the sure gain and large profits of cultivation for a trifling present advantage, often purchased at the expense of conscience and moral honesty. Rather such symptoms are indicative of a want of thrift and healthy prosperity. But when we see a farmer bending all his energies to improve his farm, and making inquiries as to the best methods of husbandry, patronizing agricultural papers, and taking a due interest in agricultural fairs, associations, &c.; when we hear him inquiring for improved stock, seeds, and fruit trees, we say that man is bound to prosper. Then when his teams are seen round the market places loaded with manure, ashes, or other refuse matter which can be used to improve the soil, or when engaged on a liberal scale in drawing muck, turf, or the like into his yard and filling his manure vats with it, we set it down that he is growing rich. Although he is making great outlays in purchasing and preparing artificial manures, we can not help thinking that he is putting capital into a bank that will yield great dividends. The farmer who will excel and thrive must be a farmer, and give his thought, and study, and effort to his calling; the same as the eminent physician, lawyer, or clergyman gives all his energies to his profession. When this is the case he will show it, and will be as proud of his farm frock as the parson of his cloak. He will not be clownish or indifferent to his outward appearance, but he will not be ashamed to be found dressed suitable for the farm. He will feel as easy and as much at home in his working garb when visited, as the merchant is behind his counter, or the lawyer in his office. When we meet a farmer about his appropriate business who holds up his head and shows a manly dignity, and yet courteous, if thrown among gentlemen of the cloth, we conclude that there is a man who values his manhood, and is proud of his noble calling; that is the man who will thrive and secure a plentiful board for himself and family, and contribute something towards the support of the rest of mankind.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

THE RULING PASSION.—An eminent London speculator, on witnessing the brilliant success of the electric night-works at the Louvre, was heard to exclaim, with deep feeling, "By Jove! all I have got to say is, if I held any share in the moon, I'd sell out!"

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

SPRING.

Oh! I love, I love the beautiful Spring,
When leaves and plants are growing;
When the joyous birds in the green wood sing,
And gales o'er the hills are blowing.
And I love, I love the musical note
Of waters that swift through the valleys float,
Their way to the far sea taking;
My spirit it thrills with a holy thought,
And my heart with a gentle love is fraught,
Amid the young year's waking.

Oh! I love, I love the beautiful Spring,
When morn is newly beaming.
And the larks aloft on their missions wing,
Their praise through the ether streaming;
And I love, I love the freshening breeze,
The lowing herds, and the green, green trees,
And the fields of glistening flowers.
The sun rejoices o'er valley and stream,
The mountains he tips with a golden beam,
And lights the budding bowers.

Oh! I love, I love the beautiful Spring,
When day is calmly closing,
And the flowers abroad their fragrance fling,
On the twilight air reposing.
And I love, I love from the hawthorn tree,
The gush of the nightingale's melody,
While the moonbeams quiet are sleeping—
When peace like a vale o'er the landscape lies,
And the earth smells sweet as the balmy skies
Their dew-drop tears are weeping.

FACTS.—Should all the inhabitants of the United States cease to use intoxicating liquor, the following would be some of the beneficial results, viz:

1. Not an individual would hereafter become a drunkard.
2. Many who are now drunkards, would reform, and would be saved from the drunkard's grave.
3. As soon as those that would not reform should be dead, which would be a short time, not a drunkard would be found, and the whole land would be free.
4. More than three-fourths of the pauperism of the country might be prevented; and also more than three-fourths of the crimes.
5. One of the grand causes of error in principle, and immorality in practice, and the sources of vice and wretchedness, would be removed.
6. The number, frequency and severity of diseases would be greatly lessened; and the number and hopelessness of maniacs in our land be exceedingly diminished.
7. One of the greatest dangers of our children and one of the principal causes of bodily, mental, and moral deterioration, would be removed.
8. Loss of property in one generation to an amount greater than the present value of all the houses and land in the United States, might be prevented.
9. One of the greatest dangers to our free institutions, to the perpetuity of our government, and to all the blessings of civil and religious liberty, would be removed.
10. The efficacy of the gospel, and all the means which God has appointed for the spiritual and eternal good of men, would be exceedingly augmented; and the same amount of moral and religious effort might be expected to produce more than double its present effects.—*Episcopal Recorder.*

A QUEER OATH.—The following oath was administered to a little boy ten years of age, in the Iowa Legislature, chosen to do up documents: "You do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States

and of this State, and to fold papers to the best of your ability, so help you God."

A LITTLE INCIDENT.

It was about half-past nine o'clock in the morning; the dense fog, through which we had been running for the last four or five hours, had rendered the track so slippery that we had lost considerable time in climbing the up-grades; but we were now running down a moderate grade, and as the fog was clearing away, we had ventured to increase our speed; and our engineer, ever attentive to his business, was constantly watching the track ahead, which was occasionally enveloped in thick clouds of the watery vapor. As we were thus running along, I observed the engineer raise his hand to the cord attached to the whistle. He held it for a moment, and then gave the signal to "break." Turning my eyes in the direction in which we were moving, I was barely able to discern some object upon the track a considerable distance ahead, but could not make out what it was. A moment later the engineer repeated the signal to "break," in that peculiar startling manner which is instantly recognized by the experienced brakeman as an indication of imminent danger. The engine was reversed as if by magic, and as the steam was applied, the driving wheels whirled round in an opposite direction to that in which the train was moving. I now discovered that the object before us was a little child, apparently unaware of its danger. The almost constant screaming of the whistle with which the engineer sought to frighten it from the track seemed only to amuse it. The wheels of our engine grated and hissed upon the iron track, unable to stop the train, which, owing to the slippery condition of the rails, it was certain it would send us far beyond where the child was standing before we could stop. Thus we rushed on with the almost certainty that in the next minute that innocent, unsuspecting child, too young to know its danger, would be a mangled corpse. Turning my eyes to see if there was no one near to save it, I saw a lady who seemed to be almost flying toward the child, but one glance showed me that the engine must reach it before her. The engineer had left his post, and was now running rapidly along the frame to the front of the engine. In an instant he was crouching upon the "cow-catcher," with one foot upon its lower bar, his left hand holding to the framework, and his right extended toward the child, which, at the very moment it would have been crushed, he caught by its little arm, raised it from the track, and bore it along in safety. One more minute, and the child, uninjured, was restored to its mother's arms.—*Life Illustrated.*

A genuine Down-Easter essaying to appropriate a square of exceedingly tough beef at dinner, in a Wisconsin hotel, his convulsive efforts with a knife and fork attracted the attention and smiles of those in the same predicament as himself. At last Jonathan's patience vanished under ill-success, when laying down his utensils, he burst out with, "Strangers, you needn't laff—if you haint got any regard for the landlord's feelings, you orter have some respect for the poor old animal.—This sally "brought down the house."

THE BEST THING OUT.—A friend has furnished us with the following copy of a sign over the door of a respectable looking house near Chichester, England:—"HER LIFS 1 OO QUEERS A GOOS."

Any joker that can translate the above at one reading, can "take our hat!" We have

frequently published "the march of the schoolmaster," but recollect nothing equal to this. Now, if you desire to have some fun, just "turn down the leaf," and ask a friend to translate it. We subjoin it:—HERE LIVES ONE WHO CURES AGUES." Supposed to be "some pumpkins," more or less!—*Spirit of the Times.*

A lady wished a seat. A portly handsome gentleman brought one and seated the lady.

"O, you're a jewel," said she.
"O, no," replied he, "I'm a jeweler; I have just set the jewel!"

AN IRISHMAN'S WILL.—I will and bequeath my beloved wife, Bridget, all my property, without reserve; and to my eldest son Patrick, one half of the remainder; and to Dennis, my youngest son, the rest. If anything is left, it may go to Terrence McCarty."

He who can not keep his own secret ought not to complain if another tells it.

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT BACK NUMBERS, &c.—Back numbers from the beginning of the present volume can still be supplied at 4 cents per number.

Volumes XI, XII, and XIII can be supplied at \$1 per volume unbound; or \$1.50 per volume bound.

The first ten volumes (new edition) can be furnished bound at \$1.25 per volume, or the complete set of ten volumes for \$10. Price of the first thirteen volumes \$14 50.

No new edition of the volumes subsequent the tenth will be issued, as the work is too large to admit of stereotyping.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has advanced 12½ to 25 cts. per bbl. the past week. Corn is 2 cts. per bushel higher.

Cotton is rather flat. Prime Rice is 25 cts. higher. Sugar and Tobacco in good demand.

Money continues pretty easy, notwithstanding the recent disastrous news of bankers' failures in California, and a partial stoppage of exportation of gold dust.

The Weather is very cold and windy for the last of March, and the season, thus far, is about the same as it was last year, but all of ten days behind that of 1853.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, March 27, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The supply of nearly all kinds of produce is still very limited. There are scarcely any Mercers in Market, and, in fact, not enough potatoes of any kind to meet the demand. The supplies from New-Jersey are nearly ended, while farmers hold them so high at the west, that dealers have little room for profit. One thing is certain, that either farmers must ease off there, or prices will advance here.

Onions, too, are very scarce, and enormously high. Last fall Red Onions might have been bought for \$1 ½ bbl., and White for \$2 75, and then were nearly all purchased into market at those prices.

The apple market continues about the same. It is more difficult to give the exact price of each kind separately, since they are usually bought up by the quantity. The average price to-day for good apples is \$3 75 @ \$4 ½ bbl.; this includes all kinds.

Butter remains firm. Some fancy Orange Co. butter goes as high as 33c., but there is not enough of this to be worth quoting. Cheese is a little higher. Eggs are very fluctuating, owing, perhaps, to the instability of the hens. Yesterday they were 17c.; to-day, 19 @ 19½c.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—New-Jersey Mercers.....	½ bbl.	\$4 — @ 4 50
Western Mercers.....	do	4 — @ 4 25
White Mercers.....	do	— @ 4 —
Nova Scotia Mercers.....	do	— @ 3 75
New-Jersey Carters.....	½ bbl.	4 50 @ 5 —
Washington County Carters.....	do	4 — @ 4 25

Junes.....	do	3 25 @ 3 50
Western Reds.....	do	2 75 @ 3 —
Yellow Pink Eyes.....	do	2 75 @ 3 25
Long Reds.....	do	2 25 @ 2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes.....	do	4 50 @ —
Philadelphia sweet.....	do	none
Turnips—Ruta Baga.....	do	1 50 @ 1 75
White.....	do	1 25 @ 1 50
Onions—White.....	do	6 — @ 6 50
Red.....	do	3 50 @ 3 75
Yellow.....	do	4 75 @ 5 —
Cabbages.....	½ 100	6 — @ 12 —
do.....	½ doz.	1 — @ 1 87
Beets.....	½ bbl.	1 50 @ 1 75
Carrots.....	do	1 62 @ 1 87
Parsnips.....	do	1 87 @ 2 —

FRUITS, ETC.

Apples—Spitzenbergs.....	½ bbl.	\$4 00 @ 4 50
Greenings.....	do	3 50 @ 4 00
Gillflowers.....	do	3 50 @ 4 00
Baldwins.....	do	3 75 @ 4 24
Butter—Orange County.....	½ lb.	25 @ 30c.
Western.....	do	18 @ 20c.
Cheese.....	do	12 @ 13½c.
Eggs.....	½ doz.	19 @ 19½c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY March 28, 1855.

The weather to-day is raw and cutting, but, however, favorable for the market, which manifests greater activity than we have seen before for some time. The Yards contain about the usual supply of cattle, with the tendency of the market still upward. The brokers chuckle over the prices much more than the butchers; though there is less room for profit than might be supposed, since cattle are held so high at the west. At Chicago they command 5 @ 6c. ½ lb, live weight, and in Ohio, it is said, for every rise of a quarter here they advance a half there.

The appearance of the animals to-day is very gratifying. We do not remember to have seen a greater supply of good beeves for a long time, and, we are glad to say, less poor ones. A dozen very choice animals were selling from 13 to 14c. ½ lb.

Complaints are sometimes made that our quotations are given too high, and that many farmers, finding good cattle bringing a high price, send their cattle to market as good of course. Now we seek not the interests of any one in particular; we give the prices of both good and poor, but if men wrongly estimate the quality of their cattle, that is their fault, not ours.

By the way, we would denounce the custom of marking cattle with knives, as intensely heathenish. Such cruelty exceeds even the barbarism of savages, and if those who practice it do not experience similar usage, let them claim no merit to themselves.

We append below a few of the cattle offered:

John Merritt was selling a fine lot belonging to Perrill & Seymour, of Ross Co., Ohio. Some of these went as high as 12½c., though the average price was about 12c. They would weigh about 625 lbs., and came through on the Erie road at a cost of \$15 ½ head.

Joseph Williams had a good lot of 80, from Indiana, owned by Major Bell, and selling from 11 to 12c. Also, 34 fair Durham grades, owned by R. R. Seymour, of Ross Co., Ohio, bringing about 11c.

Edward Wheaton sold 6 superior beeves to Geo. Haws, of Fulton Market, for \$9 75—about 13c. ½ lb.

W. T. Taylor had a good lot from Pickaway Co., Ohio, selling by Chas. Teed at about 11½. There was 133 in all.

Mr. McConnell had a drove of young Ohio cattle, 105 in number, which were selling by Mr. White for about 12c. These were Durham grades and an excellent lot.

Hiram Ranney had 6 handsome beeves from Phelps, Ontario Co., which he held at \$12. They had been fed 2 years, would doubtless weigh 1,300 each, and were about as fine as one could wish. When we came away, they were unsold, though Mr. Ranney had an offer of \$10 75. Such cattle do not pay for feeding, but there is a deserving credit and pride in bringing them to market.

Sam'l McGraw, at Brownng's, reports sales of 71 cattle from 8½c. to 11½c.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality at.....	12½ @ 13½c.
Good retailing quality beef is selling at.....	11 @ 12½c.
Inferior do. do.....	9½ @ 11c.
Beeves.....	9½c. @ 13½c.
Cows and Calves.....	\$30 @ \$65.
Veals.....	4½c. @ 7½c.
Sheep.....	\$4 @ \$8 00.
Swine, alive.....	5c. @ 5½c.
" dead.....	— @ 7½c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves.....	2487
Cows.....	263
Veals.....	725
Sheep and lambs.....	6347
Swine.....	3434

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves. 1219
Swine..... 2529
Sheep..... 942
Veals..... —
By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves..... 44
Cows..... 56
Veals..... 545
Sheep and Lambs..... 749
By the Hudson River Railroad..... 942
Veals..... 17
Sheep and Lambs..... 174
Swine..... 506

New-York State furnished.....	108
Ohio,.....	976
Indiana,.....	187
Illinois,.....	295
Virginia,.....	—
Kentucky,.....	—
Connecticut,.....	8
New-Jersey,.....	—

The report of sales for the week, at Brownng's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	2548
Beeves.....	251
Veals.....	94
Cows and Calves.....	53

SHEEP MARKET.

Wednesday, March 28, 1855.

The market still continues good with a limited supply on hand. At Brownng's there were only 300 or 400, and about the same at Chamberlain's. The following are the sales of Jas. McCarty, Sheep broker at Brownng's:

50 Sheep.....	\$306 25
4 do.....	26 00
10 do.....	70 00
51 do.....	210 38
2 do.....	10 00
110 do.....	412 50
10 do.....	65 00
5 do.....	54 00

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Ashes—	
Pot, 1st sort, 1853.....	½ 100 lb. — @ 6 25
Pearl, 1st sort, 1852.....	6 25 @ —
Beeswax—	
American Yellow.....	— 26 @ — 27
Bristles—	
American, Gray and White.....	— 45 @ — 50
Coal—	
Liverpool Orrel.....	½ chaldron — @ 7 25
Scotch.....	— @ —
Sidney.....	7 — @ 7 —
Pictou.....	6 25 @ —
Anthracite.....	½ 2,000 lb. 7 — @ 7 50
Cotton—	
Ordinary.....	8½ — 8½ — 8½ — 8½ —
Middling.....	9½ — 9½ — 9½ — 9½ —
Middling Fair.....	10 — 10 — 10½ — 10½ —
Fair.....	10½ — 10½ — 11½ — 11½ —
Cotton Bagging—	
Gunny Cloth.....	½ yard. — 11½ @ —
American Kentucky.....	— @ —
Dundee.....	— @ —
Coffee—	
Java.....	½ lb. — 13 @ — 14½
Mocha.....	— 14 @ — 15
Brazil.....	— 10 @ — 11½
Maracaibo.....	— 11 @ — 12½
St. Domingo.....	(cash) — 9 @ — 9½
Flax—	
Jersey.....	½ lb. — 8 @ — 9
Flour and Meal—	
State, common brands.....	9 — @ 9 12
State, straight brands.....	9 12 @ —
State, favorite brands.....	9 25 @ —
Western, mixed do.....	9 37½ @ —
Michigan and Indiana, straight do.....	9 50 @ 9 62
Michigan, fancy brands.....	9 75 @ —
Ohio, common to good brands.....	9 62½ @ 9 75
Ohio, fancy brands.....	— @ 9 81
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.....	— @ 10 00
Genesee, fancy brands.....	9 75 @ 10 25
Genesee, extra brands.....	11 50 @ 12 50
Canada, (in bond,).....	9 12 @ —
Brandywine.....	9 37 @ —
Georgetown.....	9 37 @ 9 75
Petersburg City.....	9 37 @ —
Richmond Country.....	— @ 9 37
Alexandria.....	— @ 9 37
Baltimore, Howard-Street.....	— @ 9 37
Rye Flour.....	6 25 @ —
Corn Meal, Jersey.....	4 25 @ —
Corn Meal, Brandywine.....	4 50 @ —
Corn Meal, Brandywine.....	½ punch. — @ 21 —
Grain—	
Wheat, White Genesee.....	½ bush. 2 70 @ 2 75
Wheat, do Canada, (in bond,.....	— @ 2 30
Wheat, Southern, White.....	2 25 @ 2 30
Wheat, Ohio, White.....	2 50 @ —
Wheat, Michigan, White.....	2 52 @ 2 60
Rye, Northern.....	1 37 @ —
Corn, Round Yellow.....	— 97 @ 1 —
Corn, Round White.....	— @ — 97
Corn, Southern White.....	— @ — 97
Corn, Southern Yellow.....	— 98 @ — 99
Corn, Southern Mixed.....	— @ — 98
Corn, Western Mixed.....	— 97 @ — 98
Corn, Western Yellow.....	— @ — 98
Barley.....	1 25 @ —
Oats, River and Canal.....	— 65 @ —

Table listing various agricultural products and their prices, including Oats, Peas, Lumber, Molasses, Rice, Salt, Sugar, Tobacco, and Wool.



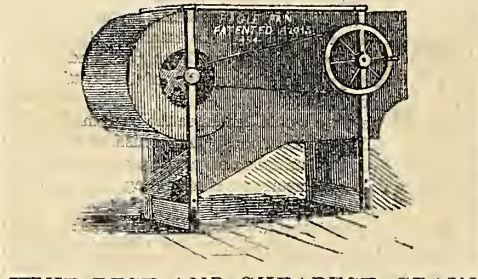
ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE

IVINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fourteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle—consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

TO NURSERYMEN.—10,000 CHERRY STOCKS for sale, in prime order, 2 and 3 years old, stocky and suitable for working this season.

Also, 3,000 Peach trees, very thrifty and healthy growth, 3 to 5 feet. Also, 2,000 Quince trees, best market fruit, very thrifty, many of them in a bearing state—for sale by WM. DAY, Morristown, N. J.

EXTENSIVE AND VERY IMPORTANT SALE OF FIRST-CLASS SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, AT HENDON, MIDDLESEX.

Mr. STRAFFORD has the honor to announce to the Agricultural world, that he has received instructions from JOHN S. TONQUERAY, Esq., to sell by auction, without any reserve, at Hendon, on WEDNESDAY, the 25th of April next, the entire and far-famed Herd of SHORT-HORNED CATTLE.

FERTILIZERS.—Bone Dust, Guano. Poudrette Plaster, and Super Phosphate, all warranted of the best quality.

SITUATION ON A FARM WANTED.—

A YOUNG MAN, German by birth, of respectable parentage, well educated, and who has been engaged in farming for some years abroad, in this and his native country, wishes to find a situation with an intelligent, scientific farmer, in the vicinity of New-York preferred, where ample opportunity, practically and theoretically, is afforded to him, to cultivate and perfect his knowledge of agriculture and keeping of stock.

L. G. MORRIS'S CATALOGUE, WITH prices attached, of Domestic Animals at private sale, will not be ready for delivery until the first of April.

PURE DEVON FOR SALE.—The yearling Bull ALBERT, calved April, 1853. Got by imported Reubens, (winner of several prizes at the Fairs of the American Institute, New-York City) out of a full blood Devon Cow.

ATKIN'S SELF-RAKING REAPER and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth.

It is warranted to be a good, durable, self-raking reaper, and I have also succeeded in attaching a mowing bar, so that I also warrant it as a mower. Price at Chicago, of Reapers, \$170; of Mowing Bar, \$30.

DURHAM STOCK FOR SALE.—I have three Bull Calves, three two-year-old Heifers, one two-year-old Bull, and one Cow 5 years old, that I will sell from my herd of Short Horns—all thoroughbred.

FARMERS ATTENTION.—Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied. The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention.

GUANO OUTDONE.—THE GAS WORKS TURNED TO GOOD ACCOUNT.

C. B. DeBURG has the pleasure of announcing to his former patrons, and to other farmers who may wish to improve their lands, that he has, during the past year, succeeded in manufacturing from the gas works, in and around New-York City, a superior quality of Sulphate of Ammonia, in large quantities, and he is now prepared to furnish C. B. DeBURG'S SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, Highly charged with AMMONIA, which is now acknowledged to be the most valuable ingredient in Peruvian Guano and other concentrated fertilizers.

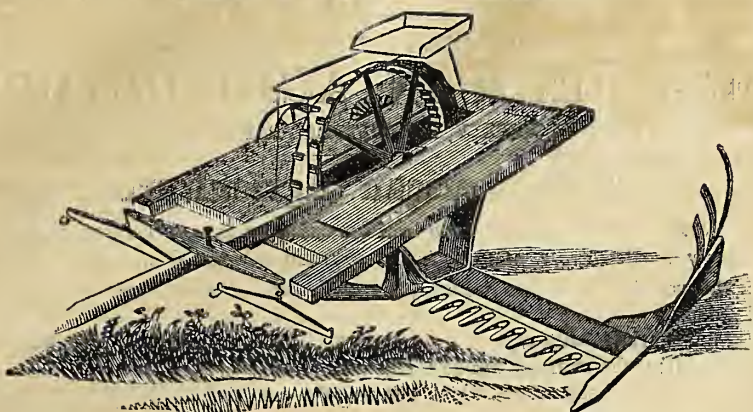
TO OWNERS OF GROUNDS, GARDENERS, HORTICULTURISTS, &c.—The undersigned would respectfully announce to the Horticultural public, that in order to close the estate of the late Thomas Hogg, the extensive stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Herbaceous and Greenhouse Plants, &c., in the Nurseries at Yorkville, will be disposed of in quantities to suit purchasers, at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES, affording to those who are about making improvements on their country estates this season a rare opportunity of doing so.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(Invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE FARM, situated in Wallingford, New-Haven County, Conn., within half a mile of the center of the village. Said farm contains 70 acres, suitably divided into wood, pasture, meadow and plow land.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

- This superiority consists:
- 1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.
 - 2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.
 - 3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.
 - 4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.
 - 5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.
 - 6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
 - 7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 82.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,
SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

CULTIVATION OF OATS.

Their Use and Importance in the United States.—Oats have been an object of cultivation from the earliest period of the settlement of this country. They have never constituted an article of human food here, except with a very few immigrants who had been accustomed to them in their native land. It has been questioned whether the heavier kinds, as the Imperial, the Potato, and the Poland oats, might not, with skillful preparation, be introduced into our hospitals and among the laboring poor, with manifest advantage. They are a light yet nutritive diet, and in all cases, we believe, wholesome; as is shown by the stalwart forms and brawny limbs of such of the better class of Scotch and Irish peasantry as are accustomed to eating oat meal. But our summers are too warm and dry to produce the heavier kinds in the perfection they are grown abroad, in the cooler and moister climate of Great Britain; and the more suitable adaptation of our soil and climate to the growth of Indian corn, which, though less nutritive, is equally wholesome and palatable, will probably forever preclude the introduction of oats to any extent among us, as human food.

Their true value is as food for working animals. *No other grain will secure, (with the exception probably of wheat and barley,) pound for pound, more working capacity in animals, than sound, heavy oats;* and it is as a food for horses, mules, and working oxen that they are generally used. Like beans, they constitute an excellent food for sheep, the large proportion of nitrogen in both constituting an important element of wool. They are sometimes fed to poultry, pigs, and fattening cattle, which is very well as affording a change of diet; but they should not be relied on for the rapid production of fat, as they are deficient in the elements

necessary for the speedy, yet economical ripening of animals for the shambles.

Limit of their Growth within the United States.—Oats are essentially a north-loving grain. They are nowhere raised in greater perfection than in Scotland, latitude about 56°. They mature finely to the extreme northern borders of the Union, but they attain their perfection within our limits, probably between 43° and 45°. South of 36° they seldom yield a full, heavy berry; and perhaps they are not a profitable crop south of 38°. The Egyptian oat has, however, been found to yield well, in certain seasons, as low down as southern Mississippi and Georgia, or below 30° North latitude.

Quantity Produced in the United States.—The aggregate of the oat crop was returned in the Census Report for 1840, as over 123,000,000 bushels; and for 1850, as more than 145,000,000.

Soil and Situation.—Any soil and situation—if not too far south—that will give a good yield of wheat, will produce a fine crop of oats; and much that is too wet or cold for the former, will afford a satisfactory return of the latter. No soil is better suited to the oat than what is termed a loam; and if this approximates to a stiff clay, it does not impair its adaptedness for oats, provided it be well drained, and properly broken up. Sandy or light land is not adapted to them. Oats are a heavy drain upon a soil, and no large crop can be relied upon except on a strong soil.

Manures from the barn-yard ought not to be applied directly to this crop, unless previously thoroughly rotted, nor then in overdoses. The mineral manures, such as lime, plaster, salt, ashes, and also bone-dust, guano, or superphosphate, may be applied, in moderate quantities, with benefit. If there be too much stimulus to the growth of oats, they will not take up a sufficient proportion of silex to give a proper support to the stalks, as the silicate of potash mainly constitutes the skeleton of the plant; and without a full equivalent of this, the plant crinkles or lodges long before it matures. A friend, who employed an excellent Scotch farmer, soon after the Peruvian guano was introduced into this country, sent him a few bags, with instructions to sow 300 pounds per acre, on the field allotted for oats, which was previously in good condition. Thinking his employer somewhat demented in limiting the quantity to such a trifle, as he deemed it, he applied about 700 pounds per acre, and the result was, as might have been foreseen, the early

lodging of the stalks, and the total loss of the crop.

Preparation of the Ground.—The field for oats should be early prepared for the reception of the seed. If stiff land, it is better to plow near the close of the preceding autumn, then sow early in the spring without additional plowing. Of course, deep and thorough pulverization is essential to this crop, equally with almost any other. The use of the heavy harrow and field-roller in preparing the soil, is essential in those instances specified for the wheat crop. (See page 385 of the last volume of our paper.)

Varieties of Seed Oats.—Forty or more varieties of oats are reckoned in Europe, most of which have originated from accidental specimens found in the oat fields. We say *accidental*, according to the current phraseology; but nothing is accidental in Nature, or produced without sufficient cause, and strictly in accordance with the inevitable laws impressed upon the plant or animal. These laws are simply hidden, and it is only because unknown to us, we call them accidents. These varieties are all unquestionably the effects of *self-hybridization*, or of long-continued cultivation in particular soils and climate, which gradually impart a fixed character to the plant. We have tried many of the best European kinds, which have proved decidedly superior on their first introduction here; but owing to our dry and hot summer climate, the seed is liable to degenerate. We, however, know a gentleman towards the east end of Long Island, who has cultivated a heavy variety he received from Washington ten or twelve years ago, and has maintained their distinctive character of plumpness and weight till last year, when the excessive drouth lessened the weight, though it did not in any respect, diminish the exterior plumpness of the grain. This experiment confirms our belief, that some of the heavy varieties may be maintained in nearly their original excellence even in this country, with careful culture.

The kind usually cultivated here is the White common oat. The Black is often raised in western New-York and Pennsylvania. Both varieties are elongated with a tendency to awns, but are hardy and productive. With a kindly soil and under proper management, the heavier, round, plump, awnless kinds are the largest yielders. Such are the White Poland, the Imperial, the Potato, and the Dyock or Egyptian oats.

Quantity of Seed per Acre.—Too thin seeding is the practice in this country.

Nothing will justify this but thin soil. The oat, like spring wheat, has to grow quickly, and has not time to tiller much. Seed enough, therefore, should be applied to allow it to grow up and mature at once. If sown broadcast, from 3 to 3½ bushels per acre, on good soil, are required, and sometimes four may be advantageously sown. If the drill is used for sowing in rows, two-thirds the quantity is sufficient.

Harvesting is too often deferred beyond the proper period for securing the greatest value of straw and grain. The grain is intrinsically better—more nutritive—before it is fully ripened, than when *dead ripe*. The straw, of course, is far preferable. The proper time for cutting, is when the straw has changed at the bottom, and the berry has become so hard as not to yield readily to pressure between the thumb and finger. It should have passed from the milk to the dough state. For seed, the oat ought to be well ripened before cutting.

Curing.—Oats should be thoroughly dried in the field before stacking or threshing, as the slightest mustiness is injurious to horses. It impairs the nutritive value of the oats beside rendering the animal liable to disease. Oats ought to be stored for some months after threshing before they are fit to use. They are apt to produce grease, flatulence, and rough hair, in horses that are fed upon them unless they have been thoroughly cured.

Bruising Oats before feeding is great economy, instead of feeding whole. It saves just so much muscular exertion of the animal; he feeds quicker and lies down to his digestion much sooner; and you are only by this means certain that his stomach and intestinal canal are not occupied and weakened by passing a quantity of whole grain, that imparts no nutriment to the system, after having absorbed largely of its gastric and other vital juices. The poultry and swine that have access to the droppings, are frequently more benefitted by such feeding, than the animals to which they are first fed.

Cutting in the Milk for Fodder.—From bad weather, a late season, or some other cause, it may be advisable to cut oats when in the milk, and cure them the same as hay. When our grass crop was short we have often done this, and found them as valuable for winter feed as the best of Timothy or Red Top. They ought to be cut finely (without threshing) with a hay-cutter, previous to feeding.

A STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—The Legislature of Michigan, during its recent session, passed an act which makes provision for the organization of an agricultural college, to be located within ten miles of the capital of the State. The objects of the school shall be to improve and teach the science and practice of agriculture. The branches to be taught are to include natural philosophy, chemistry, botany, animal and vegetable physiology, geology, mineralogy, meteorology, veterinary art, mensuration, leveling, political economy, book-keeping, and the mechanic arts connected with agriculture. The tuition is to be forever free to pupils within the State. From the beginning of April to the end of October, all the pupils

are to be required to devote not less nor more than four hours to manual labor.

SALE OF THE WEBSTER ESTATE AND STOCK AT MARSHFIELD.

Under a license of the Probate Court, the executors of the late Hon. Daniel Webster, offered for sale at public auction, on Wednesday, the Marshfield estate of the deceased statesman, and the remaining portion of the excellent farm stock upon it. It is gratifying to know, as the result, that "Marshfield" is still to be retained, according to his expressed wishes, in his own family. The sale was attended by a large number of persons. The real estate was divided into eleven lots, each of which was sold separately. The first ten, comprising the old "Winslow House," the grist-mill, the "Island Farm," &c., were taken by various purchasers. Respecting the disposition of the eleventh lot, the correspondent of the Boston Journal says:

Lot No. 11 on the catalogue, was "all the right, title and interest of Mr. Webster in and to the Mansion House, outbuildings and land immediately adjoining the same." The land amounted to 340 acres. The lot includes, if we are correctly informed, the original purchase of Mr. Webster at Marshfield. It is the original "Marshfield lot"—the other lots which were sold being those which Mr. Webster added to his estate by subsequent purchases. The first purchase was made by Mr. Webster in 1835. There is a mortgage on the estate of \$3,000 or \$4,000, and a marriage settlement in favor of Mrs. Webster, which continues during her life-time. The executors, in offering the property, did not warrant any title or interest to the property. Whatever the right and title might be after Mrs. Webster's decease, and to determine which, it would be necessary to have a legal decision through a suit at equity, was offered for sale in order to close the estate and give a clear title to the estate. Mr. J. W. Paige was the purchaser, at \$200. This disposition of the right will give to Mr. Webster's family the clear and full title to "Marshfield," and secure the fulfillment of the earnest desire of Mr. Webster, as expressed in his will—"My greatest and leading wish is to preserve Marshfield, if I can, in the blood and name of my family."

As a general thing, the live stock brought good prices.

A full-blood Alderney heifer, three years old, with calf, sold for \$155; her twin mate, not with calf, for \$70; two full-blood Ayrshire heifers, (twins), three years old, sold for \$50 each; a full-blood Ayrshire heifer calf, a very fine animal, one year old, sold for \$37 50, and a half-blood, of same age, for \$33; a half-blood Hungarian heifer, two years old, sold for \$24; two half-blood Devon heifers sold at \$36 and \$33; a three-year old half-blood Devon heifer, with a calf by the full-blood Alderney bull, sold for \$49; a full-blood Alderney bull, three years old, sold for \$76; another of the same breed, full-blood, one year old, from the Motley stock, sold for \$51; a two-year old Devon bull brought \$88; a two-year old Hungarian bull \$26; a full-blood Ayrshire bull calf, a year old, from the stock of James Brown, sold for \$35.

The working oxen sold at good prices. They were half-blood Devons, and splendid animals to look upon. One pair, 8 years old, sold for \$155; one pair 6 years old, \$182 50; one pair 5 years old, \$175; two pairs 3 years old, \$115 and \$85—the latter not "broken."

The Cheviot sheep sold for from \$4 50 to

\$12 each. The South Downs sold for from \$3 12 to \$8 50.

A large portion of this stock, and especially the best animals, were purchased by gentlemen in different parts of the State, who are interested in improving their farm stock. They will be distributed chiefly in Norfolk, Bristol and Essex counties.

For the American Agriculturist.

WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

Vous avez beau, as the French say, in publishing a long article on hop growing, at a time when the sale of hop beer "is present death in Mantua."

I like your horticultural leader, a notice of Hovey's March number. All that is said about deep trenching is true, and indispensable to him whose acres are at the minimum; but to the farmer it may not always pay, as draining and plowing in manure deeply is a substitute, though not an equivalent; as you say, "deep tillage turns the drouth to good account, doing away the necessity of irrigation, and aiding the good effects of mulching." But where is that trenching spade to be found that works twenty inches deep?

I wish you would copy Wilson Flagg's article on "illusive distances and magnitude." If it is too artistic, nature will gain in the contrast; David Thomas says, "never train ornamental trees lest you spoil nature's fair proportions." The grove in front of his mansion was as wild and unshorn, as the trees and shrubbery of the tangled glen; what painter can improve upon nature when she runs wild. You say truly, "we need not go to England to study and learn the work we have to do, for nature, who is the only correct teacher, is here before us, undisputed by the vagaries of ostentatious improvers." My whole life has been spent in those mercantile delusions, which shut out the truths of nature, too late to be improved, until the loss can only be felt! How true it is that the commercial farmer lays in ruins with remorseless sacrilege every object that would delight the heart of a true lover of nature, and then points exultingly to his bald hills and plains, as if their denudings were proofs of his civilization.

The article from Tompkins Co., on the locust borer, is rather long, besides the experiment, is not yet a *fait accompli*. I have had locusts (*Robinea pseudacacia*) grown in a rich soil large enough for posts, before the borer assailed them; if only the branches are attacked, cut them off, and the trunk will grow to the saw-log size, as I can show. Let no farmer who will need posts for fences, neglect to set locust trees, at least by the road-side of his farm; when one fails, plant another. The borer has never appeared but once in this region to any injurious extent.

You say "look out for the golden stream," Why can't that matchless reformer of urban evils, Fernando Wood, order a few thousand tubs of *ta feu* mixed with the nitrogenless street-sweepings, after they are *dumped* on the piers, ready to be shipped to the starved soils of the coast and islands of New-York. How can your Babylon hope to live forever and ever, in violation of nature's laws for reproduction. Why not employ those poor ones who seek labor to give them bread, in the laudable occupation of saving and distributing the elements by which alone bread can be made.

I have set out some wild high blackberry bushes to find out how far the New-Rochelles are overrated. At Aurora, the Catawba grape, under good culture and the lake influence, does well in warm dry seasons; but I am satisfied that the Isabella is the grape for our climate. How does it compare with the Concord grape?

Our peach trees appear to be done for,

this year at least. May we not hope that the same Jack Frost (22° below zero for three nights) has also put the insect enemies of the tree *hors du combat* for some time to come. March has been a winter month this year, but it is a long road that has no turn.

WATERLOO, March 26, 1855.

N'IMPORTE.

For the American Agriculturist.

HARROWING WHEAT ON NEW LAND.

About eighteen years ago, when I was a boy, my grandfather had a piece of new land sowed in the fall with wheat, which, giving no signs of vegetation in the spring, was sowed over again on the 12th day April, with two bushels of oats per acre and one bushel of common blue plaster, while I harrowed them in. At harvest time we had the largest crop of grain I ever saw cut on the ground with a cradle. It yielded about 20 bushels of wheat and thirty bushels of oats per acre. We tried it bolted for bread, but it was not palatable for man, though we had the best lot of horse feed in the neighborhood. I was well convinced at the time, and forever after, that the harrowing and plaster brought that wheat forward. Since that time I have harrowed new ground wheat several times, and invariably with great success. The harrow should be very sharp and not a very heavy wood. The roots of the wheat were woven in with the roots of the stumps and everysmall fiber on the ground, so that there was very little torn out of the ground. I am not positive that this operation would be good for old ground wheat, for it might uproot a great quantity of the grain.

This process of harrowing wheat operates to a good effect in two ways: First, it cultivates the land by refreshing it, and covers up the plaster, which should always be sown after the first harrowing; and secondly, it cuts and divides the shoots in such a way that it is very much like transplanting. I have even gone further in this renewing of crops. I have tried it on old meadows that were nearly run out, and by sowing on three or four quarts of Timothy seed I have had my meadows yield me double the amount of hay to the acre.

To renew old meadows you must begin directly after mowing them. First sow on the seed, and then harrow and cross harrow, and you will be paid with double the amount of hay. You may benefit your meadows from one-third to one-half by harrowing without any seed. This operates the same as the wheat; but your fertilizer need not be put on until spring. Where your meadows are naturally wet, this process is better than plowing them up and seeding them anew.

A. S. SMITH.

NICHOLS, Tioga Co., N. Y.

AMERICAN SALT MEATS IN FRANCE.

The Parisian correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce says: Nearly three columns of the *Constitutionnel* of this morning are conceded to the prices of meat and the value of North American supplies. In another journal, a sensible writer had proved that the main dependence of France and Europe must be on the United States, and not on the regions of La Plata, of which the beef had excited strong hopes and set many scientific heads on processes of jerking and preservation. According to the *Constitutionnel* butcher's meat has advanced in France 40 per cent. since 1852. The causes are assigned, and they offer but little encouragement for the future. Among the working class the evil is the sorest, next to the dearness of bread, which the provinces suffer, not the privileged metropolis. Our Republic's immense production of animal food is detailed by the French writer. I

seems inexhaustible—adequate for the rest of the world; and the Indian corn with which the hogs are fattened! In fine, he observes, North America, with its magnificent rivers, its prodigious net of railroads and canals, is the only country of the globe which can relieve our dearth and distress, and send us salted meats at a low price. The rates of our pork and beef, as now sold and eagerly sought at Marseilles and the chief manufacturing cities of the north, east and west, are then reported; soon there will be an unlimited demand. At the end of the editorial article specific directions are given, touching the preparation for the table, of the excellent American salt meats.

For the American Agriculturist.

REMINISCENCES OF BOYHOOD DAYS UPON THE FARM.

The golden age of human life, as of the world in which we live, is always in the future or the past; it is never present.

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast
Man never is, but always to be blessed."

Yes; to most men rest is *future*; it is seldom here; but sometimes the sunshine that illumines the future throws a bright halo about the past. The gray-headed veteran talks of "the good old times," when he was a boy. The man who has just begun to descend the declivity of life imagines that the days of boyhood were more sunny than those of mature life; and, in fact they were so. With most men the first years of life are the best. The innocence of youth brings happiness. The pleasures of youth bring a higher relish. Sleep is sweeter. The cares of wealth, office and duty are unknown. We love, therefore, to review the scenes of childhood. 'Tis sweet, only in memory to visit the old homestead. It is this power of association that gives such an undying charm to "sweet home," to "the cot where I was born," to "the old oaken bucket that hung in the well," and other popular songs whose beauty never fades.

New-Hampshire has a cold climate and a comparatively barren soil. Let a stranger pass from Portsmouth, to Coos County, on the line of the railroad, and he will wonder how sufficient space can be cleared of stones to furnish arable land to the farmers. In some of the best agricultural towns, from large portions of the arable land, stones enough have been taken to cover the entire soil with a pavement. Several crops of stones are successively taken off. Every time the ground is plowed, a new coat of stones appears upon the surface. The farm on which I passed the first 20 years of my life was one of the best grass farms in the County of Belknap. It had a northern exposure inclining very much toward the polar regions. It was two weeks later in spring, on this account, than farms with a southern inclination which were in sight of my father's windows. The northeast storms, in winter, were terrible. The snow drifts were piled so high that all fences and all traces of the road were often obliterated. Travelers often wandered from the highway, over the drifted snow, hardened by furious eastern blasts, into the adjacent fields, and sometimes their lives were periled by their mistakes. The last traces of these mountain drifts did not disappear till the spring wheat was sown on the ridges above them.

The process of preparing the ground for a crop is still fresh in my memory. The breaking up of the green sward was done in the fall. The stones that had gradually been denuded by culture, were dug out. Some of them only presented, like buried giants, their noses to the sun. Then a huge pit must be dug to loosen the earth around

them. Strong chains were bound about them and four large oxen were hitched on and, their strength, with the aid of pries (levers) behind would unhouse the monsters and expose them to the open day. The whole piece was thoroughly scoured and every hidden enemy was routed and drawn off. Then, if there were stone heaps upon the ground, the larger ones were carted away and thrown into stacks in some corner of the field or dumped down by the road side. Being so placed, they gave a slovenly appearance to the highway and among them, all kinds of briars grew unmolested. The small stones from the heaps were tossed about the ground and plowed in. It was a theory of my father that they kept the ground loose and attracted the heat of the sun. It is quite probable they were of some utility to the crop in preventing the soil from becoming too compact and in conducting heat. When the ground was laid down to grass, many of these same stones worked their way to the top and must be removed to save the scythe in haying. Picking stones, alone, in a cold, cloudy day of spring, before the snows have entirely disappeared from along the fences, is about as uninviting a process as can be named. No power of imagination can throw a charm about it. It wears out the fingers and the patience. It makes the back ache and the head swim. Many a time, when the genial sun had mastered the cold, and broken through the clouds have I seated myself on a dry spot of earth and whiled away an hour in play with my little black dog, "Tiro." But the little eur had no sympathy with my toil. He would stay with me no longer than the play lasted. The chimney corner pleased him better than the damp ground. When it was found that "Tiro" and I did less than I ordinarily accomplished alone, the dog was detained at home. I was heartily rejoiced when my father resolved to clear every stone heap from his fields and never to disfigure the lot with a new one. Then there was no more solitary stone picking for poor me. All hands were detailed for that purpose, and the stones were thrown directly into a cart and drawn from the ground. Then the change from picking stones to driving oxen and riding back in the empty cart gave a little variety to the business, and occasionally rested the fingers and back. How nice and fresh the green sward looked, as the young clover and herdsgrass covered the ground and relieved the eye with their beautiful verdure. I was always anxious to have every rolling stone removed; for it was my duty to turn the grind-stone, when one of these "hard heads" was shaven by the scythe. I can almost feel the ache in my arm now, as the holder bore on to a thick stone hung upon a wooden frame, giving a piercing scream at every revolution. Then, to be waked at 4 o'clock in the morning, and summoned to this monotonous task, often gave a tinge of sadness to the joyous days of youth. The night seemed too short, in summer, for restoring tone and vivacity to tired nature. In fact the philosophy of the boy for once was right. No lad from 10 to 15 years of age should be summoned, at such an hour, to such a task.

E. D. S.

HOW PRIZE CATTLE ARE FED.—Mr. J. P. Phillips, of Broomborough, near Totness, in Devonshire, had a fine animal which was much admired for its size and symmetry. On the 19th of June last it weighed 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs., and was fed on grass till the 18th of September, when it weighed 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.; it was then put on common turnips till the 30th of October, when it weighed 16 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs.; from that time it was fed with Mangold, meal, and hay till

December 18, when it weighed 17 ewt. 3 qrs. 18 lbs. The general results were these: When on Grass, it gained in 13 weeks 228 lbs., being rather more than 17 lbs. per week; on turnips and meal, in six weeks it gained 102 lbs., being about 17 lbs. per week; and on Mangold and meal, in seven weeks 178 lbs., being about 25 lbs. per week.

Agricultural Gazette.

A DISPUTE ABOUT IT.

"*Book Farming won't pay.*" How do you know that? Have you tried it yourself and failed in it, or do you spit out a prejudice for for which you have no particular reason? What do you mean by "book farming?" Do you intend to say that because knowledge is put in print, it is no longer good for anything? If you learn a thing from a book, is it therefore of less value than if you received it from your neighbor? If your boys have been at school and have learned anything, it has been from books; those who learn the news, do it from newspapers. What is there about farming that its truths cannot be printed? If one man fats his pig in half the time his neighbor does and gets him twice as fat, cannot that be printed and still be true? And could not a third man who reads it look into the matter and learn how to do it? Is farming perfect? and if not, how is it to be made better?

Book farming will pay. It has paid; it does pay and it is going on still to pay. It may not pay you. You may be too stupid or too prejudiced, or too contrary to profit by any other man's experience. Or you may be a man of good judgment, so as to be independent of other men's opinions or practices, and though not learning much from books, may learn from observation and reflection. If this is true, you ought to give your experience to others.

Book farming will pay. The stock men of England have made themselves rich, and their names known all over the world, by book education put to practice. As much as agriculture is better and more sound and remunerative, and honored now in this country than it was thirty years ago, it has been made so by books. It will pay the man who will think, and who has sense enough to separate that which is reasonable, and applicable to his circumstances from that which is mere theory and "bosh." A man who believes all he hears is a fool; so is he who trusts implicitly all he reads. Books are not invented to take the place of sense and judgment; they are to aid and instruct them.

"*My Father and Grandfather farmed without these new lights.*" So they did. They rode on horseback and in coaches instead of a rail car. They paid 25 cents a letter for postage; they didn't write by lightning. They cut wood with shear-steel axes; pitched hay with wrought iron forks; cut their rye with sickles; mowed with English scythes; and plowed with a strap iron plow. They fed hogs to 200 pounds, and thought that something to brag about; and crowed lustily over a five hundred pound steer. Father and Grandfather were good men, and knew some things better than their boys do; but their boys know some things which they didn't, and he would be a sap-head who should merely act their lives over again. In our day we are expected to act according to our circumstances, and not according to theirs. Had Father and Grandfather known what you do or may know, they would not have acted as you do; for their acts would have befitted their times.

"*What do those city fellows know?*" Not much, perhaps. They only claim to know what they have learned; and any man has a

right to do that. What they have learned has been in the country where you are. They still seek to be instructed by you that they may scattered it abroad for others. Do not disappoint them by withholding your stock of knowledge.—*Prarie Farmer.*

HEN MANURE FOR CORN.

Having been frequently solicited by some of your readers to send you the result of an experiment testing the value of hen manure for corn, I send you the facts, in the hope that they may be useful to others. In 1852 I planted but two acres of corn, and having so little, desired to make it as good as possible without the use of barnyard manure. After fitting the ground and marking it for planting, I scraped out my hen house and got about eight bushels of dry hen manure, of which I dropped a small handful where each hill was to be planted. There was only enough to dress thirty rows, six rows being undressed. The corn was planted on the 18th of May—dropped on the manure and then covered.

On the 1st day of June the six rows unmanured was nicely up, and large enough to be seen to cultivate; but of the manured part not one hill out of one hundred was up. On examination I found the corn rotten, I suppose from the corroding effects of the manure. June 2d I replanted the manured part, taking pains to put the seed close by the side of the first planting. The seed came up and grew finely, so that by the 1st of July it was fully as large, and of much better color, than the part unmanured. In all other respects the whole field was managed alike, being ashed, plastered and hoed at the same time.

When the corn was cut, each part was stooked by itself, making six rows of corn each, from the manured part, and one row of stooks, containing six rows of corn, from the unmanured part. I hired the corn husked by the bushel, so that it became necessary to measure it. From each row of stooks of the manured part I obtained thirty-six bushels of ears of sound corn; from the unmanured part I had but twenty-nine bushels, and of not as good quality. The difference in favor of the manured was seven bushels more from five rows of corn than from six rows unmanured. From the above experiment I conclude, had the whole been manured, I should have received 259½ bushels ears; if none had been manured, I should have received but 174 bushels—making a difference of 85½ bushels for the manure, amounting, at 25 cents per bushel for corn in the ear, to \$21 30, or \$10 65 per acre.

Whether the above difference is wholly to be attributed to the manure, I am not prepared to say. About the 10th of June we had a severe hail storm, beating and bruising the first planting to the ground, while the replanted corn was scarcely up. I have since used hen manure for corn, but have not correctly ascertained the result. I am satisfied that it is one of the most valuable applications that can be used for corn.—*G., in Rural New-Yorker.*

HENRIETTA, Feb. 12, 1855.

Joseph Remy, the poor fisherman of the Vosges, recently died at Bresse from a disease brought on by exposure to inclement weather in his researches on the artificial production of fish. A pension of 1,200 francs had been awarded him for his labors in this interesting branch of ichthyology. His son, Laurent Remy, is a zealous disciple of his father, and has exhibited so much skill in the art of pisciculture as to have been entrusted by Government with the duty of keeping the waters in the Department of the Loire

stocked with fish. This business has become a recognized feature in the list of alimentary productions in France; for it has been found that, without the aid of artificial production, the stock of fresh water fish would soon be exhausted.

POULTRY MANURE.

The horticulturist can not value too highly the droppings of poultry. For the past two or three years I have tested fully its properties, and feel satisfied that one bushel of poultry manure mixed with plaster, and used as a top dressing, is equivalent to ten bushels of stable manure put into the ground in the usual manner. It is particularly valuable for onion sets, as well as for almost every other garden vegetable. My process for its use is this—I dig and plant my seed, and in the course of a few days, or about the time I think the seed is beginning to germinate, I take the manure, previously mixed with a small portion of plaster and put upon the hills or beds containing the seed. By the time the shoots come up the manure is in a proper state for working, it having decomposed by losing much of its ammonia, and I find it requires less labor to keep the ground loose than when not used, to say nothing of its effects upon vegetation, which are incalculable. The season for saving this manure is now at hand, and I feel satisfied that if once tried will never be abandoned, if the manure can be had.

I might also say in this connection that in consequence of the attacks of the striped bug upon the cucumber plant, it has become almost an impossibility to cultivate that much admired vegetable. By the use of *air slacked lime*, sprinkled every few days over the plant, their ravages may be checked, and the horticulturist find no difficulty in raising any quantity of the vegetable. The same remedy will apply to pumpkin and squash vines.

Muncy, Pa., Feb. 20, 1855.

THE NEW SUGAR PLANT.

The scarcity of corn in France has drawn attention to a new plant, recently introduced from China, which promises to supersede to a certain extent the use of beetroot in the manufacture of sugar and the distillation of alcohol. The Agricultural Committee of Toulon has recently addressed a report to the Minister of War, with respect to the uses of the plant in question. It is called the *sorgho*, or *holcus saccharatus*, and was first introduced into France in 1851, by M. de Montigny, the French Consul in China, who sent some grains of the seed to the Government. Since then the culture of the plant has been commenced with success in Provence, and promises to be of great advantage to Algeria. The *sorgho* has been called the "sugar-cane of the North of China," and numerous experiments have recently been tried, with a view to ascertaining if it possesses the properties necessary for producing a crystallizable syrup, so as to become a rival to sugar-cane and beetroot. According to the report of the Toulon Agricultural Association, it would appear to have those properties. The fact has been ascertained by a series of experiments made in the department of the Var. It also appears to be richer in the saccharine principle than any known plant excepting the vine. Beetroot contains from 8 to 10 per cent of sugar; the *sorgho* produced from 16 to 20 per cent, from which 8 to 10 per cent of pure alcohol, fit for all industrial and domestic purposes, can be produced. The refuse is excellent food for cattle, who are very fond of it. The plant grows with great rapidity, and does not require irrigation. The *sorgho* is not a new

discovery, as it has been used from time immemorial by the inhabitants of the North of China, by whom large quantities of sugar are extracted from it. But that is the first time it has been introduced on anything like an extensive scale in Europe.

HOP GROWING.

(Setting the Poles Continued from page 37.)

The hop blossoms early in July, and begins to show the seed vessels in August. It is usually ripe enough to pick early in September, and the picking should not commence till the ripeness is ascertained. This is done by observing the change in the color of the scales, from a pale yellowish, or straw color, to a light brown; the seed, also, changes its color, and has a strong, fragrant odor; while the scales have some degree of firmness, so as to be readily rubbed to pieces in the hand. When picked just before this perfect maturity takes place, however, they preserve their bright and beautiful color, and appear a little better in the market, though not quite so valuable for practical purposes as when the seed has grown to its full weight. In perfectly ripe hops which have been impregnated, a little yellow juice, or oil, forms at the bottom of the scales; and if the hops are picked as soon as this is discovered, they preserve their bright beautiful color; while if left a little longer, till the scales begin to turn brown, they acquire a little more strength and weight. The hops do not all ripen at the same time; and some growers in England are accustomed to begin the picking by selecting the ripest—beginning at the bottom of the poles, and picking at different times. But this is seldom done in this country. The picking here usually begins as soon as the scales have that bright straw color, and especially if the plantation is so large as to require some time to finish. It is an error, however, to begin too early, and before the hops are ripe, though many justify it on the plea of necessity. Picking before the hops are ripe causes the juice or sap to run where the bine is cut. The bine is said to "bleed." When this is done, the shoots of the next spring are far less vigorous and less productive. If picked before the bine has come to maturity, the tips of the roots will generally be found to turn black and decay up to the point at which the root has matured. One prominent cause of the deterioration of hops is traced to picking before they are ripe.

When the picking commences here, no time is to be lost, since, in case of a rain or storm, great injury would be occasioned by bruising them. They should be picked when the weather is dry and fair, and never when the dew is on in the morning.

Great care should be taken in picking. The vines are cut from one to three feet from the ground, and the poles pulled up and laid over large boxes holding sometimes thirty or forty bushels. If the pickers are hired by the day, it matters little what sized bin is used, though it is generally large enough to enable three or four to pick into the same one; but if they are hired by the pound, as they are in many instances, the bins are divided inside into three or four compartments, one of which is allotted to each picker. Females are usually the most expert, and are more frequently employed, while one man or boy attends to do the lifting. A good picker can pick from twenty to thirty pounds a day. They are picked as free as possible from stems and leaves. All unripe or worthless hops should be thrown out. The boxes are emptied twice a day. The process of drying should commence as soon as possible after picking.

Drying.—Hops are dried, soon after being picked, in a kiln constructed for the purpose.

The kiln should be about fourteen feet square at the top, twelve feet deep, and three or four feet square at the bottom. The fire should be made of maple charcoal, directly in the center of the kiln, and it may be without the use of stoves, pipes, funnels, or any thing else; and growers of the largest experience and most careful experiment and observation confidently assert that the highest and best flavor and quality of hops can not be perfectly preserved in any other mode. Thin joists should be laid across the top, edgewise, and laths or slats nailed to them, covered with tow cloth or hair cloth. Care should be taken not to spread the hops too deep upon this cloth covering, and not to stir them after they are spread till they are dry, or nearly so, when they may be carefully turned.

A farmer already quoted says: "Hops are dried on a kiln over a fire made of charcoal. The kiln is stoned up, in the form of a hopper to a grist mill, from seven to ten feet high, and from nine to fifteen feet across the top. Small timber or joists are placed across the top of the kiln, the smaller the better, about two or three feet apart, and narrow slats fastened to them. A thin tow cloth is drawn tightly over the slats, to receive the hops for drying."

A writer from Northfield says: "The kilns for drying are made now with an arch and hot-air chamber, under a room where the hops are spread, and hot-air pipes regulating the heat, which requires considerable experience to make them all first quality after being cured. They are then pressed with serews into bales, and are ready for the market."

This foundation wall is sometimes made of brick, and plastered inside. A furnace of stone or brick is placed in the center, at the bottom of the front wall, with an opening through the wall to put in the coal. A funnel, winding round within the walls, three feet from the top, and out at a chimney, is sometimes used; but it is thought by many of the best growers to be quite unnecessary, and that, in fact, the simpler the contrivance is, the better. There should be sufficient draft to cause the fresh air to circulate freely within the walls. A sort of roofing is built over the kiln to shed the rain, usually with eight-foot posts, and having several doors or windows, capable of being opened to admit the air to the hops, and to allow the moisture which collects in the process of drying to pass off. The kiln may be made capable of drying from fifty to one hundred pounds of hops in twelve hours. The hops are spread from six to eight inches deep. Some recommend to build a kiln large enough to dry two hundred pounds at once; but nothing is gained, generally, by too large a kiln. If the plantation is large, it is thought best to have two or three kilns, and not to try to dry too many at once. It is without doubt better to have several small kilns than one large one, and the cost of several small ones is but little more than one large one.

The kiln is often much more elaborately built, it is true, and proportioned in size to the quantity of hops to be cured and the ability of the grower. It should be so large, if there is but one, as to be capable of drying the hops very soon after being picked, and so as not to require them to accumulate faster than they can be dried. The fire is kindled before the hops are put on, though the kiln is to be slowly and gradually heated at first. The fire is commonly kept up day and night. If the hops are rusty, a little sulphur is burned under them, to bleach them and improve their appearance. This is done as soon as they have begun to heat and feel moist; but if the hops are damp when first spread on the kiln, burn the brimstone immediately. No objection is now made to

hops treated in this way; indeed, their appearance is greatly improved.

Some make a practice of turning the hops as soon as the top becomes heated and the bottom part of the layer becomes crispy, allowing the fires to go down a little; but the turning should not take place till the hops are nearly dry. Much must depend on the judgment and practice of the operator. The turning is commonly done with a rake. With a steady heat, well regulated, a kiln of hops is dried in ten or twelve hours; and if the fires are kept up day and night, two kilns may be dried in twenty-four hours. The operation of drying is one of great nicety, and requires much care and attention. As soon as the drying is complete, which may be known by the brittleness of the stems and crispness of the scales, they are removed to another dark room near by and left in heaps at least twenty days, when the bagging commences. This last room is called the press room.—*C. L. Flint's Second Annual Report to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture.*

(To be Continued.)

POLAND OATS.

B. P. Foster, in the Michigan Farmer, says:

I have raised the Poland oats for three years past. The weather has been very dry here in that time, and from my own experience, I think this kind of oats well adapted to the climate of Michigan. I have tried several kinds, and these have done the best of any that I have sown.

I obtained a sample of Mr. Tucker's oats, and on comparing them with mine, find them to be the same, and both are, to all appearance, and according to the descriptions I have seen, the true Poland oats.

I will now state in what respect I consider them superior to any other kinds, for this country, so far as I have tried them. I simply give the facts:

1. They require less seed to the acre, as they tiller, or stool, out a great deal, from five to ten stalks springing from one kernel. One bushel, to one and a half, is enough to the acre. (This year I sowed mine very thick—two bushels to the acre.)

2. The straw is longer and stiffer, and not so liable to lodge.

3. They yield more, and are heavier, and better to feed.

4. They will produce more on poor land than any other kind I ever tried.

5. They will stand the drouth remarkably well.

They need not be sown early. Mine were ripe when my wheat was. They were sown the first of May.

The fountain at the southern end of the Crystal Palace (Sydenham England,) has been filled with water, and it is now surrounded with a gay and brilliant border of early flowers, including Van Thol tulips, hyacinths, jonquils, cineraria, and a variety of others in full bloom, which perfume the air all round with their fragrance. In the tropical quarter of the building some large and handsome-looking pagoda-shaped cages are being put up, in which a number of paroquets are now placed. They are of the small species, obtained from western Australia, termed by the natives, "grass paroquets," the greater part of the plumage being a brilliant green. Other rare and curious birds will be added by degrees.

A correspondent gives the following:
What State of the Union of four syllables is spelled with four letters of the alphabet?
[There are two such.—Ed.]

Horticultural Department.

NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Society met at the rooms No. 600 Broadway, on Monday evening, April 2d, President Wilson G. Hunt in the chair. After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, the President informed the Society that, through the kindness of Francis D. Cutting, he had received some valuable seeds from the Patent office, at Washington, which will be distributed among the members. For this purpose the Society will meet at Clinton Hall, Astor-place, on Monday evening next, April 9.

The committee on flowers reported, among others, some fine specimens of *Cinnyria*, *Camelias*, and a very beautiful *Acacia Culti-formis*, exhibited by Thomas Hogg, Jr.; a graceful *Diacentria Spectabilis* and a magnificent White Rose, grown by Stephen Cranston, Hoboken; a very pretty seedling *Cinnyria*, uncut, exhibited by Mr. Sutton, &c.

TREES.

BY ALFRED B. STREET.

(Concluded from page 39.)

And now the oak, "the brave old oak," and so on. Suppose yourself in a wood! Do you see that little brown vegetable cup with a braided cover—there, by the dead maple leaf and a tuft of crimson-headed moss? Yon robin just planted his foot upon and covered it. And then do you see that towering tree whose head seems nearly to touch the white cloud above it? Look! upon its apex there is a bird seemingly the size of this wild pigeon on the beech tree, but in reality an eagle. True, many years have intervened between the two objects, but you think twice ere realizing that yon seamed, stern, sturdy oak once nestled in this acorn. And what a tree it is! First piercing the mold, a tiny needle that the ground-squirrel would destroy with a nibble, and then rearing grandly toward the sun a wreath of green to endure for ages. Doth the wild winds dash against it? It shakes its proud head, but no more bends its whole shape than yon crag. Doth the arrowy sleet strike it? Its leaves only make clicking music; and so for the early snow it bears it up as easily as a deer would fragments of *kalmia* blossoms on his antlers. How finely its dark green stands out from the lighter hues of the beeches, birches and maples. And then, how it keeps old time at the distance! The child gathers the violet at its foot; as a boy he pockets its dropped acorns; a man, he looks at its height towering up, and makes it the emblem of his ambition. Years after, with white hairs and palsied limbs, he totters at noontide to lie within its shade and slumber, "perchance to dream" of that last sleep which cannot be far distant and which "knows no waking." But has the oak changed? Mocker of the storm, stern darer of the lightning, there he stands, the same, and seemingly forever. Challenger of Time, defyer of earth's changes, there he stands the pride of the forest, satirizing, in his mute language, alike the variations and evanescence of man.

And he does all things in a grand, slow way, unlike other trees. In spring time, when the aspen has showed for a month its young leaves, when the beech has thrust forth its beautiful feathers, when the maple has made a red rain of its glowing blossoms upon the forest floor, the oak still looks as

he did when January was frowning upon his branches. When the aspen has elaborated its small leaves into thick foliage, when the beech has spangled itself over with emerald, when the maple has hung upon its slender stems its broad, pearl-lined verdure, no tint of green is yet upon the oak. He stands in dark disdain, as if mourning the perished winter. But at last, when the woodland is smiling in its fully developed glory, when blossoms of the locust and tulip tree are drenching the air with delicious sweetness, then stirs the oak. Little brown things are scattered over his great boughs, which in due time become long, deep-veined leaves; and lo! the regal oak has donned his splendid robe. The summer passes and the autumn comes. What stands in the corner of yon wood, swathed in a mantle of the true imperial! Crimsons and yellows and golden browns are flashing all around him, as though there were a carnival among the trees, but no hue is brighter than that of the brave old oak in his robe of royal purple. And he is in no more haste to let that robe of his go, than in donning it. When the shrieking blasts have torn its mantle from every other tree, the oak still clings to his as if he said to those shrieking blasts, "I defy your fury!" when the snow-bird comes twittering among the woods to tell them the snow shall shortly be showering loose pearl all through their gaunt domains, the oak yet clings to his mantle, blanched and tattered though it be. High amid the snow-drifts, firm amid the blasts, the pale crackling leaves still cling, with nothing in the wide, bleak woods to keep them company, save here and there a shivering lingerer upon the beech-tree. Often it is only when their successors come "to push them from their stools" that the old leaves quit the gallant oak and lie down to perish. So a health to the oak.

We will merely touch, in passing, upon the horse-chestnut with its great glistening spring buds bursting into cones of pearly red-spotted blossoms that almost cover its noble dome of foliage; upon the hemlock with its masses of evergreen needles, and the cedar with its misty blueberries; upon those tree-like shrubs—the hopple with its gigantic leaves serving as sylvan goblets at picnics; the sumac with its clusters of splendid crimson; the sassafras diffusing from its thick leaf a most delicious breath; the laurel arching above the brooks a roof radiant with immense bouquets of rose-touched snow, and even garlanding the apex of the water-beech with its superb chalice, while its younger sister, the ivy, crouches at the foot of the tamarack, and spruce, rich in red-streaked urns of blossoms; and the witch-hazel smiling at winter, with it curled sharp-cut flowers of golden velvet.

We come now to the pine, of all my greatest favorite. Ho! ho! the burly pine! The oak may be king of the lowlands, but the pine is the king of the hills; aye, and mountains, too.

Ho! ho! the burly pine! How he strikes his clubbed foot deep into the cleft of the rock, or grasps its span with conscious power. There he lifts his haughty front like the warrior monarch that he is. No flinching about the pine, let the time be ever so stormy. His throne is the crag, and his crown is in the heavens, and, as for the clouds, he tears them asunder some time, and uses them for robes. Reader, did you ever hear him shout?—for there is a pine mountain on the upper Delaware that outroars, in the winter storm, all the thunder you ever heard! Stern, deep, awfully deep, that roar makes the heart quiver. It is an airquake of tremendous power. And his single voice is by no means silvery when he is "in a breeze." When the stern warrior king has aroused

his energies to meet the onslaught of the storm, the battle-cry he sends down the wind is heard above all the voices of the green wood. His robe streams out like a banner, and so wild does he look, you would think he was about to dash himself from his throne of rock upon the valley beneath. But no; his great foot grasps more closely the crag, and when, after a while the tempest leaves him, how quietly he settles to his repose! He adorns his crown with a rich wreath, caught from the sunset, and, an hour after, he wears the orb moon as a splendid jewel upon his haughty brow. The scented breeze of the soft evening breathes upon him, and the grim warrior king wakes his murmuring lute, and oh, such sounds, so sweet, so soothing! Years that have passed live again in the music; tones long since lushed, echo once more in the hearth; faces that have turned to dust, but how loved in the old time!—glimmer among the dusky boughs; eyes that years ago closed on earth to open in heaven smile kindly upon us. We lie down in the dark shadow upon the mossy roots and are happy—happy in a sad, sweet, tender tranquility that purifies the soul, and while it makes us content with earth, fills us with love for heaven.—*Knickerbocker Gallery.*

WHAT CAN BE DONE IN A GARDEN.

Thirty years ago I purchased an establishment, consisting of a dwelling-house, barn, carriage and wood-house, calculating to make it a permanent residence. There was attached a little land for a garden, on which were just five apple trees, and in front of the house were three trees of the Balm of Gilead; the trees were all about six inches in diameter at that time; but two of the apple trees were hollow, and I cut one of them down, after trying to make it do something and finding I could not.

Well, all the apple trees bore something for fruit, but so crabbed and sour they would make a pig squeal. For amusement, I grafted all the four gradually, or year by year, cutting off the old branches and grafting the limbs with Roxbury Russets, New-York Russets, Baldwins, &c., all the best I could find. Now, I have had about ten barrels of good apples annually, to put up for winter, for three or four years past, besides all we used in the family of five, and we have used them freely all we wanted, till time to gather the winter apples.

I have a yard in front of my house, about forty feet square, in front of which are two of the Balm of Gilead trees before mentioned, which are now large trees, and have been left outside of the front fence; but inside of the fence I set out, about ten years ago, three pear trees of the common summer pear, which now give us all the pears we want, for they have borne well for about four years. From the pear trees to the house, I filled the space with flower bed, and have had many varieties, say twenty kinds of roses, and nearly one hundred kinds of other flowers. I have planted on the south side of my buildings, next to the passage to the barn, plums, peaches, and grapes. The peaches have not succeeded well, nor the plums, so I cut the plum trees off, and grafted them with the green and purple gage, only three or four years ago, and now I have plenty of the finest plums I ever saw, so that I have to prop the small branches. My grapes began to bear last year; I had about a bushel, and I should think about double the quantity this year. I have set out some quince trees, but they do not bear yet.

Besides the trees and grape vines, I have annually raised about ten or fifteen bushels of potatoes, six or seven bushels of beets and carrots, some English turnips and ruta

bagas, and a few cabbages and onions, as many as our folks wanted to use. We have also had beans, peas and corn, what we wanted to use green; and I have annually had about three or four bushels of dry corn, one bushel of pop-corn, and sweet corn enough to plant myself and supply all my neighbors. Also I have annually raised cucumbers, water and muskmelons, summer and winter squashes, one or two hundred, or one thousand pounds of pumpkins. All this has been raised on less than half an acre of ground, including buildings and drive-way—and I have had more vegetables for years in my family than some men that cultivate one hundred acres—all on poor, gravelly New-Hampshire land, without any help but my girls in the flower department. And, as Goldsmith says, "we make every rod of ground support its man."—*Cor. N. E. Farmer.*

THE CULTURE OF SWEET POTATOES.

I have recently noticed frequent inquiries on the culture of the sweet potato. Having had some little experience in this branch of horticulture, I will briefly state the mode and the results.

Source of Seed.—This I always procure from the city of New-York, to which it is, I suppose, in all cases brought from further south. I sometimes send directly there for it, and at other times procure it here from grocers who have recently procured it for retail here. Potatoes raised here are always too imperfectly mature to be preserved; they perish with a dry rot even when stored in small quantities, in dry sand, and in a cool and airy place.

Soil.—I have cultivated them in a light sand, a sandy loam, both of moderate fertility, and in a moist rich sand. I prefer the former, because it secures a slower growth and results in the earlier formation of tubers, and of course in a more perfect maturity than either of the others.

Mode of Growth.—The vine and leaf somewhat resemble a bean trailing over the ground. Perhaps it still more resembles wild buckwheat, though its leaf is larger and a yellower green. The vines often make eight feet in length in a rich and moist soil, though usually four feet is as long as is desirable. In rich soil and moist weather they frequently throw down roots at intervals along the vines, which produce tubers at these points, and so fill the whole soil with tubers. This, however, is not desirable, as these scattering tubers are usually very imperfectly ripened. The tubers almost always stand up lengthwise in the soil, instead of lying horizontally, as in the case of the common potato.

Preparatory Culture in the Hot-bed.—Having procured your seed tubers, bury them in an ordinary hot-bed, about the 20th of April, in Central New-York. Place them lengthwise, and nearly end to end, in rows across the bed, the rows about six inches apart, covering them about three inches deep with soil. In two or three weeks, according to the heat of the bed, each tuber will throw up from five to thirty sprouts close to the side of the parent. As soon as these are three or four inches high, take up the tuber carefully and break them off close to the parent, so as to save the side roots. The tubers may then be replaced for the production of a second and even a third crop of sprouts. Some prefer breaking them off in the ground, but I have always found it safe to take the tubers quite out of the ground for this purpose. This method of procuring plants is practised even in the southern States, since otherwise too many shoots would be produced. With us this mode becomes further indispensable as the only means of getting our plants sufficiently early.

Mode of Culture in the Field.—Plow your ground, and throw it into ridges five or six feet apart. This is needful—first because your tuber, needing to spread sidewise, will form more readily than when penetrating deep into the soil; and secondly, they will thus be less likely to form roots along the vine. Set the plants on the ridge, about fifteen inches apart, inserting them in the soil just as though they were tomato or cabbage plants. Should the weather be hot, cover the newly set plants with any large leaves, as of pie-plant, balm of Gilead, &c. Hoe frequently until the vines cover the soil, but without increasing the height of the ridge. In wet and hot weather, it might be useful slightly to lift up the plants with a long, smooth pole, to prevent them from rooting.

I have not observed that the sweet potato is liable to disease, otherwise than, as a tropical plant, it fears cold and rainy alternations of weather.

Digging, Yield, Mode of Preserving, &c.—Dig as soon as the vines are killed by the frost. Spread the tubers thinly on a dry, cool floor, where they may often be preserved for gradual use until mid-winter.

I am not prepared to speak very positively of the yield. Undoubtedly it will usually be less than that of ordinary potatoes. In the hot, moist season of 1851, however, the yield was very large, and the whole cost of production not more than that of ordinary potatoes by the bushel.

Quality.—Here, after all, is the failing point of this crop. In a dry, warm season, when grown in rather poor, sandy soil, they are often quite eatable, and are very acceptable to those not accustomed to those produced at the south. Often, however, they are quite watery and stringy—so much so as to be utterly uneatable to all who have ever used a good article. For this reason I would not advise their culture as far north as Central New-York; not at least until you strike the shores of the western lakes, where the summer is from two to four weeks longer, and allows the plant a proportionally longer period to mature its tubers.

I have written the preceding directions, not to encourage their culture, but to aid those who are determined to try that culture for themselves. Some of my directions will seem quite unnecessary to those familiar with their culture.—*C. E. Goodrich, in Horticulturist.*

For the American Agriculturist.

PYRAMID PEAR TREES.

In this mode of training, the first year's shoot, or what is termed the graft shoot, must be shortened back to two feet, being careful to cut to a full bud. In the spring, when sufficiently long, rub off all laterals except five or six, which may be retained to furnish all the first tier of branches. As these grow, they must be tied down to sticks thrust into the ground for that purpose at equal distances. The leading shoot must be trained perpendicularly by a straight stake. The next winter the leading shoot may be cut back to sixteen inches from where it started the previous year, at which length another tier of branches may be formed, having taken out all intermediate buds. This second tier may be trained to grow in the spaces formed by the first, thereby giving as much room as possible. As the trees advance in growth, additional tiers may be formed sixteen inches apart, to any required height. When planted in their permanent situations, which should be done when they have formed the third tier of branches, stout sticks may be driven in the ground three feet from the stem, and at equal distances, upon which place an iron hoop and fasten it to the stakes by means of staples, to this the shoots

may be tied down at equal distances. As the trees advance in growth, the upper tiers of branches may be tied to the lower ones. Summer pruning will be necessary in this mode of training, which consists in shortening back the season's growth to within four eyes. Trees may often be met with in nurseries suitable for this purpose, thereby saving the trouble of growing them.

The soil which I have used, and in which they succeeded admirably, is one-third decayed turf, and one-third of thoroughly rotted stable manure, well mixed together. The remaining part was the top spit of the ground where the trees were planted, and was mixed in at the time of planting. Care must be taken to open a large hole and fill up with prepared mold previous to planting. Trees trained in this way, when planted on lawns and by the side of large and principal walks in a garden, have a pleasing effect, and are both useful and ornamental.

W. SUMMERSBEY.

ROSES PROPAGATED BY CUTTINGS OF THE ROOTS.

Having been advised to try the experiment of raising rose trees by taking cuttings of the roots, I did so, and found it to succeed admirably. The mode I adopted was as follows: The first week in March I took some of the long, thick, and fleshy-looking roots of my English, French, Moss, and Perpetual roses, and cut them into pieces about three inches long. I then smoothed the surface of a border in front of a peach wall; upon this I laid the roots flat, at about six inches apart; when the roots were placed, I covered them with fine sifted soil half an inch deep, gently beating it to the cuttings; I then laid four inches more of loamy soil well enriched with rotten cow-dung, a year old, giving the whole a good watering, and when dry, smoothed the surface over with the back of the spade. By the middle of May every cutting had sent one, and some two strong shoots, and on examination, I found the soil I had covered the cuttings with, to be filled with a mass of fine roots: at this time (July 5th) the shoots are more than a foot high.

I have anxiously watered the bed, as, being in a sunny situation, I found it got dry, more especially so, from the bed being raised upon the old surface of the border; it would have been better to have sunk it, so as finally to have it even with the surrounding soil.

I have also grafted many of the above sorts of roses, as well as the *China* and *Tea* sections, into pieces of the more vigorous growers, and after fixing the graft in a piece of root which was only about three inches long, I planted it firmly, leaving only the graft above the soil in sandy loam, and plunged the pot in a gentle bottom heat; ten out of every dozen have uniformly united and made good plants the same season.

While on the subject of increase by pieces of roots, I may remark that many of the Pelargoniums readily strike by bits of the somewhat firm portions of the roots. Last spring, I cut in a quantity of the *Purple Unique* bedding Geranium, and every piece pushed a shoot. I had above two hundred nice plants to turn out into the open ground by the end of May. The bits of roots were each about two inches long. Subsequently, by this process, I have propagated many of the new French spotted Geraniums, as well as Cape species.—*CHARLES GREY, in Floricultural Cabinet.*

A GOOD REASON.—Prince Albert was blaming a little boy at Eton for not having learnt more at his age. "It's not my fault, sir," replied the boy, "for we have a holiday every time a Prince is born."

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, April 5.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

"SLICKING UP."

Just now every body, and especially his wife, is occupied in setting things to rights about the houses, out-houses, door yards, gardens, &c. This scattered wood is being gathered and neatly piled away by John. James is raking the chips in heaps to dry for burning. George gathers the dead limbs that have fallen from the fruit and shade trees. The loose pickets are nailed on; the cellars undergo their semi-annual purification, and every nook and corner is carefully examined by the good housewife to see that nothing in or about her domain is left out of order. Yet often when this is all done, there seems to be wanting something to give an air of neatness and attractiveness to the whole, especially in spring time, before the leaves, flowers and grass start up to give variety to the scene.

We saw this something a day or two since. It was nothing more nor less than a free use of the white-wash brush upon the trees, fences, stone walls, cellar sides and ceilings, projecting-oven at the back of the house, barn and carriage basements, out-houses, in short, everything near the dwelling which admitted of its use, and was not supplied with a coat of paint. The buildings to which we refer were, in part, erected during the Revolutionary war, yet every thing about them wears such a fresh and cheerful aspect, that, we should think, every one seeing them would go home and at once bring the white-wash brush into requisition.

EARLY GARDENS.

The southwest end of Long Island is rather celebrated for its early gardens. It has a quick, warm soil, and lies open to the southern winds fresh from the Gulf Stream. Notwithstanding the cold, backward spring, we observed that they had commenced making their gardens at Fort Hamilton and Gravesend, a fortnight ago or more. Early peas were planted a month since, and potatoes were put in last week. These ripen by the last of June, and are then dug and sent to the New-York market. One degree north of this, up the Hudson, the season of gardening (though not vegetation) is fully two or three weeks later. The lower end of Staten Island is equally favored; lower New-Jersey is still in advance of this.

In the southern part of Warren County, N. J., we saw some gardens planted with peas, &c., last week.

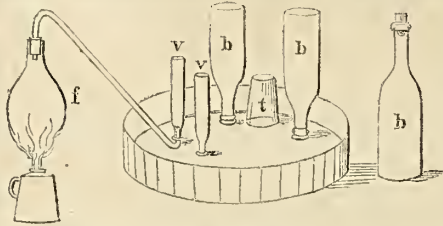
CHEMISTRY

FOR SMALL AND LARGE BOYS AND GIRLS.

CHAPTER XI.

Oxygen—Symbol O—Atomic Weight 8.

85. To procure oxygen for experiment, get from the druggists a few cents' worth of chlorate of potash (KO, ClO_3), and an oil flask, such as is used for holding olive or sweet oil, shown at *f* in the figure below. These oil flasks are to be found in most families where sweet oil has been used. Wash out thoroughly and dry the flask, and fit into it tightly a cork with a bent tube of glass or lead pipe, as shown in the figure.*



86. Take out the cork and put into the flask a tablespoonful or two of chlorate of potash (KO, ClO_3), well mingled with an equal quantity, or more, of brick-dust. If you can get it, a substance called peroxide of manganese is much superior to the brick-dust for mixing with the chlorate of potash. Return the cork to its place, and place the open end of the tube under water in the tub—just as for making hydrogen, as explained in chapter ix (75).

87. Now with a lamp apply a gentle heat to the bottom of the flask, and gradually increase the heat until it becomes a dull red, or until the gas begins to bubble up rapidly from the end of the tube. It is better to fill the lamp with alcohol, instead of oil or burning fluid, for if this is done it will not smoke the flask.

88. The first bubbles should escape, as they are chiefly air that was in the flask. As soon as you think the air is mostly out, raise up a vial or bottle, and hold it over the end of the tube, that the gas may rise into it and take the place of the water with which it was first filled. Before applying the heat, you should fill several vials, bottles, jars, or tumblers, or some of each, with water, and let them stand bottom upwards in the pan or tub of water, and also have one or two persons to assist in holding them, for they will not stand firmly, especially after they are filled with gas. As fast as they are filled you can set them aside into another vessel, by putting a saucer or plate under them, and lifting this up with some water in it, to keep the air from mingling with the oxygen. You can move vials, bottles, or narrow-necked jars, by simply putting the hand into the water to close them and keeping them closed while they are lifted out and carried to another vessel. A convenient plan is to fill junk or any other glass bottles with water, and cork them, then put the cork under water and withdraw it while the gas is rising into the bottle, and again insert the cork

* The tub or pan is to be filled with water, which is left out of the figure so as to make the arrangement of the bottles, *b b*, vials, *v v*, and tumbler, *t*, more distinct,

tightly and set the bottle aside till wanted. A bottle thus filled, *b*, is seen in the right hand of the figure.

89. A single ounce of chlorate of potash will give off more than two quarts of oxygen gas. It is well to have several vials as well as bottles fitted with corks to fill with gas, for several interesting experiments may be made. It is also necessary to have them all prepared beforehand, for the gas is generally formed rapidly after it has once commenced escaping. You should also watch for the diminution of the bubbles, and at once raise the tube out of the water, when there are but a few bubbles, otherwise the water may run back into the hot flask and break it. To prevent this also, the lamp should be kept steadily under the flask, near or distant from it as may be needed to keep up the formation of the gas.

90. EXPERIMENTS.—Take a vial of the oxygen gas, and, closing the mouth of it with the thumb, raise it out of the water and hold it right side up. With the other hand light a small stick, like a long match with no sulphur or phosphorous upon it, and when one end is well on fire, blow out the flame, leaving a little live coal on the end. Raise the thumb from the mouth of the vial and thrust in the fire end of the taper, and it will at once blaze up brilliantly, and continue to burn till it has entirely consumed all the oxygen. This is a beautiful experiment, and very instructive; and you may repeat it several times with new vials of gas. When this is done, we will give you an explanation of the phenomenon, which will teach a very important lesson.

GUANO ON BUCKWHEAT.

ALL facts bearing upon the use of this fertilizer upon the various farm crops, are particularly valuable, when so many are looking beyond the barn-yard for the means of improving their farms. We shall be happy to report all experiments of this kind, whether successful or not. The land on which the buckwheat grew, (a statement of which is given below,) we have known from our boyhood, as an exhausted old field, cropped with grain, and grazed by sheep, long after its fertility was gone. It is light sandy land; and for the last thirty years has rarely produced a crop that would pay the cultivator fair day wages for his labor. We remember it as a prosperous desert of mulleins, threaded with innumerable sheep-paths; the scanty herbage making long and brisk travel necessary for the poor animals to gain a starving living. Their owner never had the reputation of growing rich by the sale of mutton tallow. Those sentinel mulleins saw a new sight last summer, upon the scene of desolation they had so long surveyed. Buckwheat actually blossomed and berried on that desert. We do not know what the speculations of the mulleins were, upon this invasion of their old domain, but the cultivator has kindly furnished us with his views of the experiment:

GRISWOLD, Conn. Dec. 18, 1854.

Yours of the 6th instant came to hand, in which you wished me to give you a state-

ment of my experiment with guano on buckwheat. I had a piece of land, as near an acre as I could make it by pacing; not very good land, as you know, on which I raised buckwheat last year. Judging that I could not get a second crop without manure, I bought a bag of Peruvian guano, weighing 123 pounds, and harrowed it in after plowing. I left a strip, about one rod wide, through the middle of the piece, without guano. This was hardly worth cutting; while the rest was handsome buckwheat. The crop was 15 bushels, which, at the price I sold for, was worth \$12 50. The guano cost \$3 50, leaving about \$9 for the labor. The quantity of seed sown I can not say, probably between two and three pecks. I believe, if it will always do as well on poor land as it has this year, it will be profitable to use it; for I think I should not have got much more than the seed sown, without manure, judging from the strip I left.

JOHN AVERY.

In this opinion, we entirely concur. The buckwheat straw was at least an equivalent for the seed, and the nine dollars is the owner's profit on the bag of guano. Without it he would have lost his labor, as he has a great deal before on those old plains. Allowing a handsome compensation for labor, there is at least a profit of one hundred per cent on the guano. Last summer was an unusually dry one, and it requires abundant rain to do full justice to guano. A worse season for a fair test of guano, or for the buckwheat crop rarely occurs. There can be little doubt that, on all exhausted soils, guano is a profitable manure. It is safe for farmers to invest their capital in it. On soils in good condition, the results are not so manifest, and so large profits will not be realized. But almost anywhere in the soil, it will pay better than money at six per cent interest.

LITHOGRAPH OF GRAND DUKE AND DUCHESS 64.

Mr. Samuel Thorne has presented us with beautiful colored lithographs of the above famous animals. They were sketched from life and drawn on stone by Mr. Francis M. Rotch, who, to great knowledge of breeding, unites the happy talent of sketching and drawing animals. These are not fancy pictures, but accurate portraits, and are therefore particularly worthy of the attention of breeders. They are hung up in our office, and we shall be happy to show them to all who may favor us with a call.

BOOK NOTICES.

BOTANY OF THE SOUTHERN STATES, in two parts. Part I—Structural and Physiological Botany and Vegetable Products. Part II—Description of Southern Plants, arranged on the Natural System, preceded by a Linnæan and a Dichotomous Analysis. By Prof. John Darby, A. M. A. S. Barnes & Co., New-York.

This is a very valuable volume of 600 pages, and supplies a desideratum long felt. Prof. Darby deserves the thanks of all lovers of this beautiful science, for the untiring zeal and great amount of labor he has devoted to accomplish the work he has so long been occupied with. Most of the popular works upon botany in this country have given the greater portion of their pages to a description of northern plants. This occupies much ground usually left untouched.

Every one in the southern States at all interested in the subject, as well as those at the north who wish anything like a complete library on botany, will eagerly embrace the first opportunity to get a copy of this book.

THE FLOWER GARDEN; Or, Breck's Book of Flowers, in which are described all the various hardy herbaceous perennials, annuals, shrubby plants, and evergreen trees, desirable for ornamental purposes, with directions for their cultivation. By Joseph Breck. Boston: John P. Jewett & Co.

AMERICAN FRUIT BOOK—Containing directions for raising, propagating and managing fruit trees, shrubs and plants, with a description of the best varieties of fruit, including new and valuable kinds. Embellished and illustrated with numerous engravings of fruits, trees, insects, grafting, budding, training, &c. By S. W. Cole. Boston: Jno. P. Jewett & Co.

We have received a copy of both of the above books from the enterprising publishers. As they have been some time before the public, they do not need further notice at this time.

THE KNIKERBOCKER, for April, is at hand, and fully sustains its character. The "Editor's Table" exhibits a rare collection of *nice bits*, which always leave the reader in excellent humor. Samuel Hueston: New-York.

For the American Agriculturist.

FARMERS SHOULD BE INDUSTRIOUS READERS.

The importance of study to the agricultural portion of community, is not sufficiently appreciated. Many suppose that knowledge lacks practicability to the farmer. It has been supposed that success in agriculture—that productive fields and abundant harvests, were dependent wholly upon physical labor and propitious seasons, and owed nothing to intelligence. Fortunately this idea is losing somewhat its force; and well it may, for those who cultivate their fields with the most intelligence—in reference to thorough manuring, preparation of the soil, and judicious rotation of crops—are reaping the most profitable harvests.

Agriculture, underlying as it does every other vocation and profession, should certainly be coupled with the highest degree of intelligence. However important other professions may be, or however indispensable the variety of arts, the products of the agriculturist nourishes and supports them all. The merchant, the mechanic, the professional or the literary man, would make but a sorry figure in the world without the sustaining influence of the products of the farm. If knowledge be important to others—if industrious reading and a thorough posting in matters pertaining to business be necessary in other avocations, it is even more so in that most important and fundamental of all employments, agriculture. If by increase of intelligence and skill *two* blades of grass can be made to grow where but *one* grew before, millions of additional wealth would be the result, and the suffering poor would find it easier to procure an abundance to satisfy their natural wants from the surplus products.

It has long been supposed that cultivation of intellect and refinement of taste were accomplishments designed for other classes, and entirely superfluous to the farmer. All

the departments of agricultural labor have long been, and still are to a great extent, routinely performed, without the exercise of very much thought or judgment. But, happily, in this age of improvement, farmers are, to some extent, arousing from their lethargy, and becoming imbued with the spirit of progress; the majority, however, are probably treading in the beaten paths of their ancestors. Book knowledge is thought to be unprofitable, and reading is but sparingly indulged in. The bearing which science has upon agriculture is not appreciated. The great storehouse of book and periodical literature, as it pertains to farm interests, is left unexplored, and the pleasures of a cultivated intellect and a refined taste, are unenjoyed and unappreciated.

Physicians, lawyers, and clergymen, have usually respectable libraries, and are in the regular receipt of journals and reviews; and unless informed by thorough study in matters pertaining to their professions, they are universally considered unprepared for their responsible duties. If the ministrations of ignorant physicians are deleterious to health and destructive of life, the labors of ignorant agriculturists are alike inimical to the highest degree of animal and vegetable vigor and productiveness.

It may be objected, that the professions above mentioned are learned, and that agriculture has no such demands for books, journals, and papers, and can not, like them, convert knowledge into utilitarian purposes. Such an objection, however, is certainly void of force; for there are no good reasons why agriculture should not take rank with the professions, and, from the circle of sciences and the record of experience, cull facts potent for its own advancement, and contributory to profitable results.

It may be objected again, that the vocation of the farmer is one of labor and not of study; one requiring and dependent upon physical and not mental vigor. The force of this objection is wholly imaginary; for there are but few agriculturists but have as much leisure time for reading, if they would but improve it, as the physician or the lawyer. The majority of farmers labor less than twelve hours a day, on an average, and consequently have three or four each day, if systematically improved, for reading and intellectual advancement; at any rate, their evenings are always at command. Not so with the professions: Subject to the demands of others, the odd moments intervening are all that they can command for their own individual purposes. He is employed physically and mentally from early morning until often late at night. His business requires mental as well as physical employment. Not so with the farmer; though physically engaged, his mind is at liberty to pursue any train of thought that his present reading or study may suggest. A portion of each day, free from excitement of business, he is at liberty to spend in the retirement of his own family. Of all vocations of labor, his is perhaps as free from perplexity, and gives as many hours of leisure as that of any other.

Those who fancy they have no time for

reading fail, doubtless, to appreciate their deficiency. The want is not so much of *time* as of *disposition* to systematically improve what may be at command. The lack of taste for reading is the primary defect. Where this taste exists to any considerable extent among farmers, a sufficient amount of time is usually found for its reasonable indulgence. The agriculturist who, under ordinary circumstances, can not get a good living and secure at least two or three hours of leisure every day for reading, may rest assured that he lacks sufficient intelligence to judiciously direct his efforts, and the sooner he *labors less* and *studies more* the better for his interests. Many complain that they are obliged to labor so hard, that, on sitting down to read during an evening, they instantly fall asleep. These same men would talk politics with a neighbor until 10 o'clock at night, without the least disposition to somnolence, yet would go to sleep in fifteen minutes reading such works of interest as "The American Farm Book," "Nash's Progressive Farmer," or "Johnston's Lectures on Practical Agriculture." The reason is, they take an interest in the former, and have no taste for the latter. Physical labor is not so inimical to thought, attention, and wakefulness in reading, as many suppose. As before suggested, a want of taste is the fundamental defect, the suggester of many apologies for a neglect of reading and mental culture. Many complain that they have not the means to procure the requisite amount of books and papers to gratify a taste for daily reading and study. Who ever knew a farmer, addicted to the use of tobacco in any form, that denied himself the indulgence on the score of cost? The truth is, in the one case the taste is weak, in the other strong; the latter is indulged in, the former not. Any reasonable outlay for practical knowledge is better than money in bank; it will pay its possessor an annual dividend of one hundred per cent.

Let any farmer who fancies he has not the means to procure a reasonable amount of reading, plant an extra fruit tree or two, and devote the annual proceeds to such purchase. Or, what is better still, let him expend ten dollars the present year for agricultural books and first-class agricultural papers; cultivate two acres side by side, giving one the usual treatment, and the other the advantage of the practical knowledge which his expenditure may bring, and devote the surplus product to a similar outlay the ensuing year, and so on indefinitely; and, unless very much mistaken, a valuable library and no mean intellectual acquisition will be the result.

O. C. GIBBS.

PERRY, Lake Co., Ohio.

THE SUGAR-CANE.—The sugar-cane grows spontaneously in all the South Sea Islands, and more than *ten varieties* are indigenous. It has been stated, that the best canes now cultivated in the West Indies are those taken there by Captain Bligh. In their native islands they grow remarkably fine. I have frequently seen canes as thick as a man's wrist, and ten or twelve feet between the roots and leaves. The *Iromotu*, a large yellow cane, and the *To-ura*, of a dark red color, grow very large, and yield an abund-

ance of juice; but the *Butu*, a small, light red, long-jointed cane, with a thin husk or skin, contains the greatest quantity of saccharine matter.

For the American Agriculturist.

WHITE SHANGHAIS.

Since your call for some information on the poultry subject, I notice an article signed "C.", of Hartford, giving the White Shanghais the preference. I, too, am ready to speak in their favor.

Some years ago, when living with my father, in Chenango Co., N. Y., we always kept a great many common fowls, but got few eggs. We finally concluded to change to the Black Poland fowl—a beautiful creature indeed, but very shy and suspicious. We found them good layers, in comparison with our old stock, but still we lacked one thing—that was, hens that would afford us eggs in the winter. We did not like the Shanghais then around—the buff. We at length found the white Shanghais, which better suited our ideas of a model bird. We obtained them, and found that they fully answered our expectations. They are a fine-proportioned fowl, keep easy, and are most excellent layers, giving us eggs in abundance both summer and winter. Although we have the Poland, buff Shanghai, white Dorking, &c., we give the white Shanghai the preference decidedly, if the matter of eggs is considered, and as to docility, they can not be excelled, since any common fence will keep them in.

S. A. COLLINS.

Geneva, March 27, 1855.

For the American Agriculturist.

COWS—NEW-JERSEY NATIVES.

I have frequently noticed in the *American Agriculturist*, the great yield of cows, which have been very productive. I have two of the common breed of the country, which I have kept an account of during the last year, and I think they will compare pretty favorably with any I have noticed in your paper, except the one in Mobile, described a few weeks since.

From the first cow the calf was taken away May 5, 1854—eight weeks and one day old; and from the second, on May 26th, 1854—seven weeks and six days old.

The first calf weighed 204 lbs., which sold at my stable for 5½c. per lb.	\$11 22
The second weighed 224 lbs., which sold 5½c.	12 32
Made 386 lbs. butter, which at 25 cts., the current price, is	96 50
Sold 215 qts. new milk, at 4c. per qt.	8 60
Estimated quantity of new milk used in my family, at 3 pints per day for 276 days, 442½ qts., at 4c.	17 70
Skimmed milk for 3 pigs for 7 months, say	10 00

Total.....\$156 34

Quit milking the last cow January 20th, 1855.

The above cows were kept on clover hay, cornstalks and sugar beets through the winter, and on good pasture in the summer. They originally cost my father \$19 for the first, and \$18 for the second cow. I paid to the estate, last spring, \$90 for the two.

J. H. CORLIES.

Shrewsbury, N. J., March, 1855.

O TEMPORA! O MORES!—The following resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives of the Illinois Legislature:

"Resolved, That a fine of \$500 be hereafter imposed on any lady who shall lecture in public, in any part of the State, without first putting on gentleman's apparel."

CAPILLARY ATTRACTION OF THE SOIL.

From numerous observations which have been made at different times on the peculiar appearance of the surface of soils, clays, &c., during the warm summer months, and the fact that they, when covered with boards, stones, or other materials, so as to prevent them from supporting vegetation, become in a comparatively short time, much more productive than the adjacent uncovered soil, led to the belief that the soil possessed some power within itself, aside from the roots of plants—of elevating soluble materials from deep sources to the surface.

Dr. Alex. H. Stevens, of New York, was, I think, the first to suggest this idea. He speaks of it in his address delivered before the State Ag. Society of N. Y., on the *Food of Plants*, in January, 1848. No accurate experiments were performed, however, to fix it with a degree of certainty, till those made which appear in this paper.

To throw some light upon the subject, in May, 1852, I sunk three boxes into the soil—one 40 inches deep, another 28 inches deep, and a third 14 inches deep. All three of the boxes were 16 inches square. I then placed in the bottom of each box three pounds of sulphate of magnesia. The soil was to be placed in the boxes above the sulphate of magnesia, was then thoroughly mixed, so as to be uniform throughout. The boxes were then filled with it. This was done on the 25th of May, 1852. After the boxes were filled, a sample of soil was taken from each box, and the percentage of magnesia which it contained accurately determined. On the 28th of June, another sample of surface soil was taken from each box, and the percentage of magnesia carefully obtained as before. The result in each case pointed out clearly a marked increase of magnesia.

On the 17th of July, a sample of the surface soil was taken for a third time from each box, and carefully examined for the magnesia. Its percentage was found to be very perceptibly greater than on the 28th of the preceding month. On the 15th of the months of August and September following, similar examinations severally were made, with the same evident gradual increase of the magnesia in the surface soil.

The following are the results as obtained:

Percentage of Magnesia,	Box 40		Box 28		Box 16	
	May 25th—	in. high.	in. high.	in. high.	in. high.	in. high.
" "	June 28th—0.15	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
" "	July 17th—0.42	0.30	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.32
" "	Aug. 15th—0.47	0.46	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.47
" "	Sept. 15th—0.51	0.53	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.54

Before the middle of October, when it was intended to make another observation, the fall rains and frosts had commenced; on this account the observations were discontinued. The elevation of the magnesia, as shown in the above experiments, evidently depends upon a well-known and quite universal property of matter, viz:—the attraction of solids for liquids, or what is commonly denominated capillary attraction, or the property which most liquids have to rise in tubes, or between plane and curved surfaces. This may be clearly illustrated by taking a series of small capillary glass tubes and insert one extremity of them in a solution of sulphate of magnesia, or chloride of ammonium, and break or cut off the upper extremities just below the height to which the solution rises. Expose them to the sun's rays. The water of the solution evaporates, and the fixed sulphate of magnesia will be deposited just on the upper extremity of the tube.

As the solution evaporates, more of it rises up from below, keeping the tubes constantly full. Yet no sulphate of magnesia passes off; it all, or nearly all remains at, or rises just above the evaporating surface. Just so in the soil; as the water evaporates

from the surface, more water pregnant with soluble materials from below, rises up to supply its place; as this evaporation goes on, it leaves the fixed materials behind in the surface soil at the several points of evaporation.

This explains why we often find during the months of July, August and September, a crust of soluble salts covering the surface of clay deposits which are highly impregnated with the alkalis or any of the soluble compounds of the metals, earth, or alkaline earths. Also, the reason, in many instances, of the incrustations upon rocks that are porous and contain soluble materials. It also helps to explain the reason why manures when applied for a short or longer time upon the surface of soils, penetrate to so slight a depth. Every agriculturist is acquainted with the fact that the soil directly under his barn-yard, two feet below the surface, (that is any soil of any ordinary fineness,) is quite as poor as that covered with boards or otherwise, two feet below the surface, in his meadow; the former having been for years directly under a manure heap, while the latter perhaps has never had barnyard manure within many rods of it.

The former has really been sending its soluble materials to the surface soil, the latter to the surface soil and the vegetation grown near; or upon it, if uncovered.

The capillary attraction must vary very much in different soils; that is, some have the power of elevating soluble materials to the surface from much deeper sources than others. The pores or interstices in the soil correspond to capillary tubes. The less the diameter of the pores or tubes, the higher the materials are elevated. Hence one very important consideration to the agriculturist, when he wishes nature to aid him in keeping his soil fertile—is to secure soil in a fine state of mechanical division and of a high retentive nature. Nothing is more common than to see certain soils retain their fertility with the annual addition of much less manure than certain others. In fact, a given quantity of manure on the former, will seem to maintain their fertility for several years, while a similar addition to the latter quite loses its good effects in a single season. The former soils have invariably the rocks, minerals, &c., which compose them, in a fine state of division; while the latter have their particles more or less sandy and coarse.—S. M. SALISBURY, M. D., in *Prairie Farmer*.

LIGHT SUPPERS.—One of the great secrets of health is a light supper, and yet it is a great self denial, when one is hungry and tired at the close of the day, to eat little or nothing. Let such a one take leisurely a single cup of tea and a piece of cold bread with butter, and he will leave the table as fully pleased with himself and all the world, as if he had eaten a heavy meal, and be tenfold the better for it the next morning. Take any two men under similar circumstances, strong hard-working men, of twenty-five years; let one take his bread and butter with a cup of tea, and the other a hearty meal of meat, bread, potatoes, and the ordinary et ceteras, as the last meal of the day, and I will venture to affirm, that the tea-drinker will out-live the other by thirty years.—*Maine Farmer*.

The Queen's bad English has not escaped ridicule in England. An advertisement appears in the London Times to the following effect:

"WANTED—AN INSTRUCTOR.—A middle-aged married lady, whose education has been somewhat neglected during her youth, especially in the department of English composition, desires to obtain the services of a

lady properly qualified to give instruction in the particular branch alluded to. Address Victoria Regina, Buckingham Palace, care of Col. Phipps, stating terms and references."

WHEAT IN CALIFORNIA.

A correspondent, writing from San Francisco, in the Tribune of the 24th ult., furnishes the following information:

Flour and grain are cheaper here than in New-York, and we can now better afford to send it to you than you can to us. California has a soil and climate unequalled, and needs nothing but an intelligent, working, permanent population to make it the most prosperous country in the world. The following table, from the Surveyor-General's Annual Report, just published, shows the amount of wheat raised the last year:

Counties.	Acres planted.	Average.	Bush.Wheat.
Marin.....	335	30	10,050
Sonoma.....	16,363	23½	380,207
Napa.....	17,000	20	340,000
Solano.....	6,414	25	155,350
Yolo.....	9,980	25	249,500
Yuba.....	3,655	22½	82,237
Butte.....	3,725	22½	83,812
Placer.....	1,545	20	30,900
Sacramento.....	3,415	25	85,375
Calaveras.....	2,142	22½	48,195
San Joaquin.....	11,310	28½	350,355
Stanislaus.....	4,295	14½	63,350
Mariposa.....	2,365	15	35,475
Tulare.....	2,920	10	29,200
Contra Costa.....	3,786	21½	81,377
Alameda.....	15,490	40	619,600
Santa Clara.....	22,745	20	254,900
Santa Cruz.....	6,530	50	326,500
Monterey.....	743	40	29,800
San Francisco.....	445	30	13,350
Total.....	135,024	25 8-15	3,439,533

A much larger crop of grain will be raised this year than last. The price of wheat here during the season has ranged from \$1 to \$1 50 per bushel. The price of barley, from 60 to 90 cents; oats the same. Plowing and sowing has been going on here for the past two months. Grass is now green, and the flowers are in bloom. Think of this, in comparison with the ice, snow and mud which the people of New-York must paddle through five months of the year.

TASTES DIFFER.—In a lecture on what he has seen abroad, Wendell Phillips observes:

In Italy you will see a man breaking up his land with two cows, and the root of a tree for a plow, while he is dressed in skins with the hair on. In Rome, Vienna and Dresden, if you hire a man to saw wood, he does not bring a horse along. He never had one, or his father before him. He puts one end on the ground, and the other on his breast, and taking the wood in his hand, rubs it against the saw. It is a solemn fact, that in Florence, a city filled with the triumph of art, there is not a single augur, and if a carpenter would bore a hole he does it with a red hot poker. This results not from the want of industry, but of sagacity of thought. The people are by no means idle. They toil early and late, men, women, and children, with an industry that shames labor-saving Yankees. Thus he makes labor, and the poor must live. In Rome charcoal is principally used for fuel, and you will see a string of twenty mules bringing little sacks of it upon their backs, when one mule could bring all of it in a cart. But the charcoal vender never had a cart, and so he keeps his mules and feeds them. This is from no want of industry, but there is no competition.

A Yankee always looks haggard and nervous as if he were chasing a dollar. With us money is everything; and when we go abroad we are surprised to find that the dollar has ceased to be almighty. If a Yankee refuse to do a job for fifty cents, he will probably do it for a dollar, and will certainly do it for five. But one of the lazaroni of

Naples, when he has earned two cents and eaten them, will work no more that day if you offer him ever so large a sum. He has earned enough for the day, and wants no more. So there is no eagerness for making money, no motive for it, and everybody moves slowly.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

A DOCTOR AS IS A DOCTOR.—A self-sufficient humbug, who took up the business of a physician, had a deep knowledge of the healing art, was once called to visit a young man afflicted with apoplexy. Bolus gazed long and hard, felt his pulse and pocket, looked at his tongue, and his wife, and finally gave vent to the following sublime opinion:

"I think he's a gone fellow."
"No, no!" exclaimed the sorrowful wife, "do not say that."

"Yes," returned Bolus, lifting up his hat and eyes heavenward at the same time, "yes, I do say so; there arn't no hope, not the leastest might; he's got an attack of nihil-fit in his lost frontis—"

"Where?" cried the startled wife.
"In his lost frontis, and he can't be cured without some trouble and a great deal of pains. You see his whole planetary system is deranged: firstly, his vox populi is pressin' on his advalorum; secondly, his catacar-pial cutaneous has swelled considerably, if not more; thirdly and lastly, his solar ribs are in a concussed state, and he ain't got any money, consequently he's bound to die."

THEREBY HANGS A TAIL.—Two darkeys in the west went out to hunt possums, etc., and by accident found a large cave with a small entrance. Peeping in they observed three young whelps.

"Look heah, Sam," said one, "while I go dar and get the young bars, you jis watch heah for de ole bar."

Sam soon got to dozing in the sun, when, hearing a rustling and opening his eyes, he saw the old bear scouring her way into the cave. Quick as thought, he caught her by the tail, and held on for life.

"Hallo, dar, Sam, what dark de hole dar!" yelled Jumbo, from the interior.

"Lor' bless you, Jumbo, save yerself, honey—ef dis tail come out, you'll know wat dark de hole!"

A RETORT.—At a masculine supper party the other evening, an inveterate quiz was making a butt of a modest but bright youth seated opposite. At length something the former said caused the latter to blush visibly, to which fact, with great glee, he directed the company's attention.

"Ah!" exclaimed the sufferer, "Young says—"

"The man who blushes is not quite a brute."

"No!" rejoined the tormenter, "but very near one!"

"Probably," admitted the other, "for the table is but four feet wide!"

This retort, while it flung an avalanche of ridicule upon him, completely silenced the joker for the evening.

EFFECT OF CALICO.—The editor of the Rutland Herald, just married to a Boston girl, says that a pair of sweet lips, a pink waist-ribbon, and a pressure or two of delicate hands, will do as much to unhinge a man as three fevers, the measles, a large-sized whooping-cough, a pair of lock-jaws, several hydrophobias, and the doctor's bill."

WHERE DWELETH MUSIC?

She seeks a wild home in the ocean's roar,
In the floating breezes she loves to soar,
In the moaning wind, in the waterfall—
Oh, the spirit of music dwells in them all.

This fairy being hath many a tone,
And 'tis by her freaks that her pathway is known,
For the blackbird's song in the rustling tree
As the spirit passes grows firm and free.

Her presence is felt with the deepest sway
When the gorgeous daylight is passing away,
And the ling'ring sunbeams their brightness cast,
Each one in radiance outvicing the last—

They rest on the church, and its towering spire
Glow to the eye with a brightening fire;
Then to the brook, as it dances so free,
In the tiny streamlet a rainbow see.

Though we can not see her, I know she is nigh
When twinkling stars are gemming the sky,
And the glorious moon in the silver-cloud
Is sailing enwrap'd in her vestal shroud.

Oh, there's solemn music at daylight's close
In the hush of fair Nature's calm repose;
Ye need not search for that spirit fair,
For the home of music is everywhere.

Mark Lane Express.

MARCH WINDS—HIGHFALUTIN.

Crabbed old poets have told us that woman is fickle; others aver that the weather of April, its sunshine and showers, is the fittingest typical emblem of change without object; but either of these is inertia itself aside of the March wind, that roystering, rollicking old rough-and-tumble, that comes on the heel of the Winter, now chilling, now wooing the Spring. The man that last Saturday night was foredoomed to a stroll, or a flounder more like, in Broadway, must for once in his life have been able to answer the indefinite query of "What's in the wind?" It was dust, dust, and nothing but dust; above and below, to the left, to the right, before and behind; in the eyes, in the nose, in the ears, in the mouth, down the neck, up the leg, it was sifted and whisked and driven, by the ficklest, piercingest, ugliest wind of the season; a wind that abundantly filled the description that Solomon gave, when he said, "The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about to the north; it continually whirlleth about, and returneth again to its circuit." Such a whirling and twirling of dust, now mounting in clouds that invaded the true clouds of heaven, and sullied their aqueous purity; now raining like Etna's hot ashes, till the struggling multitude thought of Pompeii, and the horrors of living entombment. It was dreadful, and not to be borne by mortality; so home hied the half frozen, dust-begrimed traveler, leaving the thoroughfares free to the wind, save here and there looming a vehicle, which like an animate sand hill toiled on, with driver and horses quite blind and half stifled. But the boisterous, blustering month is near ended; and another such wind-wracked and desolate night we may hope is at least a full twelve-month ahead. Even yesterday raised a faint sun smile, as anxious to pass over lightly, and quickly forget that dirtiest of Saturday nights.—*N. Y. Tribune, March, 26.*

PAST AND PRESENT.—In the days of the patriarchs, a young woman's conduct was the index of her heart. When, for example, the father of Rebecca asked her if she would go with the servant of Isaac, she immediately replied, "I will go."

Now, had she been a daughter of the nineteenth century, she would have poutingly answered, "Pshaw! go with him! Why, Mr. Isaac must be sick! Go with him? Of course I won't!" But then she would go, after all.

LAST WORDS OF NOTED PERSONS.

There is an interest in the dying words of men that does not attach to them while living. They often give a clue to the whole history of the man. They still oftener give a significant intimation as to the state in which the departed expired. We give below the last words of a few of the great ones of the world. There is profit in pondering them. Our own may be recorded ere long:

"A death bed's a detector of the heart,
Here tired dissimulation drops her mask,
Through life's grimace that mistress of the scene;
Here real and apparent are the same."

"Head of the army."—Napoleon.

"I must sleep now."—Byron.

"It matters little how the head lieth."—Sir Walter Raleigh.

"Kiss me, Hardy."—Lord Nelson.

"Don't give up the ship."—Lawrence.

"I'm shot if I don't believe I'm dying."—Chancellor Thurlow.

"Is this your fidelity?"—Nero.

"Clasp my hand, my dear friend; I die."—Alferi.

"Give Dayrocles a chair."—Lord Chesterfield.

"God preserve the Emperor."—Haydn.

"The artery ceases to beat."—Haller.

"Let the light enter."—Goethe.

"All my possessions for a moment of time."—Queen Elizabeth.

"What! is there no bribing death?"—Cardinal Beaufort.

"I have loved God, my father and liberty."—Madam de Stael.

"Be serious."—Grotius.

"Into Thy hands, O Lord."—Tasso.

"It is small, very small indeed," (clasping her neck.)—Anne Boleyn.

"I pray you, see me safe up, and as for my coming down let me shift for myself," (ascending the scaffold.)—Sir Thomas More.

"Don't let that awkward squad fire over my grave."—Robert Burns.

"I feel as if I were myself again."—Sir Walter Scott.

"I resign my soul to God, and my daughter to my country."—Jefferson.

"It is well."—Washington.

"Independence forever."—Adams.

"It is the last of earth. I am content."—J. Q. Adams.

"I wish you to understand the true principles of the government. I wish them carried out. I ask no more."—Harrison.

"I have endeavored to do my duty."—Z. Taylor.

"There is not a drop of blood on my hands."—Frederick V., of Denmark.

"You spoke of the refreshments, my Emilie; take my last notes, sit down to my piano here, sing them with the hymn of your sainted mother; let me hear once more those notes which have so long been my solace and delight."—Mozart.

"A dying man can do nothing easy."—Franklin.

"Let not poor Nelly starve."—Charles II.

"Refresh me with a great thought."—Herden.

"I feel the daisies growing over me."—Keats.

"Let me die to the sound of delicious music."—Mirabeau.

There is a man down east said to be so opposed to Catholicism, that he won't travel on cross roads.

GOOD NATURE.—One can not imagine any quality, of the human mind whence greater advantages can arise to society than good nature; seeing that man is a sociable being, not made for solitude, but conversation. Good nature not only lessens the sorrows of life, but increases its comforts. It is more agreeable than beauty, or even wit. It gives a pleasing expression to the countenance, and induces a multitude of the most amiable observations. It is, indeed, the origin of all society. Were it not for good nature, men would not exist together, nor hold intercourse with one another. For this reason, man invented that species of artificial urbanity, called good breeding, which is nothing more than an imitation of good nature, for what is it but the reducing into a system of affability, complaisance, and easiness of temper? Good nature is an attitude of mind, on which objects act in an explicable way, and which discovers itself in universal benevolence to the whole creation. In it lies the foundation of all generous feeling to our neighbors, and of sympathy with every member of the human family. It is a portion of that love which is the attraction of the mental universe. It possesses a power, the progression of which will gradually banish slavery, tyranny, war, disease and vice, from the world, and unite man in one great brotherhood.

A LITTLE WORD.

A little word in kindness spoken,
A motion or a tear,
Has often healed the heart that's broken,
And made a friend sincere. BRIDELL.

PANG OF THE BETRAYED.

Oh, colder than the wind that freezes
Founts that but now in sunshine played,
Is the congealing pang that seizes
The trusting bosom when betrayed. MOORE.

WINE AND TEA.

If wine is poison, so is tea,
Only in another shape;
What matter whether one is killed
By canister or grape.

GOOD WIVES.—That young lady will make a good wife who does not apologise when you find her at work in the kitchen, but continues at her task until the work is finished. When I hear a lady say, "I shall attend church and wear my old bonnet and everyday gown, for I fear we shall have a rain storm," depend upon it she will be sure to make a good wife. When a daughter remarks, "I would not hire helps, for I can assist you in the kitchen," set it down she will make somebody a good wife. When you overhear a young woman saying to her father, "Don't purchase a very expensive or showy dress for me, but one that will wear best," you may always be certain she will make a good wife. When you see a female rise early, get breakfast, and do up her mother's work in season, and then sit down and knit, depend upon it she will make a good wife. When you see a female anxious to learn a trade, so as to earn something to support herself, and perhaps aged parents, you may be sure she will make one of the best of wives. The best qualities to look after in a wife are industry, humanity, neatness, gentleness, benevolence, and piety. When you find these there is no danger: you will obtain a treasure, and not regret your choice to the last period.

"Grass widows" are so called because their husbands are roving blades.

Perpetual motion—A woman's tongue when talking about her baby.

A PIG TAKING THE WATER CURE.—One of our friends in Indiana, who sends us a list of subscribers for the Journal, reports the following case of instinctive Water Cure treatment. The patient was none other, than one of those filthy animals—a swine—an infant.

"A few miles from this place, on a farm owned by a man well known here, one of the pigs of a litter was observed to be ailing, and while the others thrived, this little fellow pined away, and was, in consequence, put into a yard apart from the rest—as they thought to die.

"It so happened that there was on a hill-side in this yard, an ever-flowing spring of sparkling water, the water from which flowed in its course over a log, forming a 'young cataract,' under which, led by instinct, this little animal stood for some half a day or more. Well, Mr. Editor, what think you was the consequence? Why, the little fellow began to thrive immediately, and when last I saw it, was as brisk and large as the rest of the litter!

"Now, I do not wish to be understood as valuing the life of such an animal, for I would that the whole 'herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and were choked,' but in such a case we see the ostensible effects of water as a remedial agent."—*Water Cure Journal.*

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT BACK NUMBERS, &c.—Back numbers from the beginning of the present volume can still be supplied at 4 cents per number.

Volumes XI, XII, and XIII can be supplied at \$1 per volume unbound; or \$1.50 per volume bound.

The first ten volumes (new edition) can be furnished bound at \$1.25 per volume, or the complete set of ten volumes for \$10. Price of the first thirteen volumes \$14.50.

No new edition of the volumes subsequent the tenth will be issued, as the work is too large to admit of stereotyping.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has advanced from 25 to 50 cts. per bbl. the past week; Corn from 1 to 2 cts. per bushel.

Cotton is about 1/2 of a cent per lb. lower. Sugar an advance of 1/4 of a cent per lb. Tobacco of different grades from 1/2 to 2c. per lb.

The Weather has been warm and cold by turns, and is very dry. One of the severest gales from the northwest we ever experienced set in on Sunday, and continued blowing for about 40 hours. The season is very backward, all of two weeks later than that of 1853.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, April 3, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

There is still a very scanty supply of produce in market. Potatoes remain about the same, though they are in good demand and very limited. The weather is still too cold at the north, to open the potato pits. A few sweet potatoes came in to-day from Philadelphia. Cabbage is enormously high.

Now is an excellent time to bring in apples from the west, as they are in good demand this cool weather.

Butter is firm, though the market is rather bare. Eggs, a little higher.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—New-Jersey Mercers	do	\$ 4 — @ 4 50
Western Mercers	do	4 — @ 4 25
White Mercers	do	4 — @ 4 25
Nova Scotia Mercers	do	— @ 3 87
New-Jersey Carters	do	4 50 @ 4 75
Washington County Carters	do	4 — @ —
Junes	do	3 25 @ 3 50
Western Reds	do	2 87 @ 3 12
Yellow Pink Eyes	do	2 75 @ 3 25
Long Reds	do	2 50 @ 2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes	do	4 25 @ 4 50
Philadelphia sweet	do	5 50 @ —
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do	1 62 @ 1 8
White	do	2 — @ 2 2

Onions—White	do	6 — @ —
Red	do	3 50 @ 4 —
Yellow	do	4 75 @ 5 —
Cabbages	do	100 — @ 14 —
Beets	do	1 87 @ 2 25
Carrots	do	— @ 1 87
Parsnips	do	1 50 @ —

FRUITS, ETC.

Apples—Spitzenbergs	do	\$ 1 00 @ 4 50
Greenings	do	3 50 @ 4 00
Gilliflowers	do	3 50 @ 4 00
Baldwins	do	3 75 @ 4 24
Butter—Orange County	do	25 @ 30c.
Western	do	18 @ 20c.
Cheese	do	12 @ 13c.
Eggs	do	21 @ 22c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY April 4, 1855.

The whole number of cattle in market to-day is 1,784, being 217 more than last week. The market is rather slow, and the prices indicate a slight falling off. This is owing in a measure to the weather, but rather to the enormously high prices, which butchers are very unwilling to give. Still, the brokers remain pretty firm, and do all they can to sustain last week's quotations: Poor cattle figure much more largely to-day than a week or two past, though taken together they are a very good lot. A large share came from Ohio, including some of the best animals in the yards.

We still hear complaints about high quotations, as tho' that were the cause of high prices and not vice versa. One would think, to hear some persons talk, that reporters were a very crab-sided people, whose interest it is to look all one way. We beg leave to assure these very disinterested gentlemen who profess to look after the general welfare with such zeal, that we shall not misstate prices for their benefit, be they high or low. We know how agreeable it is for them to buy low, and sell high, but we are not particularly interested in that matter, which they will doubtless find should prices go ever so high.

Below are some of the lots offered:

Jas. Perrill had an excellent drove of 77, from Ross Co., Ohio, sold by John Merritt. They would weigh about 825 lbs., and were selling at 11 @ 12c.

Another superior lot of 57, from Ross Co., was sold by Sam'l Ulery, for 12 to 12 1/2c. This was about equal to any in the yards, and belonged to David Moore.

Forty-two Mason Co. Virginia cattle were sold by Joseph Williams, at from 11 to 12c. Durham grades, and very fair.

J. W. Crabill had a good fair lot of 64 young cattle from Clarke Co., O., which were estimated to weigh about 725 each. They were sold by Dr. Wellington, at from 11 to 12 cents.

Mead & Holcomb had a rough crowd of Illinois cattle, 97 in all, selling for 9 @ 10 1/2c. They were the property of Joseph Morgan.

J. F. Hill had 78 still-fed cattle, from near Buffalo, which were selling by Geo. Toffey at 11 @ 11 1/2c. per lb. Weight about 750 lbs.

Sam'l C. McGraw had 14 nice cattle, fed by Dr. Colwin of Syracuse. They sold as high as 12 1/2c. per lb.

David Belden was selling 56 fine still-fed cattle from 11 1/2 to 12 1/2c. per lb.

Mr. Howard, of Huron Co., O., had a superior pair of full-blood Durhams, for which he was offered \$450. They were 6 year olds, had taken three premiums—fed 3 years, and weighed 5,400 lbs. They were held at \$475.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality at	12 @ 12 1/2c.
Good retailing quality beef is selling at	10 1/2 @ 12c.
Inferior do. do.	9 @ 10 1/2c.
Cows and Calves	\$35 @ \$70.
Veals	5c. @ 7c.
Sheep, poor	\$4 50.
do good	\$5 1/2 @ \$6.
do extra	\$7 50.
Swine, alive	5 1/2c. @ 6 1/2c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.		IN MARKET TO-DAY.	
Beesves	1820		1784
Cows	31		
Veals	530		
Sheep and lambs	460		
Swine	1997		

Of these there came by the Eric Railroad—beesves 1187
Swine 1997
Sheep 460
Veals —
By the Harlem Railroad—Beesves 193
Cows —
Veals 530
Sheep and Lambs —

New-York State furnished	291
Ohio	1191
Indiana	197
Illinois	235
Virginia	174
Kentucky	—
Connecticut	4

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs	1684
Beesves	325
Veals	113
Cows and Calves	85

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

263 Beef Cattle	\$1 @ 11 1/2
85 Cows and Calves	\$30 @ \$60
2,800 Sheep	\$3 75 @ \$8.
60 Calves	4 @ 6 1/2c.

The demand for sheep is large and the supply very light. Good prices are offered now.

Mr. James McCarty, sheep broker at Browning's, Sixth-street, reports the following sales of sheep: 45 for \$379 79; 21 for \$112; 149 for \$687 75; 76 for \$440 80; 93 for \$374 50; 94 for \$404—Total, 487 head, for \$2,348 84. Average price per head \$4 92.

Mr. McCarty reports the market as continuing good and sheep very scarce.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes	
Pot, 1st sort, 1853	100 lb. — @ 6 25
Pearl, 1st sort, 1852	6 25 @ —
Beeswax	
American Yellow	20 @ 27 1/2
Bristles	
American, Gray and White	45 @ 50
Coal	
Liverpool Orrel	chaldron — @ 7 25
Scotch	— @ —
Sidney	7 — @ 7 —
Pictou	6 25 @ —
Anthracite	2,000 lb. 6 50 @ 7 —
Cotton	
Ordinary	Upland. 7 1/2 Florida. 7 1/2 Mobile. 8 N. O. & Texas. 8 1/2
Middling	9 9 9 1/2 9 1/2
Middling Fair	9 1/2 10 10 1/2 10 1/2
Fair	10 1/2 10 1/2 11 11 1/2

Cotton Bagging	
Gunny Cloth	1/2 yard — 11 1/2 @ —
American Kentucky	— @ —
Dundee	— @ —

Coffee	
Java	13 @ 14 1/2
Mocha	14 @ 15
Brazil	10 @ 11 1/2
Maracaibo	11 @ 12 1/2
St. Domingo	(cash) 9 @ 9 1/2

Flax	
Jersey	8 @ 9

Flour and Meal	
State, common brands	9 25 @ 9 37
State, straight brands	9 37 @ —
State, favorite brands	9 50 @ —
Western, mixed do.	9 62 1/2 @ —
Michigan and Indiana, straight do.	9 75 @ 9 87
Michigan, fancy brands	9 87 @ —
Ohio, common to good brands	— @ 9 75
Ohio, fancy brands	— @ 9 87
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.	— @ 10 25
Genesee, fancy brands	10 — @ 10 50
Genesee, extra brands	10 50 @ 12 —
Canada, (in bond)	9 62 @ —
Brandywine	9 50 @ —
Georgetown	9 50 @ 9 75
Petersburg City	9 50 @ —
Richmond Country	— @ 9 37
Alexandria	— @ 9 37
Baltimore, Howard-Street	— @ 9 37
Rye Flour	6 25 @ —
Corn Meal, Jersey	4 25 @ —
Corn Meal, Brandywine	4 50 @ —
Corn Meal, Brandywine	5 @ 5 20

Grain	
Wheat, White Genesee	2 70 @ 2 75
Wheat, do. Canada, (in bond)	— @ 2 30
Wheat, Southern, White	2 25 @ 2 30
Wheat, Ohio, White	2 50 @ —
Wheat, Michigan, White	2 52 @ 2 60
Rye, Northern	1 37 @ —
Corn, Round Yellow	97 @ 1 —
Corn, Round White	— @ 99
Corn, Southern White	— @ 99
Corn, Southern Yellow	98 @ 99
Corn, Southern Mixed	— @ —
Corn, Western Mixed	— @ 99
Corn, Western Yellow	— @ —
Barley	1 28 @ —
Oats, River and Canal	65 @ —
Oats, New-Jersey	55 @ 60
Oats, Western	71 @ 68
Peas, Black-Eyed	2 25 @ —

Hay	
North River, in bales	90 @ —

Lime	
Rockland, Common	100 @ 1 05

Lumber	
Timber, White Pine	18 @ 24
Timber, Oak	25 @ 30
Timber, Grand Island, W. O.	35 @ 38
Timber, Geo. Yel. Pine	(by cargo) 18 @ 22
WARD SELLING PRICES	
Timber, Oak Scantling	1 M. ft. 30 @ 40
Timber, or Beams, Eastern	17 50 @ 19 75
Plank, Geo. Pine, Worked	— @ 40
Plank, Geo. Pine, Unworked	20 @ 25
Plank and Boards, N. R. Clear	37 50 @ 42 50
Plank and Boards, N. R. 2d qual.	25 @ 32
Boards, North River, Box	16 @ 18
Boards, Albany Pine	14 @ 20

AMERICAN EDITION.

DAVY'S HERD BOOK OF DEVON CATTLE.

Edited by Ambrose Stevens. C. M. SAXTON & CO., 132 Fulton-st., New-York, propose to reprint, from the English Edition, "DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK."

This work was published in England at \$2 75, and would cost here, if imported, \$3 50. It is comprised in two volumes, the first of which is not now to be obtained, being out of print.

It will be published at a price not exceeding \$1. The publishers do not propose this undertaking for pecuniary advantage to themselves, as the cost will equal the price of the book; but as they confine their attention to the publication and sale of Agricultural Books, and this work being in their line, they wish to meet the wants of the public in this respect.

The pedigrees of the American Herds contained in the English edition will be corrected and extended, where the editor has, from knowledge, the means, or where breeders and owners will furnish the means to do so.

An Appendix will be added, containing authentic pedigrees of American Devon Cattle, not included in the English Edition. To this end, we request the co-operation of breeders and owners, by forwarding their pedigrees immediately, postage paid, to C. M. SAXTON, & CO., New-York.

THIS WORK IS INDISPENSABLE

to every breeder of Devon Cattle in America, and must be possessed by them if they would understandingly pursue their business.

Breeders can afford to take a large number of copies to distribute to their customers and the public, as advertisements of their herds.

The American edition will be edited by the Hon. Ambrose Stevens, editor of "Youatt and Martin on Cattle," "Youatt and Martin on the Hogg," &c.

Subscribers will forward their names to the undersigned. C. M. SAXTON & CO., 132 Fulton-street, New-York.

Table listing prices for various types of boards (Boards, City Worked), shingles, and molasses.

Table listing prices for oil cake (Thin Oblong, Thick, Round) and provisions (Beef, Pork, Ham).

Table listing prices for more provisions (Pork, Lard, Shoulders, Beef Hams, Butter, Cheese).

Table listing prices for rice (Ordinary to fair, Good to prime) and salt (Turk's Island, St. Martin's).

Table listing prices for sugar (St. Croix, New-Orleans, Cuba, Porto Rico, Havana).

Table listing prices for tallow (American, Prine) and tobacco (Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland).

Table listing prices for more tobacco (St. Domingo, Cuba, Yara, Havana, Florida, Connecticut, Pennsylvania).

Table listing prices for wool (American, Saxony Fleece, American, Full Blood Merino).

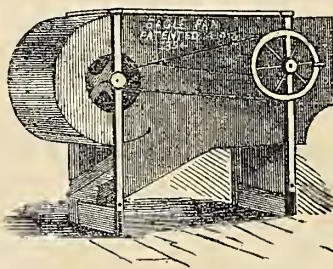


ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE

VINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fourteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public.

The additional experience of two past seasons, give him full assurance that by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the Northern, all the Middle, Western and Southern States.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth. Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM. LAWTON, 83-108th Street, No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

CHEMICAL MANURE.—Nitrate of Soda in bags, and Refuse Saltpetre in barrels, both highly recommended as a cheap and superior manure for fruit trees and all kinds of garden vegetable beds, oats, &c.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS. I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle...

Also, about seventy-five (75) SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few SUFFOLK HOGS, bred from the importation of J. C. Jackson, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me. TERMS OF SALE. For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.

SITUATION ON A FARM WANTED.—

A YOUNG MAN, German by birth, of respectable parentage, well educated, and who has been engaged in farming for some years already, in this and his native country, wishes to find a situation with an intelligent, scientific farmer, in the vicinity of New-York preferred, where ample opportunity, practically and theoretically, is afforded to him, to cultivate and perfect his knowledge of agriculture and keeping of stock.

He is able and willing to work, and, although he would like to receive the fair value of his labor, is not especially anxious to get high wages, the main object in view being to secure a place where he can acquire a thorough knowledge of his calling, and where he will be well treated.

If such a situation is obtained by him, his employer shall have no occasion to regret the engagement. Address W. L., care of Editors of Agriculturist. 79-82n1178

L. G. MORRIS'S CATALOGUE, WITH

prices attached, of Domestic Animals at private sale, will not be ready for delivery until the first of April. It will contain Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine.

Mount Fordham, March 6, 1855 79fn1179

PURE DEVON FOR SALE.—

The yearling Bull ALBERT, calved April, 1853. Got by imported Reubens, (winner of several prizes at the Fairs of the American Institute, New-York City) out of a full blood Devon Cow. Good size, and perfectly docile.

ALFRED M. TREDWELL, Madison, New-Jersey. 79-84n1175

ATKIN'S SELF-RAKING REAPER

and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of its practical worth. THREE HUNDRED, scattered into 110 different States the past season, mostly in unexperienced hands, and nearly all giving good satisfaction, cutting from 50 to 600 acres, proves it not only strong and serviceable, but also simple and easily managed.

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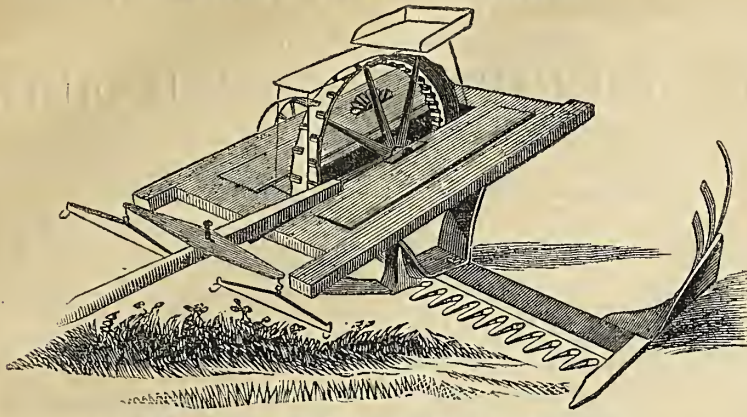
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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

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EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

CULTIVATION OF BARLEY.

Quantity Raised in the United States.—Barley, though coextensive in its cultivation with the first settlement of Virginia and the other Colonies, has never reached a very large crop. The product of the entire Union in 1850, but little exceeded 5,000,000 bushels. The increasing demand within the past few years, owing to the large immigration of beer-consuming Germans and other foreigners, has, however, largely stimulated the consumption of barley in this country. The growth has been increased here about 25 per cent, between 1840 and '50; and its progress is still onward, as is shown by the rapid advance of price in all the American markets.

Its Uses.—Barley, till within a few years, has been almost wholly used as a food for our domestic animals. Pigs have had the greater share of it, constituting, when mixed with Indian corn and ground, a considerable proportion of their fattening material, in such sections as produced it. It has, to some extent, been fed to horses and poultry; but for the former, oats are generally preferred, and for the latter, corn; as barley is thought to increase their inclination to brooding. It has never been much used for human food among us, albeit it had a great reputation among the ancient Greeks, and the neighboring cultivated nations of antiquity. Its use in modern times as food, is more generally limited to the Nomadic and half civilized nations, such as the Arabs, Tartars, and other Eastern nations. The most highly civilized, as England, Scotland, Germany, &c., however, make immense use of it for malting and conversion into beer, ale, &c. In this mode of consumption, we think the cows get the best part of the barley, (little as it is,) in the shape of the "brewer's grains," which is the residuum after extracting all that is convertible into the fermented,

vinous, alcoholic mass, which is destined to muddle the brains of the beer bibbers. When ground, barley is an excellent food for fattening pigs and milk cows, producing a large flow of milk, though by its stimulating properties, some ascribe an injurious effect to the lacteal vessels and glands. This grain is also much used as "pearled barley" for soups, &c., and as a light and wholesome diet for invalids. As compared with wheat, its nutritive average is about as 65 of barley to 78 of wheat.

Varieties.—Three primary varieties have been cultivated—the six, the four, and the two rowed, with numerous subdivisions of the two latter. The former is a fanciful type of this grain, and is seldom sown; and the two-rowed has proved itself so greatly superior to the four, that it is now almost the only kind cultivated. The four-rowed is known in many parts of Great Britain as Beare or Bigg—a name scarcely introduced into the nomenclature of American farmers. There are some winter varieties of barley, which are hardy enough to withstand the severe cold of winter. Among these the Siberian is generally esteemed the best. All barley, like oats, will bear the light frost of our Southern States, and with them, it is generally made a winter grain. It is sown in October or November, and grows rapidly under the genial skies and autumnal rains of those warm climes, and afford excellent winter pasturage for sheep, or it may be cut and carried off the ground for green fodder.

Soil.—There is no use in attempting to raise a good crop of barley on a poor soil. If your field is not in good condition, better sow to oats, or manure it and put it in corn, or something else. A sandy or hungry gravel is not a soil to bear good barley. Good, deep mellow loam is the best for this grain; but a strong clay well pulverized and dry, will yield an excellent crop.

Climate.—Barley does best in a temperate latitude, say within those States, between 38° and 43°. But barley is susceptible of acclimation in a high northern latitude. It has been successfully grown in Europe as far north as 72°, and on the Himalaya mountains in Asia, 10,000 to 12,000 feet above the level of tide-water. The product, however, in these instances, is small, and it is only in a good soil, suitable climate, and with deep and thorough tillage, a large crop of barley may be expected.

Plowing and Preparation of the Ground.—Deep and thorough plowing and harrowing is absolutely requisite for a luxuriant growth

of barley. If either cloddy or light soil, the heavy roller must also be added.

Sowing and Quantity of Seed per Acre.—Sowing broadcast is the almost universal rule in this country; though in the use of the seed-drill there would be equal economy of seed, with other advantages similar, but of not equal extent, as with other grain.

From 2½ to 4 bushels of seed is applied to an acre. The quantity, as in all other cases of grain or grass-seed sowing, should depend on the fineness of tilth—a rough, cloddy, intractable clay requiring much more seed than a well-pulverized, friable soil. Crops of 69 bushels per acre, of full weight, have been raised in this State with only 3 bushels of seed. A larger quantity, however, is generally to be preferred on rich lands.

Cultivation is of course out of the question, unless sowed in drills, when the cultivator may be used with advantage. The roller ought to be run over it after sowing, to compact the earth around the seed, a firm footing being peculiarly essential to this grain. As it is important that the grain be clean, hand-weeding is essential where previous cultivation has not effectually rid the field of obnoxious seeds.

Harvesting.—Skillful watch should be kept of the ripening crop, and the grain should be gathered just before it is so ripe as to shell in gathering. When gathered it ought to remain in the straw 20 to 30 days before threshing, to undergo the sweating operation, which is essential to preparing it for the malters. Too much haste in getting it to market greatly impairs its value. Carelessness in threshing, by which the grain is broken, is also equally objectionable; as for malting purposes, vitality of the seed is essential to its sprouting, and when broken it is worse than useless, as it really injures the germinating seed.

Barley Straw is soft, sweet and nutritive. All of the domestic herbaceous animals greedily devour it.

CEMENT FOR GRAFTING.

A very common kind of grafting wax made use of by nurserymen, is composed of equal parts of tallow, beeswax and resin. If a little tallow be added, it renders the wax more pliable. The French use a composition of beeswax, turpentine, and resin, in equal parts, which, while warm, is spread on strips of coarse cotton or strong paper, and wrapped around the graft.

Common clay is often employed by farm

ers, and besides being at trifling expense, answers all purposes. We have always been successful in simply making use of well-tempered clay, without any other ingredient; though perhaps to two parts clay it is better to add one part of horse-dung, and a little hair to prevent cracking. This should always be well mixed and tempered, so as to be easily molded by the hand. *

CONNECTICUT STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We learn that the citizens of Hartford have raised the sum of \$3,200 towards the expenses of the next exhibition. The Executive Committee have decided to accept this sum, and have appointed the time for holding the next (second) Annual Show at Hartford, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th.

Since writing the above we have received a copy of the premium list, show regulations, &c., copies of which can be obtained, we presume, by addressing the Corresponding Secretary, Henry A. Dyer, Brooklyn, Windham Co., Conn. The premiums offered are quite liberal and are distributed among the different classes with discretion. We give the following announcement of the Executive Committee:

Col. Colt has generously offered the grounds in the vicinity of his new armory on the south meadows, for the use of the Society. This land is admirably adapted to the purposes of the exhibition, and every facility for the proper display to the best advantage of all classes of Stock, will be afforded. A half-mile track, properly graded and prepared, will be constructed for the exhibition of horses, and arrangements will be made for a thorough and satisfactory display of the various classes specified in the list. The Committee of Arrangements are confident that the liberal premiums offered and desirable arrangements proposed, will bring out an unsurpassed display of horses from this and other States, and believe this department will make an attractive feature of the Exhibition. The cooperation of Manufacturers and Mechanics of all classes is earnestly solicited, and the full exhibition of the varied products of the State is confidently looked for.

It is desirable that early notice shall be given by those who design to exhibit, of the amount and character of space they will require, in order that suitable erections and arrangements may be made for a satisfactory exhibition of the industrial arts of Connecticut.

It is hoped that every producer and artisan of the State will feel called upon for the honor of the State to assist to the extent of his ability in making this a just exposition of the capacity of Connecticut. The eminent success of the exhibition of last year has drawn the attention of neighboring States to our Society, and we trust that all classes will strive to make our success progressive.

The New-York and New-Haven Railroad, the New-Haven, Hartford and Springfield Railroad, and the Providence, Hartford and Fishkill Railroad, will transport stock and articles for exhibition, under such regulations as will be hereafter specified, free of charge to and from the city of Hartford.

It is presumed the other roads in the State will afford like facilities of which due notice will be given.

Gentlemen appointed on committees will confer a favor and greatly facilitate the busi-

ness of the exhibition, if they will at once notify the Corresponding Secretary of their acceptance of the appointment and willingness to serve.

For convenience of reference we append the names and address of the Officers:

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RECORDING SECRETARY AND TREASURER,

JOHN A. PORTER, New-Haven.

For the American Agriculturist.

SEED CORN, ETC.

In your paper of the 14th inst., there is a very interesting and instructing article upon the culture of Indian Corn, which may be read with profit by most farmers; yet I think you might have made some parts of it more to the advantage of young farmers, and probably to older ones. I can quite agree with you until you get to the latter part of the paragraph on "selecting seed;" in which you say—"in planting, the small end of the ear should be rejected for seed."—Now why should it be rejected, (excepting the very out-most grains), provided the end of the ear is perfectly sound? Is it because you think the germs of those grains imperfect, or because you think they will not produce a sprout strong enough to thrive equally well with those grains which are further on the cob, and consequently larger? If these are your objections, I must here disagree with you, believing they are just as capable of producing a germ quite strong enough to thrive and to produce as well as those grains nearer the middle of the cob. (a) You say it is "superfluous nicety" to throw away the grains near the butt. Now, I should rather have the small grains than these, and always throw away these grains and retain the *sound* small ones, inasmuch as I consider them to produce the earlier ears. So, in sowing seed of any kind, I would rather have that near the blossom end than that near the stem or butt end; and, by continually practising this plan, we may cause our plants to grow to maturity earlier than by using the seed of the opposite end.

I doubt not that your soaks are good; but there is one I consider above any I have tried, or known to be tried, and that is, soaking the seed in the drainings of the barnyard, and rolling it in plaster; or, in the absence of this, in ashes, which I think equally good. This also should be kept damp until planted. I have planted the grains when the root sprouts have been an eighth of an inch in length, only being careful to cover deep so as to insure moisture, if the season is dry.

A good way of marking out the ground is as follows—though, if the soil of two furrows has not more strength than when the corn is planted on the level, it is of no use. I allude to the mode of ridging, double or back-furrowing, as it is variously termed. Many think it too much trouble to move the

poles for this, even though they will acknowledge its utility. But poles are needless after the first furrow is struck out, and since any person who is a plowman may keep his after ridges as straight as the first without them, by coupling his horses with a stick, so as to keep them apart, thus allowing him to look ahead, and also to keep the proper distance from the former ridge. By doing this, too, you are not obliged to begin to work your ground so soon as by other methods. You may allow the grass to start up until in passing by you are scarcely able to see the plants. But you may say, it will take so much labor to get the grass out; on the contrary, on middling stiff clay it does not take so much work as the more common mode of cross-furrowing, since your plants are raised above the common level and in a place free from grass roots. You can now take a heavy fallow harrow, and go over each row twice by harrowing the distance between each of the rows three times, and the ground, having been thrown into ridges, will, when harrowed down, be mellow and in fine order. This is the first step, and one very necessary where the previous crop was Timothy grass. In a week or two after, you may plow it, throwing the furrow away from the plants, a practice gaining in favor in this vicinity. Here too, you will perceive that I differ from you, as you do not appear to think plowing at all necessary, but rather injurious; without it, however, we would get very scaly crops. (b) Furrows may be thrown back with one horse, when the corn should be gone over with the hoe to thin out the hills, and to right up those mashed down in plowings. The subsequent attention is to plow again, with one or two harrowings.

In this neighborhood, stalks are never put under shelter, but stacked up in the field, each stack holding from half a wagon-load to a full load, according to the quality of the ground for producing them.

The corn is allowed to remain on the stalks until ripe, excepting in some cases where wheat is to be sown, when the stalks are cut up and stacked in heaps of 12 to 16 hills each. These the cattle do not eat near so well as those gathered later, and stacked in the field. We have no need of cutting the stalks, and when it would be of much use, the farmers would rather buy what they want, than go to so much "trouble," using the time which would be thus occupied in sitting in the house reading the news. (c)

Pilesgrove, N. J., March 28, 1855.

J. P.

(a). It is a general rule with plants as with animals, that "like produces like;" and any one deviating from this safe and wholesome rule, does it at his peril. We know that corn has been brought to a high state of improvement, as to length and fulness of ear, their increased number on a stalk, perfection of grain, &c., by the careful selection of the most perfect ears and the most prolific stalks, and rejecting the small grains at the end of the ear. Then why guess away the very rational conclusion that this is the result of the practice? Small grains, under favorable circumstances, may produce full ears; but we think reason is equally against their use, as it unquestionably is against the use of small potatoes. Observation so far as known or published, is certainly in favor of selecting the largest and best of seed.

(b). We advocate the substitution of the cultivator for shallow plowing, which we object to with the plow for no other reason, than that a cultivator will do all that is necessary and safe, by stirring the surface only, which it will accomplish with at least three

times the rapidity that it can be done with a plow, and without danger of cutting off the roots and their fibers. The latter result, when the plow is used, forms one principal and vital objection to its use.

(c). Those farmers who have not so great an abundance as our correspondent, find it necessary to economise their corn stalks by cutting them. They will go nearly twice as far for doing so, and surely the money spent in better preparing for consumption what we already possess, is as well invested as in purchasing extra fodder from our neighbors.

For the American Agriculturist.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

Those plants ought to succeed each other which contain different chemical ingredients, so that the quantities of each which the soil at any given time contains may be absorbed in a given ratio. Thus a productive crop of corn could not be obtained without the phosphates of lime, magnesia, &c., which are present in that grain, and the silicate of potass. which gives stability to the stalks. It would be injudicious, therefore, to sow any plant that required much if any of these ingredients, immediately after having diminished the amount of their presence in the soil by a crop of wheat or any other kind of grain. But on the other hand, leguminous plants, such as beans, peas, &c., are well calculated to succeed any of the grain crops of wheat, corn, &c., because they contain no free alkalies, and less than one per cent of the phosphates. They thrive, therefore, even when these ingredients have been withdrawn, and during their growth afford time for the soil to obtain a fresh supply of disintegration of the subjacent rock, or a liquefaction of the interspersed sand which the soil contains.

For the same reason, wheat and tobacco may sometimes be raised in succession in a soil rich in potass., because the latter plant requires none of those phosphoric salts which are present in wheat. In order, however, to proceed upon *certain* data, it would be requisite that an analysis of the plants most useful to man should be accomplished in the different stages of their growth, a labor which has hitherto been only partially undertaken. Though the Royal and Highland Societies, and other kindred institutions have done much, much is still to be done.

It is a curious fact that the same plant differs in constitution when grown in different climates. Thus, in the beet-root, nitre takes the place of sugar when this plant is cultivated in the warmer parts of France; and for the same reason, I am of opinion that the beet (even the white Selecian) is not so rich in saccharine juices in the southern and middle States as in some parts of western Europe. The probable reason of the difference is this: The beet-root contains, as an essential ingredient, not only saccharine matter, but also nitrogen, and it is probable that the two are mutually so connected together in the vegetable tissue, that the one cannot exist without the other. The nitrogen being derived from the decomposition of ammonia, must be effected by any cause which diminishes the supply of the latter, and in proportion as this ingredient is wanting, the secretion of sugar will likewise fall off.

It is stated by Leibig that the formation of nitric acid is owing to the decomposition of ammonia, and it is conceived by him that the last product of the decomposition of animal bodies present themselves in the form of ammonia in cold climates, and in that of nitric acid in warm ones. Hence, in propor-

tion to the amount of nitric acid formed, and of nitre absorbed by the plant, that of the nitrogen, and, consequently, that of the saccharine matter present in it may be diminished.

WHISTLER AT THE PLOW.

For the American Agriculturist.

"SHE LOOKETH WELL TO THE WAYS OF HER HOUSEHOLD."

"Eating," says the Rev. Leonard Withington, "is one of the lowest enjoyments of a rational being; and yet necessary to our mental repose and our mental speculations. If a man will not work neither shall he eat; but it is equally clear that, if he does not eat, neither can he work. There is no character which raises such perfect contempt as a glutton; but this miserable vice is the abuse of a natural appetite. Take away from the astronomer his food, and he will soon cease to lift his telescope to the stars. The saint, the martyr, the moralist, and the poet all pursue their sublime occupations through the vigor and animation of the body. Man does not live on bread alone, but, in order to live, he certainly needs bread."

To prepare the food which is to sustain the poet, the moralist and the saint is certainly the sphere of woman; and she should not consider herself degraded by the performance of duties, which are so essential to the comfort and happiness of those she loves. These duties should be performed in the best possible manner in every household, and if they are not so performed the responsibility and the blame must rest with the housekeeper. She should know how every thing should be done in her house, and that it is done in the best way. Of course, a young housekeeper can not know every thing intuitively, but she should make it her object to learn, and she should not hesitate to go into her kitchen and put her own hand to whatever is to be done. A housekeeper should never exert herself beyond her strength; such efforts are suicidal, and many persons have sacrificed their lives to a foolish ambition to do every thing themselves. But a housekeeper can learn how every thing is to be done by a little practice each day. She can go into the kitchen and make the bread herself; she can make cake and pastry, and she can wash dishes, &c. She will find that her physical health and strength are increased and not diminished by such efforts. It is very important that she should know how to direct her servants. If she is not able to do it, it is generally pretty certain, in our country, that they will not know how to direct themselves, and every thing in the house will be in disorder and confusion. She must not allow any thing to be wasted. It is really sinful in these days, when provisions are so expensive, and so many persons are suffering from hunger, that food should be badly prepared, badly cooked, and then thrown away because it is not eatable. A housekeeper should know how to work that she may be able to sympathize with her servants, otherwise she may require more of them than is reasonable, or, on the other hand, she may not require enough, and thus leave them to spend their time in idleness and folly.

She must look after the comfort and happiness of her servants. If a woman is hired for a day's service, it is necessary not only to see that her work is properly done, but that she is properly cared for. I know a country housekeeper who, when ever she hires a woman to wash, she does not see her for the day, and she is left to the mercy of the servants, who are too lazy to do the washing themselves. At one time, when a person so employed was suffering from a severe cough, she was required by the ser-

vants to wash in a cold room, in mid-winter, because the washing would disturb them in the kitchen. They gave her no breakfast, so that she nearly fainted before dinner was ready for her.

A little attention from the housekeeper would correct many errors. A lady of cultivated mind and good judgement can, of course, devise "ways and means" of overcoming difficulties, and executing necessary duties, which would not occur to an uncultivated, illiterate girl. A servant may make the same mistake year after year, which her mistress could rectify with a moment's time. I do not advocate the idea that a housekeeper should, in all circumstances, "do her own work." *If she can afford it*, it is perfectly right that she should hire the work of the family done by servants, especially if she has the skill and tact to make others execute her wishes. She has various duties to perform besides those of the kitchen. She is to be the companion of her husband, and the educator of her children, and she must neglect to cultivate her own mind by reading and writing. A good housekeeper, "Looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness."

MARY H.

SPONGE-CAKE.

13 eggs, 1½ lbs. of sugar, ¾ lb. of flour, the rind of 1 lemon, 1 tablespoonful of lemon juice. The eggs should be beaten a long time, and the sugar should be put gradually into the egg. The nicest sugar should be used for sponge-cake. The tins in which the cake is to be baked should be lined with a hard paste made of flour and water, and rolled out very thin. The flour should be added just as it goes into the oven, and the cake should be stirred as little as possible after the flour is put in.

CIDER-CAKE.

1 cup of butter, 2 cups of sugar, 3 cups of flour, 4 eggs, 1 cup of cider, 1 teaspoonful of soda, a little nutmeg.

WHITE-CAKE.

1 lb. of white sugar, ¾ lb. of flour, 6 oz. of butter, the whites of 14 eggs beaten to a stiff froth, a little mace and citron. This cake should be frosted. It is nice and delicate.

M. H.

For the American Agriculturist.

PLOWING DEEP OR SHALLOW.

I am, and always have been, an advocate of deep plowing. So far as my experience and observation go, deep and thorough tillage have ever been attended with paying crops. In 1851, I tried an experiment to test this question, and raised as much corn on five-eighths of an acre with 11½ cords of manure, as I did on an acre with 15 cords. The five-eighths was plowed twice, nine inches, and the acre once, six inches deep. I would not advise any one to turn up more subsoil at once than can be manured so as to make the whole fertile.

I consider autumn the best time for deepening the soil, for two reasons: First, teams are stronger, and work is not so hurrying; second, the subsoil is left exposed to the action of the frost, which will do much toward pulverizing it. Deep and thorough pulverization is a good safeguard against an excess of wet, and also against severe drouth. All the food taken from the soil by vegetation is in a liquid state, and the finer the soil is pulverized the better its condition for a crop. No part of farm-work pays so well as this for the extra labor, when thoroughly done, and yet none is more neglected.

A series of carefully-conducted experiments is needed. Let no one excuse himself because he does not understand how to manage, but go to work and learn for himself. Experiment alone can decide the practical part of this question.

S. T.

HOP GROWING.

(Continued from page 53.)

Baling, or Bagging.—As soon as the hops have become a little softened by moisture acquired by lying from twelve to twenty days in the heap, the process of bagging commences. The bales used here ordinarily contain about two hundred pounds. The great object in baling is to press the hops as closely as possible, to prevent the escape of the fragrance. The hops keep better for being well and closely pressed; and for this reason screws are always used—sometimes in presses made for the purpose, at others in the press of a cider mill.

The mode of baling, which was first used and suggested by Col. Jaques, and now universally adopted by the best growers in this State, is thus: One-half of the baling cloth is laid down upon the floor, and a large square box placed upon it. The hops are now put into the box, and trodden down till it is full. The screws are now applied; after which they may be raised, if necessary, and more hops put in to fill up. The other half of the cloth is now put over the top, in the same manner as the first cloth was laid to cover the lower part of the bale. The screws are applied till the pressure is sufficient, when the sides of the box, which are movable, are taken away; the bale being still under the screws, the two cloths are brought together and sewed as tight as convenient to do it. After the sewing is completed the screws may be raised, and the bale is finished.

The process of baling among the hop growers in some parts of England is still similar to the mode of baling here previous to the use of screws, though in some instances they have adopted the hydraulic presses. "A circular hole, covered by a trap door, and sufficiently large to admit the mouth of a hop bag, is made in the floor of the storage room. A few hops are tied tight in the lower corners of the bag, in order that, when full, they may be lifted and removed with ease. A hoop, rather larger than the circumference of the hole, is used to stretch out the bag, by means of hooks on the outer side of it—the inner side of the hoop, when the bag is let down into the hole, either resting on the floor, or on a frame of wood made over it. When the bag is thus stretched out and let into the opening, the feeder throws down a few shovelfuls, and the 'bagster,' descending into the bag, with flat shoes or leather socks on his feet, treads the hops regularly and carefully down, especially toward the sides. More hops are then thrown down, and closely pressed, until the bag is filled—the tighter and closer the better; for, the firmer they are packed, the longer they will keep. The hoop is then loosened, the bag is let down to the lower floor, more hops are tied into the upper corners, and it is sewed up as closely as possible—the whole operation being generally completed within an hour."

The mode of pressure with screws is so far superior to the baling described above that it is surprising that it has not been universally adopted.

Cost and Profit of Raising.—The cost of cultivating an acre of hops varies with the skill and labor applied, and of course the profits will be regulated very much by these and other circumstances. The writer from Lunenburg above quoted says: "The average yield with us is about 600 pounds per acre, and the cost, exclusive of the poles, about \$55 per acre, all told. The poles are worth \$2 or \$2 50 per hundred, ready for setting, and will cost, at sixteen hundred to the acre, from \$32 to \$40; but as good poles will last ten or twelve years, the expense per year will not be much increased."

The profit must depend entirely upon the

price obtained for them, and nothing in the whole range of farming varies more in price than hops. For the last four years the price to the grower has averaged 25 cents per pound, or perhaps somewhat more, leaving a considerable margin for profit; but for the preceding four years they were miserably low, not averaging much more than eight cents.

A farmer, writing from Northfield, says there were thirty acres of hops raised in that town the past year, yielding on an average one thousand pounds per acre, worth forty cents a pound, amounting to \$400 per acre; cost per acre in that town is estimated at \$40. Some growers have realized as high even as \$500 per acre. These estimates are far lower than the cost of raising hops in England, where rent of land, taxes, tithes, labor of cultivating, manures, &c., are much higher than here. The cost per acre there, up to the time of picking, is estimated at about \$150; while the cost of picking, drying, baling, storage, cartage, &c., is estimated at about \$175 more. The cost of the kiln is often, to the English grower, not less than from \$1,000 to \$1,500; while the cost of a kiln here is rarely more than \$75, and often less than \$50, built as described above. Our growers expect ordinarily about a pound to a hill. They often get one and a half or even two pounds to the hill, making from 800 to 1,200 pounds per acre. The general average yield in England is about seven hundred pounds per acre; though, owing to many controlling influences, as diseases and bad seasons, they sometimes fall far below, and sometimes obtain much larger crops. The average of many towns in Massachusetts is not over five or six hundred pounds; but, under good cultivation, crops of one thousand pounds are not uncommon. The original cost of hop plantation may be set down at not less than \$150 or \$175 per acre, including all the fixtures, poles, kilns, &c.; and the annual cost after the first year, including manure and interest on the land, and labor of every kind, at from \$50 to \$100 per acre.

The average price of hops for the last fifty years was 14½ cents per pound. During the past year "first sorts" sold as high as 45 cents per pound. The uncertainty of the foreign demand is so great as to cause fluctuations in price which can not easily be calculated upon. This has deterred many from engaging in the cultivation of a crop on which there is so little dependence.

The average price for 1854 is stated at 26 cents per pound. Many of the first sold much higher than that. Of those inspected, there were 4,043 bags marked "first sort," and weighing 711,161 pounds; 401 bags marked "second sort," and weighing 30,243 pounds.

The profit of raising hops in Massachusetts must depend somewhat upon the extent and permanence of the foreign demand; and it must be evident that both the foreign and domestic demand for *Massachusetts* hops must depend largely upon their quality, and especially upon the standard of inspection already alluded to. Let this standard be high, let it be known that the *Massachusetts* brand is the best and the most reliable in the country, and the market is safe. The brand is only *prima facie* evidence of the quality, it is true; and hence the grower should take pains to raise the "first sort" hops, if he wishes to secure honestly the "first sort" brand, and it is a short-sighted policy which would ask for it in any other way.—*C. L. Flint's Second Annual Report to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture.*

PLENTY OF IT.—The papers have discovered some grass from the "path of rectitude." We fear that path must be sadly

overgrown with grass—it is so little traveled now-a-days.

SPARE THE BIRDS.

State House, Boston, March 26, 1855.

There is a custom, very prevalent in many sections of the State, of regarding the Annual Fast as a holiday, and using it for gunning and shooting. Many thousands of our most beautiful birds, to none more useful than the farmer, since they destroy innumerable insects injurious to vegetation, are then sacrificed to the wantonness and cruelty of those who know not what they do. Many painful instances of this came to my knowledge a year ago, when robins, bluebirds, sparrows, and other varieties of birds, which occasionally visit us in early spring, were shot down without distinction or mercy.

I need not say that, apart from the pleasure and delight which these innocent creatures afford, the injury done to the farmer, and to the community at large, by their destruction, is almost incalculable. I take this occasion, therefore, to entreat every farmer, and every man who has any regard for the public good, to use his influence to put a stop to this practice, not only on his own premises, where he has an undisputed right, but throughout the neighborhood and town. Stringent laws already exist against the destruction of birds. Let every man see to it that these laws are rigidly enforced, and rest assured that he will be richly rewarded, not only by the consciousness of an act of mercy in preventing their annual and rapid diminution, but also by the fullness of joy and song with which these sweet messengers of Heaven will surround his dwelling, and testify to every passer-by that there is practical Christianity enough in its owner to protect and save them.

I will thank any man, in any section of the State, to inform me of the extent of the violation of the laws of mercy and of the Commonwealth, in order that, if necessary, more effectual measures may be taken to protect the birds, and thus invite and encourage them to live among us.

CHAS. L. FLINT,
Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

THE LATE THOMAS BATES OF ENGLAND.

The fact is, that he possessed that intuitive genius, without which no man can hope to rise above a bungler in the difficult art of breeding. With this he united long experience, and a degree of enthusiasm which no difficulties could repress, no failures could daunt. He loved his cattle for their own sake, not for the money he might happen to make by them; above all, he never forgot the character of the animal he was dealing with. He insisted on a cow being a cow, and not a mere oblong box of fat. Hence the charm of his herd, of which every individual has a character which when once studied will never be forgotten. Hence he did not, as some breeders do, neglect the milking qualities of his favorites, for he well knew that a first-rate animal may both milk and feed.

From my own experience I find the cows of Mr. Bates blood the best thrivers on hard keep and in an exposed situation I ever possessed. The popular notion that high-bred animals are tenderer than mongrels is a mistake, arising in great measure from the injudicious nursing they too frequently receive. I never pamper my short-horns, and, therefore, when removed from my farm it would be difficult to find a situation on which they would not thrive, or food on which they would not keep their condition.—*Willoughby Wood, in Agricultural Gazette.*

THE POULTRY-YARD.

On the principle that prevention is better than cure (and generally not only better, but much easier), this is the best time to wage war against those pests of the poultry-yard of the insect tribe, which, if allowed to get the upper hand, will interfere with all its arrangements, disturb the sitters on their nests, make fidgety, bad mothers of hens which would otherwise prove good ones, and finally occasion even the death of many chickens. Choose the earliest warm, sunny day, to thoroughly cleanse and lime-wash the hen-house. Let only one be done each day; as it should be done quite early, to allow plenty of time for it to get dry. Wash, clean, and, if necessary, repair the floors. If it is not thought desirable to go to the expense of new gravelling, the runs, those which have been firmly laid down in the first place, may have the surface pared and removed, which will leave it clean and pure. Especial care must be taken to keep the nests well washed and cleaned, and if the dust baths are supplied with fresh dust—wood ashes if they are to be had—the fowls will clean their feathers, and save much trouble and disappointment later in the season, for there are few things more injurious to poultry, than being infested with vermin. When the hen-houses are set to rights, the rats should be looked to, caught if possible, and their holes stopped to prevent their depredations among chickens and ducklings.

It is best to get through the business of setting the hens as soon as practicable; it should not be delayed beyond this month and the next; late chickens generally prove very unsatisfactory, but some of the finest we have known have been hatched in April, and even in May.

When the hen hatches, leave her pretty much to herself: interference vexes her, and seldom does good. When the hatching has gone on some time, if the hen gets fidgety upon the eggs which are ascertained to be good, from care of the chicks, they may be taken from her, fed and kept warm; but unless she slights the eggs, it is best to leave her her chickens. Place a cup of crushed barley, with a little round oatmeal, in the corner of the nest, and some water in a shallow pan, and she will know when to invite her young ones to their first repast. When the hatching is over, and the chickens dry and brisk, they may be removed into a clean nest, warmed, to avoid the insects which may possibly infest the sitting nest. When the chickens run about the nest, the hen may be put down under a coop, and the little ones fed on a good change of food; hard-boiled egg and bread crumbs, crushed barley, pearl barley boiled, barley-meal, and other things which have been recommended by good judges. We do not like either groats or rice, nor have we found any advantage in the use of oatmeal worth its additional cost. It is best to put the hen in a wooden coop, which will shelter her and her chickens in case of a shower, and on wet days keep them in altogether.

Ducklings must be kept from the water, and from getting wet. If a jar is given them to drink out of, with straight sides, they will drink and wash their breasts, but cannot get wet to injure themselves. The old duck may have a pan or tub with high, straight sides, so that the ducklings cannot get into it, which can be given to her once or twice a day, and then taken away. This care to have the ducklings kept dry, penning the duck on a dry spot, and having her constantly supplied with her limited quantum of water, has been found very successful in rearing ducks without any deaths. They will eat almost incessantly, and grow very fast. It is necessary to feed them very often, as they

are greedy, dirty little fellows, and leave what they do leave, very dirty. They will eat barley-meal porridge, crushed-barley, and after a few days, oats.

SUMMARY.—Whitewash the house. Pare or new gravel the runs. Give the fowls the opportunity to clean their feathers. Continue to set the hens. Take care of young chickens, and keep the ducklings from getting very wet.—*Poultry Chronicle*.

POTATOES.

The crop of potatoes in Massachusetts, and probably in New-England generally, was uncommonly fine last year, and altogether the most profitable crop raised. Of the Black Chenangoes, which I have raised for more than ten years past, without any rot in a single case, I last year obtained 320 bushels to the acre. They are now worth at my door 65 cts. per bushel—320 at \$65=\$208,30. This on land just broken up, and with a moderate quantity of stable manure, say 25 cartloads to an acre, plowed in, gives a nett profit greater by far than any I know of in ordinary agriculture.

Of the Jenny Lind potatoes, of which kind I planted only 8 square rods, I raised 24 bushels, or at the rate of 480 bushels to the acre—worth now 62½ cts. per bushel, equal to \$300 to the acre.

This last is a huge, coarse potatoe, but well worth raising, owing to its wonderful productiveness; they are used for table purposes by many, being generally a little cheaper than other kinds, and pretty good eating late in the season. The Black Chenangoes seem to improve every succeeding year, and are now in this neighborhood esteemed one of the best kind for cooking, and owing to the fact that they never suffer from rot, are more cultivated, I think, than any other kind.—HON. ANASA WALKER, in *New-England Farmer*.

NORTH BROOKFIELD, March, 1855

WHY DON'T HE DO IT?

When a farmer knows that a gate is better, and, as a time-and-labor-saving fixture, cheaper than a set of bars and posts, and without calling on a carpenter, he can himself make one, *Why don't he do it?*

When he has no other fastenings to his gates and barn doors than a stone rolled against them, and in a single evening, after supper, is able to make a better one, *Why don't he do it?*

Or when he sees the boards dropping from his barns and out-buildings, and like heaps of rubbish lying in piles about the premises, and need nailing on again, *Why don't he do it?*

Or if he is afraid of the expense of nails, and is always crying up the maxim of Dr. Franklin, to "save the pence, and the pounds will take care of themselves," and he knows that the same Dr. Franklin also said, that "many men are penny wise and pound foolish," and he is not careful to think of the precept contained in the latter, *Why don't he do it?*

If it is a saving of nearly half the manure of a farmer's stock, by keeping them shut up in yards, instead of running at large through most of the winter, *Why don't he do it?*

If he knows that many of his fields would be greatly improved by ditching, and by the removal of large stumps and stones, *Why don't he do it?*

And if he can add fifty per cent to the product of his clover fields, and even his pasture by the use of gypsum, *Why don't he do it?*

If a farmer of fifty acres has (as he should have) use for a good corn-sheller, and one of the many improved fanning mills, and has not already obtained both, *Why don't he do it?*

And if it is cheaper, actually cheaper, to burn dry wood than green, and to use a stove instead of an open fire-place, *Why don't he do it?*

WHAT RAILROADS ARE TO DO FOR AGRICULTURE.

Has it occurred to you what great benefits are to accrue from the transportation of seeds from north to south, by railroads? Not only is there more excitability and consequent greater germinating power in the seeds ripened in a cold climate, but the habit of the plant acquired in a colder climate, gives it a greater seed-producing and perfecting power than if grown in a warmer climate. In the cold climate, nature puts forth her powers in the production of the seed; in the warm climate she glories in the size of stalk and leaf. Maize, that near Montreal can be brought to produce 175 bushels the acre, has a very small stock and leaf, compared with the same plant grown in Georgia, where great skill in culture can scarcely bring the crop of grain above 50 bushels to the acre. In the Northern States and Canada, corn may be planted in hills so close that 5,700 hills to the acre, with three stalks in the hill, producing on an average 1½ ears to the stalk, with entire success; while in Georgia the production on land of the same quality will be about 2,500 cars to the acre, taking from 2,500 plants, standing singly in hills, 5 feet by four apart. While the grain in the Northern field will weigh from three to four times as much as that in the Southern, the plant, without the grain, in Georgia, will probably weigh much heavier than in Vermont. The crop of maize in the United States averages over six hundred million bushels. If the seed should be procured from three degrees of latitude north of the place of planting, and planted in hills or drills at a distance adapted to the habits of the plant in its Northern clime, allowing for a moderate change of habit for the first year, the crop would probably be greater by one hundred millions of bushels. The average crop of wheat is now about 130 millions. Northern seed would enlarge it 20 millions. Oats are grown to the amount of 160 millions of bushels. This might be increased some 25 millions in the same way. And so of the other grains and most of the root crops. What a vast result from so cheap and feasible a resort! Some two hundred millions of dollars the people of this nation might add to the value of their food crops, by an expenditure of a very few millions for the best seed, and this merely transferred from the pockets of one set of farmers into those of another, and used in aid of the railroad interest, by its transportation.—*American Railroad Times*.

LAMBING SEASON.—At this period it may not be useless to direct the attention of flock-masters to the simple means by which the evil effects resulting from unusually hard or protracted labor may be in many instances averted. In all cases where much "handling" has been required during parturition, where "draining" supervenes, or in cases of abortion, the administration of the following dose has been found very beneficial: Two ounces of Epsom salts, 2 drachms, of ginger, and 2 drachms of laudanum. Should inflammation ensue, resort may be had to bleeding; but as a rule such patients require all the strength which Nature furnishes. Unless the unfavorable symptoms disappear in the course of 24 hours, repeat the dose. It is from experience that I recommend this mode of treatment, as I feel fully assured that in the two past lambing seasons it has been—in connection with

careful nursing—the means of saving many ewes, which under the old methods would have been lost. I send you this with the simple desire that what I have found advantageous in my own experience may be placed at the disposal of other breeders.—*T. R. Ellis, Oxnard Hall, Norfolk.*—*Agricultural Gazette.*

Horticultural Department.

THE HARDY SHRUBS OF THE SOUTH.

BY ANDREW GRAY, SAVANNAH, GA.

In my present communication I shall confine myself chiefly to a short notice of our hardy shrubs; but in doing so I do not mean to trouble you with a minute description of them, as I deem that trite and unimportant; all or nearly all being fully described in the botanical or gardening works of the country. What I presume will most interest your readers will be to know what constitute our hardy shrubs.

The Camelia.—I shall commence with the *Camelia*, as, all things considered, it is certainly the most beautiful and elegant of the collection. The plant is perfectly hardy, but the blooms will not stand the frost, and even the buds are destroyed by a severe frost, say 18°, causing the petals to loose their hold on the receptacle; they are also liable to be bruised with the wind and rain, and but seldom do we procure as fine flowers as when grown under glass; but then imagine a plant eight feet high and eight feet in diameter, with sometimes 150 blooms on it, in January, growing in the open ground, in the midst of neighboring shrubs, almost divested of their foliage, and you have an object worthy the admiration of the connoisseurs of beauty and perfection.

Magnolia fuscata is a most magnificent shrub, perfectly hardy and grows rapidly; we have it eight feet high and as much in diameter at the base, forming a sort of pyramid. In March and April it bears a profusion of flowers close on the young wood, and consequently do not appear above the foliage, but emit an agreeable odor resembling the smell of the fruit of the banana. In fact, it is known here by its lady admirers as the Banana shrub.

Pittosporum tobira, a well known denizen of the green-house and conservatory, stands our severest winters with perfect impunity; growing almost to a tree. Its fine dark green foliage renders it a very desirable plant for the south, and is admirably adapted for hedges and for forming groves, as it stands cutting in well, and is also of a spreading habit.

Myrtus multiplex, communis, &c., are all hardy; the former is a very desirable plant; grows here with surprising luxuriance. We have some plants seven feet high, and eight or ten in diameter, which in spring and autumn bear fine trusses of flowers on the young wood, and are exceedingly pretty, especially before they fully expand.

Taxus chinensis, or Chinese Yew.—If I mistake not, Loudon called this plant *Podocarpus macrophyllus*; be that as it may it is a very desirable conifer for the south; the distribution of its foliage resembles the Irish yew, but is broader, stiffer, and stands more erect on the branches, and is equally persistent. The plant is of slow growth and straggling habit naturally, but bears the knife well and can be pruned into a very pretty bush.

Eunymus japonica, var. variegata and *fimbriata* are all hardy here: *fimbriata* has not been long enough out here to speak of its merits; *variegata* is ten or twelve feet high,

and owing to its peculiar foliage is a rather conspicuous looking object, and among other things has a fine effect, but at times grows so rampant as to run entirely out of the variegation; both varieties are proof against the effects of salt water; hence its adaptation for planting near the sea coast.

Viburnum tinus and *lucidum*, are both hardy; the former is so well known and as it differs nothing from those cultivated in greenhouses at the south, I need pass no remarks regarding it; *lucidum* is a very strong growing species with large shining leaves; the plant is of a spreading habit, somewhat like the laurels. There is one plant here about 15 feet high and perhaps 12 in diameter, and when in flower presents one complete mass of white; but emits not a very agreeable odor; it has, however, a very grand appearance at a little distance.

Erobolyra japonica is a small tree, with very little that is ornamental about it; has large rough leaves, under side downy; it bears a raceme of insignificant flowers; its fruit, (about the size of a gooseberry) when ripe, is of an acid, somewhat agreeable taste.

Gardenia florida, and others of the genus, are hardy. This species thrives remarkably well and flowers most abundantly; the flowers sometimes three and four inches in diameter. When first expanded they are creamy white, but change to yellow, which gives the plant a peculiar appearance. When these plants are in May, they fill the whole place with a spicy odor, but are a little too strong for a hand-boquet.

Nerium oleander, &c., all chiefly known by the appellation of oleanders, (for we are not very nice in our nomenclature at times) are nearly as hardy as the orange trees, bearing about 14° of frost with merely having their tender twigs destroyed. They are sometimes cut down to the ground, but their roots survive, and they spring up with surprising vigor. When uninjured by the frost they flower very freely, and to see them waving their pink trusses in the breeze, impregnating the air with their genial odor, is sufficient to inspire us with the hallowed feelings that inspired Linnæus when he saw the field of broom, (*Cytisus scoparia*) and kneeled down and thanked the God of Nature.

Metrosideros floribunda, &c., are also hardy, except in extremely severe seasons, when it gets killed down. This is an exceedingly fine shrub; its waving branches and the peculiar looking brush-like flowers; it has also the seed capsule adhering to the wood, tending to make it a conspicuous and admirable plant for this latitude.

The foregoing are the most important of our evergreen shrubs. Tree Box, Ligustrum, and some others I will omit. I shall only mention two or three of our deciduous shrubs.

Lagerstaemia indica is the finest and stands our winters well; indeed, it is hardy several degrees north of this; grows almost to a tree, flowering very freely in May, June, and July.

Stuartia pentagynia is a shrub of considerable merit, a native of the south; flowers in April; at which time the plant has a very delicate and pretty appearance. The bark smooth, light colored; branches, dichotomous; leaves, villose, alternate; flowers, sessile, somewhat resembling the mallows; but the distribution of its stamens places it in the natural order Nymphaeae, at least in the Linnæan Polyandria class. Its seeds and seed capsule resemble the *Cammelia*. Of *Deutzia*, *althæa* and a good many others I shall say nothing.

From what I have said it will be seen that the Japanese and Chinese plants are well adapted to this latitude, and why might not the tea plant be cultivated with propriety?

Thea viridis is growing in the neighborhood. In 1851 I visited Dr. Junius Smith's tea plantation, in the vicinity of Greenville, S. C., in hope to see the tea plant in something like perfection, but I must confess I was disappointed; at the same time what I saw was sufficient to prove the thing possible. Mr. Smith had some plants about three feet high and looking pretty well; he said the drouth was more injurious to his plants than the cold or heat. His integrity and enthusiasm, for a gentleman of his age, were remarkable, but his appliances and practical workings were insufficient for the undertaking. Since his decease I have heard nothing of the tea planting.—*Hovey's Magazine.*

SHADE AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

The season is approaching for tree planting in the Northern States. In the matter of shade trees a great work remains to be done. Every traveler in England is enchanted with parks, and with highways and streets lined with trees. It is thus very much that England has acquired the name of an extensive garden. With us it is otherwise. Our fathers used their axes and knives quite too freely, and we must restore what they destroyed. There are villages in New-England that give us some idea of what they all may become by generous tree-planting. Those of Concord, Hanover, Charlestown, New-Hampshire, of Northfield, Lancaster, Deerfield, Northampton, and other towns in this State, are pretty well in this respect. And we do not forget the "City of Elms," but as a whole, our villages have only begun to be beautified with trees. As for the roadsides, scarcely any thing has been done; and only where the native forests are left, is the summer traveler much cheered by the grateful shade of trees.

The work of ornamenting New-England with shade trees on an extensive scale, has begun. Some five years ago the first ornamental tree association was formed at Chelsea. Since then others have been formed at East Boston, at South Boston, Haverhill, St. Albans, Vermont, etc., for the purpose of planting trees on every street of the several places. The results have been most happy. Take East Boston alone. Within three years 1,250 forest trees have been planted, at an expense of about \$4,000, or at a little more than \$3 each. The change in that part of the city is wonderful, and the rise of the property on some streets has advanced five per cent through the trees alone.

Let these tree societies be formed in every town in our country, and what a change would come over our land during six months or more of each year. The mode is so simple and the work to be accomplished is so easy, that it is worthy of attention. Let one or two persons in any town become interested in the matter, and write and talk up a general interest. Next let a public meeting be called to promote the object. After a meeting or two, a society can ordinarily be formed with the usual officers. The Treasurer will at once begin to receive funds from the members, at say \$1 a year, or from public spirited individuals who will give more. The work of tree-planting may soon begin. The interest will increase with the sight and growth of those trees, until most persons will pay all the expenses of planting trees in front of their residences, while the wealthy will begin to give considerable sums into the treasury until there will be a plenty of money to adorn the entire village or town. This has been the practical working of things at East Boston. In a smaller place, the work would go on more slowly, but no less surely, for the ladies will always be ready to lend a helping hand in this work of beauty, whenever their assistance is needed.

Lord Bacon remarked, that "a tree in full leaf, is a nobler object than a King in his coronation robes." Cut down the trees in the city of New-Haven, and would not full half of the beauty of the place be destroyed for more than half of the year. Trees are not only beautiful, but they are useful. Their shade is grateful and healthful. They are worth all they cost in protecting buildings. In a financial view a person can in no way increase the value of his buildings so much with the same money, as by having them surrounded with trees. If the late Daniel Webster's mansion house was to be sold to-morrow, or rather we should say in June next, it would bring \$500 more, simply on account of the magnificent elms in front of it. Let every dwelling, village and way-side in our land be blessed with shade trees, and what a paradise would our land present, compared to its present naked appearance.

Trees have their moral influences. The trees about the old homestead are remembered as long as the old house. They are associated with home and home influences. They are at once comforts and ornaments, and with a library, music and society, go to make up those purifying and attractive influences that render home attractive and useful. A tree, from the time of its first budding in the spring until it is dressed in its full glory in mid-summer, and finally until the fall of the last leaf under the power that formed it, is a kind of daily sermon to every thoughtful observer. Plant trees, then, plant trees. If one can do no other good, he can at least plant a tree; and if it be elm or maple, the tree will be useful long after he has been buried, it may be, beneath its shadow.—*Cor. of Journal of Commerce.*

For the American Agriculturist.

THE FORMATION OF THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The cultivation of flowers, if not the most useful, is at least the most pleasing occupation of the horticulturist. The designing of flower gardens unquestionably belongs to the fine arts, involving in it, invention, taste and foresight. Its principles are more vague and evanescent than those of any of the sister arts. As flower gardens are objects entirely of pleasure, the principle which must serve as a guide in laying them out must be taste; and here, as in other objects, there are different tastes, which, embodied, are called styles: and the great art of the designer is, having fixed on a style to carry it out unmixed with any other.

Two varieties of flower gardens chiefly prevail; one in which the ground is turf, and the pattern, so to speak, is composed of a variety of figures cut out of the turf and planted with flowers or shrubs; the other, where the flower beds are separated by gravel walks, without being dispersed with grass at all. The choice of one or the other of these styles ought greatly to depend on the situation. When the flowers are to be seen from the windows, or any other elevated point of view, from which the whole or quarter part of the design may be seen at once, the former should be preferred; but where the surface is irregular, and the situation more distant, and especially where the beauty of flowers is the chief object of contemplation, the choice should fall on the latter. This variety, too, is preferable on the principle of contrast, where there are large lawns in the outer grounds.

Respecting the situation of the flower garden, no very precise directions can be given; for it must be influenced by the size of the estate to which it is attached. Generally speaking, it should not be far from the house, and in a situation where there is no distant view of importance. It may be constructed in retired places, under the windows, since

it is so delightful to step out of a drawing room into the compartments of flowers. In the vicinity of a greenhouse, on the other hand, where the place is large, and the prospect extensive and picturesque, it is better that the flower garden be at some distance, but not more than seven or eight hundred yards from the house, and having easy access in any sort of weather.

The particular form of a flower garden is beyond the inculcation of specific rules. Indeed, it may be any shape, and except where the dimensions are very limited, the boundaries should not be continuously visible. The taste of the proprietor or designer, and the capabilities of the place, must determine not only the external configuration, but also the arrangements of the interior parts—being careful to include all narrow-pointed beds if possible, as they are very difficult to fill, and do not look so neatly as any other figures.

W. SUMMERSBEY.

(To be continued.)

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Twenty-first day of March, and we are still ice-bound here in western New-York. The greater part of our February snows have disappeared from open places, but on the east side of the fences, and in all the cross roads and lanes running north and south, solid beds yet remain. For two weeks past, spring has been promised—a fine, bright sun and a bland atmosphere, for a day or two, and then a freeze, heavy clouds, and perhaps violent gusts of wind. We await the growing season impatiently, because until then it will be impossible to determine the extent of damages sustained by the extraordinary cold of the 6th and 7th of February. Already we know that not only are the peach fruit-buds almost totally destroyed through western New-York, but thousands of old trees are dead, dried up, seasoned as thoroughly as cord-wood was, cut six months ago. This is the case over a very large tract of country—indeed the entire peach district of western New-York, from Oswego to Buffalo. We think that nearly all aged trees, and those bordering on decline, must perish; but there is yet hope for the young trees. They too have suffered; but the vigor and elasticity of youth may enable them to recover.* This shows what we may expect when the thermometer descends to 20° or 25° below zero. Peach trees never could be better prepared to resist the effects of intense cold. The dry season of 1854 ripened the wood and matured the buds in the most perfect manner. Neither could any intense cold be accompanied or succeeded by more favorable circumstances—a perfect calm during the entire two cold days and nights, at the same time cloudy, and remaining so until a day or two after the cold period had passed.

A correspondent of the Rural New-Yorker advances the opinion that the peach buds have not perished by the cold alone, but from being unusually well matured and fully developed by last season's drouth and heat; that when we have cool, moist seasons, allowing the peach to grow late, the buds are able to withstand a much greater degree of cold. In our opinion this reasoning is not sound. Give us well-ripened wood and buds to resist cold. We see that in the case of young peach and apricot trees that grew until a late period in the fall, the points of the shoots are quite winter-killed, while young, ripe shoots, in older trees, are comparatively safe. Buds may get into a stage of develop-

*The pear fruit-buds are considerably injured; cherries but slightly, as far as we are able to judge at present. Mr. Downing informs us that at Newburgh the thermometer was not lower than 14° below zero, yet three-fourths of the peach buds are destroyed, and cherries considerably injured.

ment, as in spring, towards blossoming time, when they would certainly be more easily injured than even imperfectly matured buds. But this state of things does not exist in winter.

Fortunately there was a good covering of snow on the ground, so that peach and all other buds of last summer's working in the nursery are safe. In examining some nurseries of young peaches budded last summer, we found about half the stock above the snow; quite discolored, and what is usually called *winter-killed*; while below the snow, all is safe and sound. It is surprising, too, how thin a covering of snow has proved to be a complete protection. In some cases we find branches of evergreens that were covered not more than one or two inches deep, come out as fresh and green as in mid-summer; while all above the snow-line, the foliage is as red as though it had been scorched by fire.

In England the winter has been remarkably severe—unequaled within seventeen years past. In commenting on it, the Gardener's Chronicle states the following, to show the protecting power of snow:

"The effect of snow, even in small quantities, as a protecting material, was strikingly shown on the night of the 10th (February). While the exposed thermometer stood at 1°, another close by, covered by two inches of loose snow, stood at 20°."

Here we see *two inches of snow* giving 19° difference—a fact that should not be forgotten.—*Horticulturist.*

THE DAISY.

BY JOHN MASON GOOD.

Not worlds on worlds, in phalanx deep,
Need we to prove a God is here—
The daisy, fresh from winter's sleep,
Tells of His hand in lines as clear.

For who but He who arched the skies,
And pours the day-spring's living flood,
Wond'rous alike in all He tries,
Could rear the daisy's purple bud?

Mold its green cup, its wiry stem,
Its fringed border nicely spin,
And cut the gold-embossed gem,
That, set in silver, gleams within!

And fling it unrestrained and free,
O'er hill and dale and desert sod,
That man, where'er he walks, may see
In every step the stamp of God.

DAHLIAS.—W. C. Wilson, Esq., of Baltimore, who has always one of the best private collections of dahlias in America, writes us as follows:

"The following were the best dahlias in this latitude last season, and some of them were fine the previous year:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Reine des Belges, | 10. Elizabeth, |
| 2. Mrs. Hansard, | 11. Miss Wayland, |
| 3. Emperor Maroc., | 12. Madam Zahler, |
| 4. Elegantissima, | 13. Miss Ward, |
| 5. Diamant, | 14. Duchess of Kent, |
| 6. Hyppolite, | 15. Gen. Fauchier, |
| 7. Victoria, | 16. Unanimity, |
| 8. Cote d'Or, | 17. Flora McIvor, |
| 9. Jonas, | 18. Forget me not. |

These were the best of 120 varieties. The first five are unequalled as fancy flowers; the 6th, 7th, and 8th are splendid self-colored. The 7th is remarkable for its full and perfect form; color, a rich crimson maroon."

We can add our testimony in favor of all except Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, which we have not seen, but ask for no better recommendation than that of Mr. Wilson.—*Horticulturist.*

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1.50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole fourteen volumes furnished bound for \$14.50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, April 12.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

DATE YOUR LETTERS.—R. H. T. requests some missing numbers, but omits his Post-office, Town, and State, and the Postmaster has done the same on the envelop. We have an alphabetical list of Post-offices, but none of individual names. In this as in many such like cases, we are unable to comply with the request.

AMOUNT OF SEED TO THE ACRE.

It is impossible to give an arbitrary rule for the amount of seed, since there are so many circumstances to be taken into account. Where after thinning is practicable, it is expedient to use seed liberally, but where this can not be done, we think the error is usually on the side of too thick sowing. Wheat, for example, if evenly sown and well covered, will do better with a small quantity of seed. The growth of both straw and grain will be larger if the plants be not too much crowded.

The following give the smaller and larger quantities usually sown or planted upon an acre:

Barley, broadcast, 1½ to 2½ bushels; in drills, ¾ to 1½ bushels. Beans, 2 to 3 bushels. Beets, 3 to 5 lbs. Buckwheat, 1 to 1½ bushels. Carrots, 2 to 2½ lbs. Corn (Indian), ¾ to 1½ bushels; Broom Corn, ¾ to 1½ bushels. Flax, for seed, ½ to 1 bushel; for fiber, 1½ to 2½ bushels. Grasses—Red Clover, 10 to 16 lbs; White Clover, 4 to 8 lbs.; Blue grass (Kentucky), 10 to 16 lbs.; Herd grass (Red Top), 12 to 18 quarts; Orchard grass, 20 to 30 lbs.; Timothy, 12 to 18 qts. Hemp, for seed, ¾ to 1 bush.; for fiber, 1 to 1½ bush. Millet, 1 to 1½ bush. Mustard, 10 to 20 qts. Oats, 2 to 4 bush. Onions, 4 to 5 lbs. Parsnips, 3 to 6 lbs. Peas, in drills, 1½ to 1¾ bush.; broadcast, 2 to 3½ bush., according to size of seed. Peanuts, in hills or drills, 1 to 2 bush. Rye, in drills, ¾ to 1 bush.; broadcast, 1 to 2 bush. Turnips, 1½ to 2½ lbs. Wheat, in drills, ¾ to 1½ bush.; broadcast, 1½ to 2½ bushels.

BEWARE OF DAMAGED GUANO.—We have been recently informed that parties in this city have recently purchased damaged wet

Guano at a low price, and are selling it for best Peruvian. We would caution all those wanting Guano to be careful what they purchase.

CHEMISTRY

FOR SMALL AND LARGE BOYS AND GIRLS.

CHAPTER XII.

Combustion or Burning.

91. Repeat the experiment last described (90), but use instead of the wood taper, one made of charcoal; or wind a small wire around a little piece of hard charcoal, ignite a single point of it, and then thrust it into the vial or bottle of oxygen gas. It will burn very rapidly, throwing off brilliant sparks or scintillations. When all the oxygen is consumed the fire will go entirely out, and another piece of lighted coal thrust in will be extinguished as readily as if dipped into a vial of water.

92. The burning is produced by the union of the oxygen with the coal (carbon)—two atoms of oxygen with one of carbon, CO₂ or COO—forming a new compound called carbonic acid. This carbonic acid is a colorless gas, and is precisely the same as is sometimes found in the bottom of wells—or that which bubbles up from soda-water, or that formed in raising bread, and which fills the little interstices or holes that produce the lightness. On withdrawing the extinguished coal from the vial, we shall find it has lost a portion of its bulk, and yet there is no trace of it *to be seen* in the vial. It has assumed a different form and become invisible. (See chapter I, sections 11 and 12, and read what is said of the three forms of matter.)

93. Let us try and understand where the heat comes from in this experiment, for we have supposed both the coal and oxygen to be cold. If we place a piece of cold iron on a blacksmith's anvil, and strike it briskly with a hammer, it will soon become quite warm. The same would happen to other metals, or to a piece of wood. Take any substance and compress it suddenly and it will become warm to the touch. The explanation of this is, that heat (caloric) exists in two different states—in one state it is sensible to the touch, and in the other it is insensible. Thus, no heat was added to the iron on the anvil by striking it with a cold hammer, but some heat before insensible is brought out and made sensible by the hammering, because the iron is compressed into a smaller bulk. You can take a sponge which is apparently nearly dry, and by compressing it force out water.

94. Take a metal syringe and close the small opening. Now force the piston down suddenly, so as to compress all the air it contains into a small space, and the metal around the compressed air will become quite warm. With proper care and a little practice, this air may be made so hot by simply condensing it that it will set on fire a piece of tinder or 'spank (punk), previously put under the piston.

95. Mingle together a gill of sulphuric acid, and a gill of water—both cold—and they will not fill a vessel holding two gills.

A considerable condensation takes place, the two when together occupying less space than before; and this condensation will bring out a large amount of sensible heat, just as in the case of condensing the iron with a hammer.

96. On the contrary, when a substance expands to occupy more space, it secretes or makes insensible a quantity of heat. An illustration of this is found in the ordinary process of mingling salt and snow or powdered ice, to produce cold. The salt and snow, or ice, melt and occupy more space and render insensible the heat before sensible.

97. Did you never wonder where all the heat comes from, when you go into a cold room, on a cold day, with cold fuel and a cold match, and kindle a fire? We shall soon see. In the experiment above (91) the carbon (coal) and oxygen unite together, and form the carbonic acid gas which is nearly one and a half times as heavy as the oxygen. Here there is a condensation and some of the heat is squeezed out, so to speak, and becomes sensible or visible in heating the coal to a brilliant redness.

98. Now what takes place in the vial, is just the same chemical action as is going on in our stoves, fire-places, lamps, candles, or wherever we are making insensible heat sensible by burning wood, coal, or other substances. The air contains about one-fourth of its bulk of oxygen. Our charcoal or hard coal, is nearly pure carbon, and the oxygen of the air unites with this carbon to form condensed carbonic acid (CO₂), and the heat before insensible in the oxygen of air is made sensible—we feel it in the warmth produced. In fact, then, almost all the heat of fires comes from the air. No matter how cold the air is, we can make it give out heat by condensing it in a tube, or by uniting its oxygen with some combustible substance.

99. Woody fiber is made up of 12 atoms of carbon, united with 10 atoms of oxygen and 10 atoms of hydrogen (C₁₂O₁₀H₁₀). But the 10 atoms of oxygen and 10 of hydrogen, if separated from the carbon, will form just 10 atoms of water (HO). In burning wood this water is formed and escapes in vapor, which gives the whitish appearance to the smoke, while the 12 atoms of carbon (coal) unite with 24 atoms of oxygen from the air and produce 12 atoms of carbonic acid (CO₂), which goes off in an invisible form and floats in the air till it is taken up by the leaves of trees or plants, and goes to form new wood, &c. Charcoal burners cover up a mass of wood with earth to keep out the greater portion of the air, and then the heat produced by allowing a little of the wood to burn, drives off the water, leaving the charcoal (carbon) behind. You see this water escaping in the white smoke over a charcoal pit. No particles of carbon rise up to give it a dark color, as sometimes happens in burning wood rapidly in the air.

100. If we wish to make wood or coal burn faster, we blow it, or produce a draft of air, by means of a stove or chimney, so as to bring more air (or oxygen) in contact with the fuel, and produce a more rapid condens-

ation. But every five quarts of air contains four quarts of nitrogen, and only one quart of oxygen. The nitrogen does not assist in producing heat because it does not unite with the fuel—it rather retards the action because it prevents the rapid access of oxygen. Now if we remove the nitrogen and supply the fire with pure oxygen—as is done in the vial or bottles—the combustion or burning is very rapid. We supply oxygen much faster than we could by blowing the fire.

Let us now keep in mind that in our ordinary methods of burning, the heat is obtained by chemical action. The oxygen having an affinity for the carbon (coal) contained in the fuel, of whatever kind, unites with it in a condensed form, and the condensation thus produced brings out the before insensible heat.

THE OSAGE ORANGE.

The Osage Orange is fast gaining favor in this country, and is likely to supersede all other plants for hedging purposes. It is hardy, a vigorous grower, not liable to be destroyed by insects, and, when cut in, branches freely. It was first introduced from the wilds of Texas, by Prof. J. B. Turner, of Illinois College; or, as elsewhere stated, by Lewis & Clark's Exploring Expedition, during the time of Jackson's Administration. Of late, thousands of bushels of seed have been annually gathered in Texas and Arkansas; and, at the present time, several companies are formed in the western States for the purpose of planting and training these hedges at a stipulated price. One company alone, in Illinois, has a contract the present spring of 225 miles. They furnish the plants and bring the hedge to maturity at prices ranging from 75c. to \$1 25 per rod: or, if otherwise taken care of, set out the plants for from 30c. to 40c. per rod.

The hedge is sufficient for inclosing stock in four years, and is so close as scarcely to admit a chicken or rabbit. It is carefully estimated that the cost of raising and keeping it in repair is, in many locations, not greater than that of a rail fence, while in point of beauty there is no comparison.

"WESTCHESTER COUNTY MILK."

If a stranger were to count the Westchester County milk carts which daily rattle through our streets, he would doubtless conclude Westchester County to be an unlimited country abounding in succulent pastures and famous dairy cows, whose only ambition is to excel each other in abundance of "pure, unadulterated milk." If he were to inquire the location of this famous country, he might be surprised to find it in New-York City, and that these cows, instead of roaming broad fields by day and enjoying spacious stables at night, are stowed away like beastly swine, whose only diet is a simple decoction of distillery slops and swill, which it is their office to convert into "pure Westchester County milk."

And yet we saw a man a day or two ago in great distress, because the new Liquor Law would be likely to throw this numer-

ous class of citizens out of employment. Why, we have often wondered that Westchester County did not come down *en masse*, and sue our city milkmen for libel. What could possibly be more libelous than to fill a dozen cans with pale whitewash and cart it around the city under the title of "pure milk?" We shall be glad to find this the only ill effect of the new Liquor Law.

Now we can suggest a way in which those persons who anticipate such disaster to their business, can *advance* good for evil, before the Law takes effect. It is this: Build an enormous trough, say five hundred feet long, up near the Cattle Market. Carry all the milk up there every day and turn it in; then turn out the pigs three times a day, and let them drink. In this way they will confer a *double* favor on society, and honor upon themselves.

MIXING SALT WITH GUANO.

The following experiments, performed by M. Barral, editor of the Journal d'Agriculture Pratique, which we extract from the Journal of Agriculture, prove the value of common salt as a fixer of ammonia. The most of the nitre (saltpetre or nitrate of potash) used in France for the manufacture of gunpowder is obtained by mixing the nitrate of soda with the chloride of potassium, when a double decomposition takes place, and the nitrate of potassa or nitre is formed and removed, and common salt, containing a small quantity of the nitrate is left as refuse. M. Barral took two samples of guano; the one he kept pure, the other he mixed with this refuse salt in the proportion of 50 per cent of the salt.

"The sample of pure guano which we analyzed," says M. Barral, "contained 12.56 per cent of nitrogen; the sample mixed with salt contained only 6.23 per cent. We do not take into account the nitrogen in the state of nitrate mixed with the salt. We subjected equal weights of the two samples to heat for three hours in the same stove, in a current of air, maintained at 100°. They were spread out so as to have the same thickness, and occupy an equal surface, and they had been equally pulverized. At the end of the three hours, on examining the two samples, we found that the pure guano had lost 5.1 per cent of its nitrogen, while the mixture had lost only 1.9 per cent of its nitrogen.

"Though this experiment appeared to us to be in favor of the preservative power of salt, we repeated it under another form. We left in the open air, in plates, during fifteen days, equal weights of the pure and the mixed guano. At the end of that time we examined anew the amount of nitrogen, and found that the pure guano had lost 11.6 per cent of its nitrogen, while that mixed with salt had lost only 5 per cent. Thus we see that salt can be usefully employed for mixing with guano.

"Five years ago, in our work on the Chemical Statics of Animals, we showed that salt had the property of increasing the amount of nitrogen, and consequently the value of the manure derived from the urine of animals. We only allude to this to prove that the fact verified at present with regard to guano is only the consequence of a former observation, and to prevent the suspicion of plagiarism."

This property of salt as a fixer of ammo-

nia has not been sufficiently attended to in agriculture. While some chemists recommend gypsum, nitrate of lead, chloride of zinc, sulphate of iron, and chloride of manganese for this purpose, common salt is but rarely alluded to. It has been used extensively of late, with nitrate of soda as a top-dressing, with the view of strengthening the straw of the cereals. It has been alleged that guano tends very much to increase the growth of shaws (vines or tops) in the potato crop. We are of opinion, from numerous experiments variously detailed, that, when applied to this crop, the guano should always be mixed with some fixer of the ammonia, such as gypsum, salt, or charcoal: at present prices the most expensive of these, at the rate of 100 lbs. per acre, will not cost more than 50 cents per acre.

Another important fact, independent of the value of the salt, brought out by M. Barral's experiment, is the great waste of ammonia which takes place on exposing guano to the air. It will be remarked that, in the case before us, upwards of one-tenth of the nitrogen was lost in the course of fifteen days. This shows the necessity of farmers husbanding as much as possible this important ingredient of their manure: instead of throwing their guano in exposed sheds, as is too often done, it should be carefully covered up, and mixed immediately on their receiving it, with some preserver of its ammonia.

ENCOURAGING TO FARMERS.

We desire to call the attention of farmers to our Price Current this week. They will see that Flour, Corn, and some other things have advanced materially; and that prices on the whole have not ruled so high for many, many years. This should encourage them to prepare their ground in the best possible manner for the reception of seed, and then cultivate the growing crops in the best manner. The stocks of grain and vegetables, both in this country, and in Europe, are so small, the cultivators of the soil can not but realize high prices for their produce during this year, however abundant may be their crops the coming season. Farmers will greatly enrich themselves this year if they properly prepare and cultivate their lands.

USE ALL YOUR LAND.—How often do you see men adding acre to acre, for the sake of having a large farm to cultivate, when they have never yet tilled one-half of the land which they possessed in the first place. They have cultivated, perhaps, five or six inches of the surface, and have never made the least use of the eight, ten, or twelve inches which lie immediately below it. A few years ago there was a premium offered in Kentucky for the best ten acres of corn. The average crop of the competitors was 122 bushels per acre. Now, if that quantity of corn can be produced upon an acre, is it not folly for you, intelligent reader, to add more land to that which you already possess, until you have made the latter capable of producing that number of bushels, or as near it as may be? You know very well that you can raise these 122 bushels a great deal more cheaply off of one acre than if you had to cultivate three or four for that purpose. Why then buy more land until you have brought under cultivation what you already

have, both surface and subsoil? The latter may not be very productive when you first throw it up, but by proper treatment you can most assuredly make it so, unless it is of a very peculiar character.—*Piedmont Whig.*

THE MULBERRY TREE—*Morus Multicaulis* in California.—Public attention should be awakened to the value of this tree to California. The climate favors it; it is a rapid-growing tree, and two or four years only are required to raise a tree of twenty or twenty-five feet high. Our climate also favors the successful growing of the "silk worm," whose favorite food is the mulberry. The slopes of our hills are the favored spots for the mulberry groves, and the "cocooneries" and workshops for the manufactory of silk. There is a great similarity of climate between the silk districts of China and of our State, and there can be no doubt but that manufactures of sewing silk and silk goods of many kinds will be the products of California soil in a very short time. The amount expended in the United States for silk goods is almost incredible. By careful estimates it is found to be nearly \$60,000,000 per year for the last four years; and, by proper effort on the part of the cultivators of California, a slice of this enormous expenditure could be retained within our nation.—*California Farmer.*

ADULTERATED TEA.—A London paper giving an account of the manner in which tea is adulterated after its importation, furnishes the following information of the manner in which the trade is carried on in China:

The dishonesty of adulterating teas is not, however, confined to this country. It often undergoes a strange process of transmutation before it reaches the hands of the English dealer. The Chinese are not at all behind us in practices of dishonesty, and the genuine and fraudulent tea trades flourish in China with almost equal vigor. The people of that country have long enjoyed an enviable preëminence for their success in ingenious deceptions. Recent travelers have confirmed the well-known testimony of Sir Francis Davis, in reference to the extensive exportation of adulterated teas by the natives. He speaks of a regular manufactory for the production of spurious green teas, which, with the most daring effrontery, has been erected exactly opposite the European factories at Canton, on the other side of the river. He naturally found some difficulty in procuring admission within its precincts, but his object was at length effected through the influence of a Hong Kong merchant, and the scene is thus described: "In the first place, large quantities of black tea, which had been damaged by the floods of the previous autumn, were seen drying in baskets, placed over hot pans of charcoal. The dried leaves were then transferred in portions of a few pounds each, to a number of cast-iron pans, which are placed over furnaces. They were next stirred rapidly round with the hand by a workman, who had previously added a small quantity of turmeric, which imparted a yellowish tinge to the mixture. In order to convert this into a green hue, the color so much desired, some lumps of Prussian blue and gypsum were added in such proportions as reduced the dark blue to a light shade, of which a small teaspoonful was added to the yellowish leaves. These were then stirred before the fire until the tea had taken the 'fine bloom' color of hyson, with very much the same scent. The transformed leaves were then picked, sifted, chopped small, and supplied to the merchants as excellent young hyson.

Plow deep while sluggards sleep.

PROPAGATION OF FIGS.—Figs are propagated by cuttings and by layers. The latter method is the best, as plants at the end of a year are fit to take up from the stools, and to plant out where they are intended to remain. Cuttings taken from plants from which layers can not be obtained may be planted singly in pots, and placed under a frame, in a gentle heat now, and they will make good plants by the end of the year. The best of all methods, however, for obtaining fruiting plants quickly is the following. Take a potato, cut it in half, and scoop out of each half enough of the potato to permit it to be fastened round the stem of the intended cutting. Then select a good fruitful branch with two or three shoots on it, fasten the potato round the stem where you are desirous roots should form, and cover it with moss. The moisture afforded by the moss and potato will soon cause it to emit roots, when it may be removed from the parent tree and potted. In this way you may make tolerably sure of having a fruitful tree.—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

Horses are constantly becoming more valuable. This has been the source of a good deal of surprise—as it was anticipated that railways would diminish the price of horses. As an illustration of the extravagant prices that are paid, Dr. Leavitt, a New-York banker, but now living in Berkshire County, Mass., drives a span of bays which cost him \$3,000. They are over 17 hands high, and are counted to be the best team in America. The Emperor Louis Napoleon sports a span costing one thousand eight hundred dollars, but they are no comparison to Leavitt's bays.

SINGULAR AND FATAL ACCIDENT.—An English workman named John Chester, while attempting to mend a belt in the Rifle Factory at Hartford, last week, his hand slipped and the awl pierced his heart. He walked about thirty feet, fell down, and expired in about ten minutes.

A MODEL 'DUN.

An editor "out west" thus talks to his non-paying subscribers and patrons. If his appeal does not bring the "pewter," we think he need never try again.

"*Friends, Patrons, Subscribers and Advertisers:* Hear us for our debts, and get ready that you may pay; trust us, we are in need, and have regard for our need, for you have been long trusted; acknowledge your indebtedness, and dive into your pockets, that you may promptly fork over. If there be any among you, one single patron that don't owe us something, then to him we say—"step aside; consider yourself a gentleman." If the rest wish to know why we dun them, this is our answer: Not that we care about cash ourselves, but our creditors do." Would you rather that we go to jail, and you go free, than you pay our debts, and we all keep moving? As we agreed, we have worked for you; as we contracted, we have furnished our paper to you; as we promised, we have waited upon you, but, as you don't pay, we dun you! Here are agreements for job work; contracts for subscription; promises for long credits; and duns for deferred payment. Who is there so mean that he don't take a paper? If any, he needn't speak—we don't mean him. Who is there so green that he don't advertise? If any, let him slide—he ain't the chap either. Who is there so bad that he don't pay the printer? If any, let him shout—for he's the man we're after. His name is *Legion*, and he's been owing us for one, two, three, four, five, six, seven and eight years—

long enough to make us poor and himself rich at our expense. If the above appeal to his conscience doesn't awake him to a sense of justice, we shall have to try the law and see what virtue there is in writs and constables."

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

LOGIC AND SWIMMING.—A logician and a swimmer, says a Persian story, were in a boat together. The logician said to the swimmer:

"Have you ever studied logic?"

"I never heard the name till now," was the reply.

"Alas!" said L., "then has half your life been drowned in ignorance!"

Just then a "squall" came up. Said S. to L.: "Have you ever learned anything of swimming?"

"Nothing but logic," was the reply.

"Alas," said S., "then the whole of your life is drowned!"

SNIPES' LITANY.—From Nebraska bills, doctors' pills, western chills, and other ills—deliver us!

From want of gold, wives that scold, maidens old, and by sharpers "sold"—preserve us!

From popish seers, mock auctioneers, Cossack spears, and woman's tears—deliver us!

From stinging flies, coal-black eyes, baker's pies, and baby cries—deliver us!

From seedy coats, wrested notes, sinking boats, and foreign votes—protect us!

From creaking doors, a wife that snores, "confounded bores," and dry good stores—protect us!

From colic's gripes, Paddies pipes, and Mrs. Snipes—deliver us!

From modest girls with waving curls, and teeth of pearls—never mind!

A NEW CASE OF BIGAMY.—A young couple were sitting together in a romantic spot, with birds and flowers about them, when the following dialogue ensued:

"My dear, if the sacrifice of my life would please thee, gladly would I lay it at thy feet."

"Oh, sir, you're too kind. But it just reminds me that I wish you'd stop using tobacco."

"Can't think of it. It's a habit to which I am wedded."

"Very well, sir, since this is the way you lay down your life for me, and as you are already wedded to tobacco, I'll take good care that you are never wedded to me, as it would be bigamy."

A KNOW NOTHING.—The New-Haven Register says, there happened at the dinner table of one of our hotels a delegate to the K. N. Convention, and seeing among the viands some ice-cream, loaded his plate rather sumptuously. *Knot Knowing* exactly the substance of its composition, he placed a lump of butter on it, and waited awhile for it to melt. But it would not melt, and calling the waiter to him, he said—"Look here! bring me some kind o' puddin' that ain't quite so cold!"

VILLAGE PAPERS.—A gentleman recently went into the newspaper depot under the Astor House, in this city, and inquired if they kept Philadelphia papers. "No," was the reply. "Do you keep the Boston papers?" "No, sir," exclaimed the youth in attendance, "we don't keep any *village* papers."

SERENADING A YOUNG LADY.

In my young days, says the editor of an exchange paper, I was extravagantly fond of attending parties, and was somewhat celebrated for playing the flute; hence it was generally expected, when an invitation was extended, that my flute would accompany me. I visited a splendid party one evening, and was called upon to favor the company with a tune on the flute. I, of course, immediately complied with the request. The company appeared to be delighted, but more particularly so, was a young lady who raised her hands and exclaimed that it was beautiful, delightful, &c. I, of course, was highly flattered, and immediately formed a resolution to serenade the young lady on the following night. Previous to leaving the party, I made inquiry respecting her residence. I started the next night, in company with several young friends, and arrived at the lady's residence, as we thought, but made a most glorious mistake by getting under the window of an old Quaker. "Now boys," said I, "behold the sentimentality of this young lady the moment I strike up the Last Rose of Summer." I struck up, but the window remained closed. The boys smiled: "Oh," said I, "that is nothing; it would not be in good taste to open the window on the first air." I next struck up on Old Robin Gray. Still the window remained closed. The boys snickered, and I felt somewhat flat. "Once more, boys," said I, "and she must come." I struck up again—My love is like the Red, Red Rose. Still there was no demonstration. "Boys," said I, "she's a humbug. Let us sing Home, Sweet Home, and if that don't bring her, we will give her up." We struck up, and as we finished the last line, the window was raised. "That's the ticket, boys," said I; "I knew we could fetch her." But instead of the beautiful young lady, it turned out to be the old Quaker, in his night cap and dressing gown. "Friend," said he, "thee was singing of thy home—I think thee said thy sweet home—and if I recollect right, thee said there was no place like home; why don't thee go to thy home? Thee is not wanted here—thee nor any of thy party. Farewell!" We and our hats went home!

SPEECH BY THE HON. SPIT-FIRE BUNCOM.—The Wheeling Intelligencer must be held responsible for giving to the world the accompanying eloquent extract from a patriotic and thrilling speech of the Hon. Spit-fire Buncum in favor of 54:40, or fight.

"Fellow Countrymen: When I open my eyes, and look over the vast expanse of this country—when I see how the yeast of freedom has caused it to rise in the scale of civilization and expand on every side—when I see it growing, swelling, roaring like a spring freshet, whose music murmurs over perpetual power, which, like a bounding cataract, dashes the enemies of Universal Freedom to the vortex below or sends them bounding down the river Styx! When I look at their everlasting mountains milking the clouds of their most nutritious fluids—which find an unobstructed pathway to market when butter commands the highest cash price. When I behold the Vesuvius of burning, impassioned—unbought souls—sinevy Vulcans of the Universe—this eternal tilt-hammer of creation—I can not resist the idea, sirs, the day will come when this great nation, like a young boy, will burst its straps and become too big for its boots. Sirs, we want elbow room; the continent, the whole continent, and nothing but the continent—and we will have it. Then shall Uncle Sam, placing his hat upon the Canadas, rest his right armon the Oregon and California coast, his left on the eastern seaboard and whittle

away the British power, while reposing his leg like a freeman, upon Cape Horn! Sirs! the day will—the day must come."

A PAIR OF STOCKINGS.

The National Intelligencer publishes the following letter, written by a distinguished literary lady, Mrs. W., of Troy, and addressed to a learned Judge of New-Haven, on the eve of his marriage. The letter accompanied the present of a pair of blue stockings, knit by the fair writer's own fingers. We commend it to the careful perusal of all married persons, as well as all who contemplate entering into that enviable and holy state:

"Dear Cousin: Herewith you will receive a present of a pair of woolen stockings, knit by my own hands; and be assured, dear coz, that my friendship for you, is as warm as the material, active as the finger-work, and generous as the donation.

But I consider this present as peculiarly appropriate on the occasion of your marriage. You will remark, in the first place, that there are two individuals united into one pair, who are to walk side by side, guarding against coldness, and giving comfort as long as they last. The thread of their texture is mixed, and so, alas, is the thread of life. In these, however, the white is made to predominate, expressing my desire and confidence that thus it will be with the color of your existence. No black is used, for I believe your lives will be wholly free from the black passions of wrath and jealousy. The darkest color here is blue, which is excellent, where we do not make it too blue.

Other appropriate thoughts rise in my mind in regarding these stockings. The most indifferent subjects, when viewed by the mind in a suitable frame, may furnish instructive inferences. As saith the poet,

"The iron dogs; the fuel and tongs;
The bellows that have leathern lungs;
The firewood, ashes, and the smoke,
Do all to righteousness provoke."

But to the subject. You will perceive that the tops of these stockings (by which I suppose courtship to be represented) are *seamed*, and by means of seaming are drawn into a snarl; but afterwards comes a time when the whole is made plain, and continues so to the end and final toeing off. By this I wish to take occasion to congratulate yourself that you are now through with *seeming* and have to come to plain reality. Again, as the whole of these comely stockings was not made at once, but by the addition of one little stitch after another, put in with skill and discretion, until the whole presents the fair and equal piece of work which you see, so life does not consist of one great action, but millions of little ones combined. And so may it be with your lives; no stitch dropt when duties are to be performed; no widening made where bad principles are to be reformed or economy is to be preserved; neither *seeming* nor *narrowing* where truth and generosity are in question. Thus every stitch of life made right and set in the right place—none either too large or too small, too tight or too loose—thus you may keep on your smooth and even course, making existence one fair and consistent piece, until, together, having passed the heel, you come to the very toe of life. And here, in the final narrowing off and dropping the coil of this emblematical pair of companions and comforting associates, nothing appears but white, the token of innocence and peace, of purity and light. May you, like these stockings, the final stitch being dropt and the work completed, go together from the place where you were formed to a happier state of existence, present from earth to heaven!

Hoping that these stockings and admonitions may meet a cordial reception, I remain,

in the true-blue friendship, seemly, yet without *seeming*, Yours, from *top to toe*,

A SAGACIOUS TEACHER.

The Johnstown (Pa.) Tribune has a "letter found by a chambermaid," supposed to have been penned by a young Miss at boarding-school in a neighboring State. One part of it is too good to lose:

I must tell you about an affair of Emma Hall's, that happened last Saturday. A young man who had been paying some attention to her, had agreed to come and pass off as her cousin, and take her out carriage riding, under the pretense that he was taking her to his father's, a few miles in the country. But his father does not live within a hundred miles of this.

Well, he came according to appointment, introduced himself as Emma's cousin, and asked to take her home with him to spend the afternoon. Miss Waldron said she had not the slightest objection, asked how far it was, and in what direction, and told Emma to get ready to go. But when Emma was dressed and ready to start, Miss Waldron also came down ready dressed, and said that, as their carriage was large enough for three, she would go along with them part of the way, and stop at a friend's, who lived a short distance from the uncle that Emma was going to see, and they might stop for her as they came back in the evening. Of course, they could do no better than to tell her they would be glad to have her go with them, although they would have a dull time with her along. But they thought they could make up for it by having a nice, social ride after Miss Waldron stopped at her friend's.

So, off they started in fine spirits, and when they had gone three or four miles they began to expect that every house they came to would be the one that Miss Waldron would stop at. But she didn't stop at any. Finally, when they had gone some five or six miles, Miss Waldron said she must have passed the house by some mistake, for they had certainly traveled twice as far as it was from town. But, since they had passed it, she would not trouble them to turn back with her, but would go on with Emma to her uncle's and stop just a minute at her friend's as they came back. There was what you might call "a fix," and Emma and her beau could do nothing but drive on. So, on they drove, and on they drove; but driving on didn't drive their troubles away. At last, when they had gone eight or ten miles, he said that the road must have been changed in some way, for he had undoubtedly gone astray, and as they had gone so far, and it was drawing late, they would not have time to find the right way.

So they came back to town, and when Miss Waldron got out of the carriage, she told Em's beau that, when he ascertained how the road had been changed, she would be very happy to go along with Emma any Saturday to spend an afternoon at her uncle's. Since that, we have seen nothing of Em's cousin; but it will be a long time before she hears the last of her visit to her uncle's.

REASONABLE.—An exchange says, the reason why our aristocracy put their servants in livery is, because they fear the footman or coachman may be mistaken for the master, there is so little difference between them, either in looks, manners, or speech.

SEWING MACHINE.—A wag who evidently admires the ladies, says: "The best sewing machine in the world is one about seventeen years old, with a short-sleeve dress, and pretty little feet with gaiters on."

A GENEROUS SUBSCRIPTION.—A western correspondent of Zion's Herald, in describing the stingy habits of the people of his ilk, when called upon to assist in benevolent works, relates the following amusing story:

One of our friends, a generous North-Carolinian, was called on by a railroad agent, who was soliciting stock *along the line*. He had a fine farm and plenty of money, and listened with an animated countenance to the glowing detail of blessings likely to be realized from the proposed railroad. The agent made an eloquent palaver, and thought he had won our friend and his money, when he suddenly got his eye-teeth cut in this wise. "Why, yes," said the good old farmer, "I know it is wonderful, it must be a powerful thing, *them air railroads*—they run like jehu. Surely, I go in for it; I subscribe something *ollers* to sich things." "How much stock will you take, sir?" said the elated solicitor. "Why, you may put me down fifty cents," was the magnificent reply.

SHORT ACQUAINTANCES.—A SENSIBLE GIRL.—At a late ball in Baltimore, a gentleman having danced with a young lady, whose attractions, both personal and conversational, seemed to have made an impression on his sensibilities, asked on leading her to her seat, if he might have the pleasure of seeing her on the following evening.

"Why, no, sir," replied the fair one. "I shall be engaged to-morrow evening; but I'll tell you when you can see me."

"I shall be most happy," exclaimed the stricken swain.

"Well, on Saturday night," resumed the lady, "you can see me at the foot of Marsh's Market, selling cabbages."

If the young man's wise he'll be there certain, for that girl will make him an excellent wife.

A MIRROR OF BEAUTY.—Queen Elizabeth admiring the elegance of the Marquis Villade Medina, a Spanish nobleman, complimented him on it, begging, at the same time, to know who possessed the heart of so accomplished a cavalier?

"Madame," said he, "a lover risks too much on such an occasion; but your majesty's will is law. Excuse me, however, if I fear to name her; but request your majesty's acceptance of her portrait."

He sent her a looking glass.

A printer's devil, who pays special attention to a young lady up town, without making any decided advances, was returning with her from meeting the other, night, when she feelingly said.

"I fear I shall never get to heaven."

"Why," said Edward.

"Because," she replied, "I love the *devil* so well."

A DEPLORABLE FACT.—"My son," said Mr. N., "how could you marry an Irish girl?"

"Why, father," said the son, "I'm not able to keep two women. If I married a Yankee girl I'd had to have hired an Irish girl to take care of her."

KISSING.—One of the deacons in Edward Dey's church asked him if he usually kissed the bride at weddings. "Always," was the reply. "And how do you manage when the happy pair are negroes?" was the deacon's question. "In all such cases," replied Mr. Dey, "the duty of kissing is appointed to the deacons."

Mrs. Partington expresses great apprehension that the People in California will bleed to death, as every paper she picks up announces "another vein opened."

POLITENESS.—On the last night of the Vermont Legislative session, while the school bill was under discussion, a member complained that school-boys had lost their politeness. Mr. Bartlett, of Lydon, replied: "I acknowledge the truth of the gentleman's remarks. I was forced to take off my cat-skin cap to every passer-by. Now, no boy uncovers his head. A few years since I was riding through Orleans County in a sleigh, and overtook a boy who had attained the age of nine years. He stepped out of the road to let me pass. There he stood upon the crust, erect, bold, and aspiring. He did not prepare to doff his beaver—not he. Said I, 'My lad, you should always take off your hat to a gentleman.' Said he, '*I always do, sir.*'"

"A naturalist will see as much beauty in a toad, spider, or snake as in any of those animals which we are accustomed to consider models of beauty; and those who have before feared or despised them will, if they can only persuade themselves to examine them with unprejudiced eye. The movements of the snake are graceful, and the changing colors of varied scales leave the imitations of art far behind. The spiders, too, are beautiful, even in color; some are bright crimson, some pale pink, some entirely yellow, some banded with broad streaks of alternately velvety black and silvery white; while the eye of the toad is a living gem of beauty."

FEMINE AND MASCULINE.—Punch very slanderously gives utterance to the following: "The sun is called masculine, from its supporting and sustaining the moon, and finding wherewithal to shine away as she does of a night, and from its being obliged to keep such a family of stars beside. The moon is feminine, because she is constantly changing, just as a ship is blown about by every wind. The church is feminine because she is married to the state. And time is masculine because he is trifled with by all the ladies."

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

A BROAD HINT.—A popular clergyman in this vicinity, who was sadly annoyed one Sunday by incessant coughing among his congregation, paused in his discourse and remarked, "If ladies would wear their bonnets on their heads, and tie the strings, coughs would not be so prevalent." He certainly did not mean to be thus "coughed down."

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—A correspondent wishes to know, "What line in Shakespeare is entirely entomological?"

We can not say, unless somebody has been found sufficiently barbarous to read a certain passage of Macbeth in this wise:

"Fly, Flea ance—(ants)—fly, fly, fly!"

N. Y. Post.

A RESERVATION.—A gentleman in a steamboat asked the man who came to collect the passage money if there was any danger of being blown up, as the steam made such a horrid noise. "Not in the least," said the sharp collector, "unless you refuse to pay your fare."

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD'S PRAYER.—The spirit of the Lord's Prayer is beautiful. That form of petition breathes a *filial* spirit—"Father."

A *catholic* spirit—"Our Father."

A *reverential* spirit—"Hallowed be thy name."

A *missionary* spirit—"Thy kingdom come."

An *obedient* spirit—"Thy will be done on earth."

A *dependent* spirit—"Give us this day our daily bread."

A *forgiving* spirit—"And forgive our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us."

A *cautious* spirit—"Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

A *confidential* and *adorning* spirit—"For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen."

WATERING THE FLOWERS.—The following beautiful simile, was perpetrated by a *colored gentleman*, of Washington:

A party of ladies in a carriage, and gentlemen on horseback, was returning from a fishing excursion, when the carriage suddenly made a halt. One of the gentlemen rode up, and inquired the cause? "I is watering the flowers, Sar!" And sure enough, there he was with a tumbler in hand, handing water from a bubbling spring to his lovely charge, with all the politeness of a finished Parisian.

Wonder if any of our "Shanghais" would ever have caught such an idea?—reckon not.

GOOD REPUTATION.—The advantages of a good character, is amusingly illustrated in the story of a Massachusetts lawyer, who was proverbial for his integrity. The jury before whom he had argued a criminal case, was unable to agree. The Court inquired whether the difficulty was in the law or in the evidence. One of the jurors replied that it was neither, but in the plea; for (said he) the law and the evidence make the man guilty; but Squire H. always speaks the truth, and since he says the man is not guilty, the jury does not know how to get over it.

BE FIRM.—The wind and the waves may beat against a rock planted in a troubled sea, but it remains unmoved. Be you like the rock, young man. Vice may entice, and the song and the cup may invite. Beware, stand firmly at your post. Let your principles shine forth unobscured. There is glory in the thought that you have resisted temptation, and conquered. Your bright example will be to the world what the lighthouse is to the mariner upon a sea-shore; it will guide others to the point of safety.

IMAGINATION.—In order to grow wiser, perhaps we could hardly do better than recur to the little parable spoken some time since, on the borders of Wales, by an itinerant preacher of the Evangelical Alliance: "I was going towards the hills," he said, "early one misty morning. I saw something moving on a mountain side, so strange-looking that I took it for a *monster*. When I came nearer to it, I found it was a man. When I came up to him I found he was my brother."

WESLEY said that "ten thousand cares were no more weight to his mind than ten thousand hairs were to his head." He or Whitfield, when asked whether a man was answerable for bad thoughts, replied, "I can not help the birds flying over my head, but I can easily prevent their making nests in my hair."

CURCULIO REMEDIES.

BY WILLIAM ADAIR.

If we look around at the various remedies that have from time to time been proposed for the curculio, we will find that they are almost as numerous as those found in the pharmacopœia of the quack medicine venders for the cure of consumption, or any other incurable disease. Such being the case, and a new one in the hands of a committee for investigation, which it is confidently expected will prove successful, it may perhaps be considered superfluous to add any more to the list; but as we are not to have the benefit of the new discovery the present season, and as it may prove, like most of the horticultural novelties that we have lately received, rather expensive for these "hard times," it may be well to examine the subject a little, and see if anything can be done toward saving our crop for the time. However, I believe that all will concede that an effectual, expensive, and easily applied remedy for the attacks of this troublesome insect, is worth a handsome reward.

Premising thus far, I will mention a few instances, which may not be generally known, where the curculio has been more or less successfully combated. An acquaintance, an amateur horticulturist, who had planted his plum trees in a yard by themselves, for the purpose of allowing the hogs and chickens to run at large among the trees, and not finding the plan quite satisfactory, covered the ground with fresh horse manure when the fruit was beginning to form; and the experiment was attended with success. The covering is now continued every season, and he informs me that he is rewarded with good crops for his trouble. I do not remember whether he told me to what depth he covered the ground. Perhaps six inches would be sufficient; a larger quantity might induce fermentation, and be injurious to the trees.

Visiting a friend in the interior of the State, I observed a plum tree that stood alongside of a privy, which was bearing a very large crop of fruit, while the other trees in the garden had little or nothing on them, all being claimed by the curculio, with the exception named.

I have been told of others who have succeeded in saving their plums, by hanging bottles of pyrolignous acid, creosote, chloride of lime, &c., in the trees. From this we are led to infer that strong, pungent odors are not agreeable to the apparently sensitive olfactories of the insect. The only difficulty that appears here, is that preparations of this character are very volatile in their nature, and soon become exhausted, and it is troublesome and expensive to renew them often. This objection, however, I think is obviated in the following plan, which has proved eminently successful the past season, and which I would recommend a pretty extensive trial of the present season. It is this: As soon as the fruit is as large as peas, take a common paint-brush, or any other brush, or a woolen rag, and some fish oil, and cover all the principal branches and trunk of the tree with the oil. It is the same that is in common use among curriers, harness-makers, &c. The application is cheap, and it only requires to be done once in the season. I had the pleasure of examining several trees of the best leading varieties which had been served in this manner, the past season, and the result far exceeded my expectations; the trees had to be propped up to prevent their breaking down with the weight of fruit. If the "little turk" had appropriated one-half the crop to his own use, it would have been a positive benefit to what remained.

But he is not satisfied with a share—he takes the whole, if he is not well watched.

Should this remedy prove as successful with all who may try it as it was in the case above noted, we need not despair of plums—we shall have plenty of them. The discovery (if it is new) is not mine—others may have tried it; but as I have not seen it published, it is herewith presented to you.

[Covering with fresh manure (or old manure) strikes us most favorably as being likely to prevent the curculio from escaping from his winter quarters in the ground.—Ed. —*Horticulturist.*]

Markets.

REMARKS.—Another advance in Flour the past week of 25c. to 50c. per bbl.; and in Corn from 5c. to 8c. per bushel. The best quality is now quoted at 1 08c., which we believe is several cents higher than it has reached in this market for many years. Farmers need not be afraid of cultivating too much ground this year, and in the best possible manner—they will be amply repaid for it in the prices of their produce.

Cotton has advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ a cent per lb. Sugar $\frac{1}{4}$, and Tobacco $\frac{1}{2}$ a cent.

The Weather has become more favorable for vegetation, and copious showers have fallen the past week. The season is still very backward.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, April 10, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

There has been little change in the market since our last. Potatoes continue high and scarce, with, however, rather slow sales. A few extra potatoes go as high as \$5 per bbl., but this is rare, and no true index of the market. Buyers complain much of the high prices and small barrels, and are ever ready to put on half a dozen more to complete the measure.

We saw a Jersey farmer to-day trying to buy potatoes for seed, who was astonished to find the prices so high. It was remarked by the salesman, that these Jersey men always think potatoes cheap until they come to buy; but that is all natural enough.

Apples are not very abundant, but sell well for the prices. They average about \$4 per bbl., wholesale.

Butter has advanced a little. Cheese the same. Eggs are a little lower.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—New-Jersey Mercers.....	per bbl.	\$ 4 50@4 75
Western Mercers.....	do	4 25@4 50
White Mercers.....	do	4 25@4 50
Nova Scotia Mercers.....	do	—@4 25
New-Jersey Carters.....	per bbl.	4 75@5 —
Washington County Carters.....	do	4 —@ 25
Junos.....	do	3 50@3 75
Western Reds.....	do	2 87@3 25
Yellow Pink Eyes.....	do	2 87@3 25
Long Reds.....	do	2 87@3 37
Virginia Sweet Potatoes.....	do	5 —@ —
Philadelphia sweet.....	do	5 50@6 —
Turnips—Ruta Baga.....	do	1 62@1 75
White.....	do	1 —@1 25
Onions—White.....	do	7 —@ —
Red.....	do	3 98@4 25
Yellow.....	do	4 75@5 —
Cabbages.....	per 100	7 —@12 —
Beets.....	per bbl.	1 87@2 —
Carrots.....	do	—@1 87
Parsnips.....	do	1 50@ —

FRUITS, ETC.

Apples—Spitzenbergs.....	per bbl.	\$ 4 00@4 50
Greenings.....	do	3 50@4 00
Gilliflowers.....	do	3 50@4 00
Baldwins.....	do	3 75@4 24
Butter—Orange County.....	per lb.	28@30c.
Western.....	do	20@22c.
Cheese.....	do	12@13c.
Eggs.....	per doz.	18@19c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY April 11, 1855.

There are 2,313 cattle in market to-day, being an increase of 529 over last week. This increased supply is perhaps owing to former high quotations; and doubtless, some dealers will be disposed to complain still further when they find a decline in prices and slower sales. But they should remember that when prices are high, there is always a rush, and that this fact should be made a matter of calculation as well as anything else. All this, however, is very agreeable to the butchers, and so far from complaining about high quotations, they would have us quote still higher; 14c. they think about right!

The butchers have a wide range of beef to-day, though there is no difficulty in finding good animals. The quality has greatly improved within a few weeks, and it is most fervently hoped that it will continue so. 12c. is about the highest price to-day, though a few choice animals may have reached 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Below we give a few lots offered:

John Murray, sold a good lot of 107, from near Lafayette, Ia., fed by O. Evans. They were about a week in coming and had fallen off since they started nearly 200 lbs. live weight. They were selling from \$95 to \$100 per head, or 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb.

Mr. T. Ford, had a fair lot of 105 Ohio cattle, from Fairfield Co., sold by Wm. Belden. They would average about 700 lbs., and sold for about 11c.

Barney Bartam, was selling an excellent lot of 90 head belonging to James Perrill, of Chillicothe, Ohio. These were equal to any in the yards, and Mr. Bartam thinks would average 12c. per lb. Mr. Perrill, also had another lot, sold by John Merritt, for about 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. or \$78 a head. This was a fair lot and would weigh about \$700 lbs.

Beach & Smith were trying to sell two very large cattle fed by John Stewart, of Greenwich, N. Y. One said they asked \$550, while the other thought they would bring about \$1,000. Messrs. Beach & Smith would do well to set one price hereafter, if they wish to gull reporters.

Mr. S. M. Baker had 74 nice heaves, from Chillicothe, Ohio, sold by Thomas Wheeler. Three sold for \$395, and six for \$122 50 a head.

Wm. H. Gurney & Brother had some fine cattle, which were selling from 11 to 12c. They sold yesterday, at Bergen Hill, 62 Ohio cattle for about 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Sam'l McGraw sold one pair for \$287 50, fed by James Cowan, of Cortlandt Co., N. Y. Also 2 pairs of extra working cattle to the Navy Department, for \$500.

Geo. Toffey had 114 from Ross Co., Ohio, and 30 from this State, which would average about \$85 per head.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality at.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ @12c.
Good retailing quality beef is selling at.....	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ @11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Inferior do. do.....	9@10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Cows and Calves.....	\$35@75.
Veals.....	3c.@7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Sheep, poor.....	\$4 50.
do good.....	\$5 $\frac{1}{2}$ @6.
do extra.....	\$7 50.
Swine, alive.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.@6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	2352
Beeves.....	290
Veals.....	65
Cows and Calves.....	59

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

295 Beef Cattle.....	8@12c.
98 Cows and Calves.....	\$30@70
2,940 Sheep.....	\$3@8.
120 Calves.....	4@6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

The sheep market is not as lively as last week, but the prices remain firm. The supplies are not large, but nearly equal to the demand. The increased supply of veal and fish partially takes the place of mutton.

The following are the sales of Jas. McCarty:

136 Sheep.....	\$816 00
100 do.....	600 00
100 do.....	550 25
1 do.....	5 00
80 do.....	479 44
133 do.....	731 50
74 do.....	354 50
624.....	\$3,542 69

The following are the sales of Sam'l McGraw:

50 Sheep.....	\$331 25
50 Sheep.....	309 25
54 Sheep.....	290 25
61 Sheep.....	327 87
54 Sheep.....	283 50
33 Sheep.....	237 75
55 Sheep.....	310 75
72 Sheep.....	416 88
429.....	\$2,507 50

Sold 15 sheep at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. lb. lb., and 98 at 13c.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table listing various agricultural products and their prices, including Ashes, Beeswax, Bristles, Coal, Cotton, Coffee, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, Lime, Lumber, Molasses, Oil Cake, Provisions, Rice, and Salt.

Table listing prices for Sugar, Tallow, Tobacco, and Wool, including specific grades and origins like St. Croix, New-Orleans, and American Saxony Fleece.

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT BACK NUMBERS, &c.—Back numbers from the beginning of the present volume can still be supplied at 4 cents per number.

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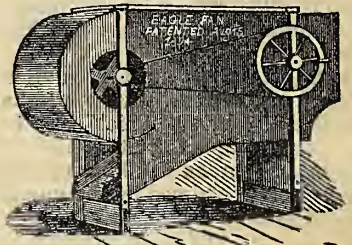
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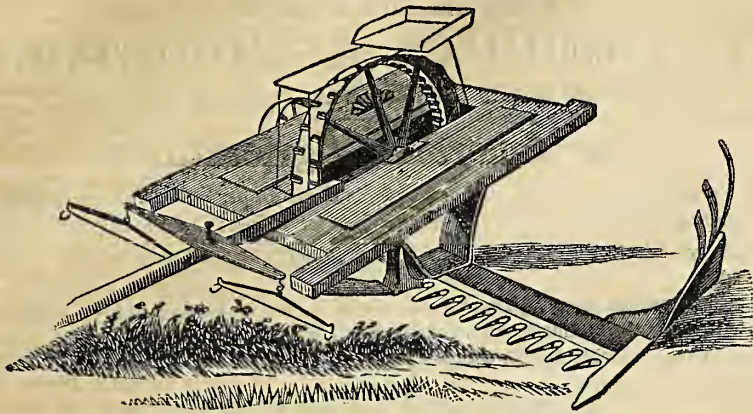
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Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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VOL. XIV.—NO. 6.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 84.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

For the American Agriculturist.

NEW IDEAS IN WHEAT GROWING.

A portion of Grand Island, in the Niagara River, on the west or Canada side, is a stiff, clay, limestone soil—good for wheat. A small farmer there sowed, about 1st of September, 1852, four and three-quarter acres white flint wheat. In August of the succeeding year (1853) he cut the piece, and from its product carried 184½ bushels—60 lbs. to the bushel—merchantable wheat to the mills at Black Rock, and had left 50 bushels of *tailings* or screenings—that is, broken wheat and chaff—making say 234 bushels of product, equal to a fraction over 44 bushels to the acre.

Now, this product is not much to boast of in good wheat land, but what follows is somewhat remarkable. The land on which this wheat grew is an old clearing, and had been skimmed over by squatters for perhaps thirty years, and had yielded various crops of wheat, oats, potatoes, grass, &c., after a poor a fashion of shiftless and lazy cultivation as need be. The man who raised this crop of wheat was a slipshod sort of farmer. He can neither read nor write—of course is no book-farmer. He plowed the land the first time in June, about two inches deep, in furrows eight inches wide. At the second plowing, in August, he plowed it two inches deeper, making the whole depth four inches. The wheat was harrowed in in the usual way, with about six pecks of seed to the acre, after the "Canadian fashion" opposite, to which he was brought up.

The land in Canada, from the mouth of Lake Erie, along the frontier, to Lake Ontario, is mostly of the same kind of soil. It has been cultivated for seventy years past with wheat, barley, oats and grass. But little manure has been used, and that from the barn-yard; and the farmers get good average wheat crops with such plowing and cul-

tivation; and they insist upon it that deeper plowing—for they have tried it—does not answer so well, nor give them so good crops. Can this be so? or was this a *chance* crop? Summer fallowing for wheat is the usual course of wheat raising along the frontier.

As this is contrary to the modern theory of deep plowing and thorough tillage, will you give me a solution for the superiority of this mode of wheat culture. M.

The above was doubtless a "chance crop." The land along the Niagara River, on either side, runs through every variety, from a very stiff clay to an easily-worked clay loam. There are few spots of sandy loam in that vicinity. But though the rocks "*in place*" are limestone, the soil can not be called a limestone soil. Both this and the loose stones mingled with it, are of a very different character from the underlying rock. This soil, sometimes a few inches, and often many feet in thickness, has every appearance of having been deposited upon the surface of the rock, at some former period. So free is it from lime, that we have seen this substance applied with great advantage upon a soil in Niagara County, where solid limestone rock came up to within a few inches of the surface. The gravel and large stones mingled with the soil are all smoothed and rounded, like the pebbles upon the lake or sea shore. Our impression is, that this soil was originally washed by strong currents of water, from what is now the north shore of Lake Ontario, though we may be in error in this particular.

There is, in many localities, a species of enerinitic limestone—solid masses of petrified animal remains—diffused through the soil, and wherever this is found the soil is naturally fertile. Much of the land referred to by our correspondent contains all the mineral elements necessary to fertility, and in a finely divided state, just fitted for giving a good root-hold to plants. Where the underlying rock comes near the surface, with no intervening bed of impervious clay to prevent natural drainage, the soil is in a most admirable condition for cultivation.

But this is seldom the case. The county is comparatively level, and where the surface soil is a loam, there is generally a bed of clay just below, which prevents the water from sinking downward. The soil also abounds in salts of iron, which exist in a poisonous form—green vitriol (sulphate of iron)—where there is not a free access of air. Clay soils, or those lying upon clay, on account of the constant presence of water,

and the consequent exclusion of air, except in two or three inches of the surface, are charged with this sulphate of iron, and the first attempt at deep plowing is unsuccessful, because this poisonous matter is thrown upon the surface. The better plan is, first use the subsoil plow to stir and admit the air into the lower soil, without bringing it up in contact with the plants; or plow only an inch or two deeper every year, and bring up at each time a small quantity of the poisonous matter to the action of the air and frost, but not enough of it to injure the growing crop. Such lands are benefited greatly by deep plowing in autumn, and leaving them in high, narrow ridges, exposed to the united action of air and frost during winter. By these means, put in good condition to a depth of ten or twelve inches, such a soil as bore the above "chance crop," and you may calculate upon a *certain* crop, we will hardly venture to predict how large.

We have not hinted at the great benefit to be derived from draining such land, and will only say that, from personal observation, we are confident the farms within 15 miles of Niagara Falls would, on the average, be more than doubled in actual value for cultivation, by a system of thorough draining. Those rich lands yielding a "living" with the present "shallow," "skinning," "slipshod" processes of cultivation, would, under a more intelligent system of deep, thorough tillage, be a source of wealth to the skillful cultivator, far more certain and remunerative than the placers of California.

THE ORANGE MELON.

We are indebted to Mr. C. A. Peabody, for pure seeds of this water-melon. We received seeds last season from another source, and were disappointed in the products. They were undoubtedly hybrid, as the seeds are not of the same color or size as the genuine. The peeling qualities which we looked for were very poorly developed, and the fruit was very small. Mr. Peabody says "this melon is cultivated like the common kinds, but should not be planted near any of the melon tribe, as the pollen will mix to destroy its peeling qualities. When ripe, the skin peels off like an orange, and it may be separated between the lobes, without showing a seed. It is not only a great curiosity, but the most delicious melon ever met with." The hybrids we raised were sweeter than any upon our premises. With the genuine seed, we expect to come up to the full standard of excellence.

EXPERIMENTS IN CULTIVATING POTATOES.

Unless our farmers adopt some method in the cultivation of potatoes superior to that which they have too generally pursued for years past, the crop is likely to become so scarce and high, as to be deemed a luxury rather than a necessary in this country. We hope shortly to give an extended article of our own on this subject. In the meanwhile we copy from the Mark-Lane Express, some highly valuable experiments in the cultivation of the potato, made by T. J. Herepath, Bri-tol, England.

The mineral manures used by him, "according to the directions" of the Mark-Lane Express, in the eighth experiment proved the best. They were composed of—

- 30 lbs. of wood ashes,
- 15 " of calcined bones in fine powder,
- 10 " of gypsum,
- 20 " of common salt,
- 30 " of air-slaked lime, and
- 7 " of nitrate of soda, all well mixed.

To the above he added coal and wood ashes, in quantities which he does not state.

The steep used to soak the seed was one ounce of sulphate of copper (blue vitriol), dissolved in a gallon of water.

If our farmers would plant on recently cleared and burnt-off forest lands, of a dry soil, they would not require ashes, lime, or any other mineral manure. If they have no such land to plant, then plow up a rich old pasture the last of May, or fore part of June, after the grass has got to be four to six inches high. Turn the sod flat over, harrow lengthwise—furrow out two or three inches deep for the rows—and then drop and cover. In furrowing out, be very careful not to disturb the sod. If there be any danger of rot, spread 10 to 20 bushels of wood ashes, as much more of lime per acre, and 5 to 10 bushels of salt if it can be had cheap, on the turned up sod, previous to harrowing.

It will be seen throughout all Mr. Herepath's experiments, that he relies mostly on wood ashes, lime, and salt, to preserve the growing crop from the rot. Unfermented manures, and cold, damp soils are to be avoided, as these are highly favorable to the production of rot. Will our readers please favor us with the details of experiments they may make this year in the cultivation of their potato crop?

1. This year, 1854, I planted a large field with potatoes, and manured them according to your directions, with mineral manure. The sets were well dried, and, when planted, the soil was top-dressed with a compost of lime, salt, and soot. The produce was nearly free from disease, and very fine and well tasted, and very different in character from that of the last two or three years. Potatoes cultivated in an adjoining field, and cultivated with farm-yard manure, were, to some extent, diseased. The roots, when cooked, were not to be compared in flavor to those manured according to your directions.

2. I top-dressed my land with ashes—several tons to the acre. The potatoes before planting were dipped for a short time in a weak solution of blue vitriol. The salt being expensive, I used only about an ounce or two to the gallon. * * * The roots having been allowed to remain for about half-an-hour or so in this liquor, they were manured with lime and salt, mixed together

in the proportions you recommend (two bushels of lime to one of salt), and dung, well rotted. The lime and salt I used at the rate of twenty bushels to the acre. The dung about half the usual quantity. * * * The crop was very fine, the haulm healthy, and the tubers sound and free from disease, and of capital flavor. Some potatoes, manured only with farm-yard dung (the usual quantity), and without ashes, &c., were affected with the disease, though not so much as in former years. The tubers were not so much as the haulm, but turned out somewhat waxy on boiling.

3. This year I cultivated my potatoes according to your directions. I exposed the seed for some weeks in a warm atmosphere, and thus well dried them before planting. I manured the land with a mixture of lime, salt, and ashes (sown broadcast), using two bushels of lime to one of salt, and incorporating nearly twice the quantity of the ashes of our fire-grates, in which we burn both coal and wood. The crop was excellent, both in quality and quantity. A few of the tubers were diseased, but we had more than an average crop, and the roots were infinitely superior in flavor to those I had manured with nitrogenized manure only; that is to say, with the refuse of my pig-styes and stables.

4. All along this coast (North Devon) the farmers are in the habit of mixing large quantities of sea-sand and shell-sand (saturated with salt water) with the soil of their potato fields, and the crops turn out excellent. Sometimes we manure also with farm-yard manure; but, so far as my own experience goes, I think you are quite right in stating that highly nitrogenized manure is not suited to the potato crop. I have generally observed that those fields where most dung is used is always the most diseased. A field this year manured with salt and lime bore an excellent crop, as did also a neighbor's who followed the same plan. * * * The soil was rich, but was manured last year with shell-sand.

5. I manured my potatoes with a mineral compost, prepared with wood ashes, salt, lime, and coal ashes, with some soot. The crop was good, and, I may almost say, entirely free from disease. We have not had much disease in this neighborhood, but I think my potatoes are infinitely superior in quality to those manured according to the old method, I mean with common farm-yard manure.

6. I cultivated my potatoes this year according to your directions, taken from the London Journal. I dried the seed by exposure for several weeks on the floor of a room in our manufactory, and planted them in drills in the usual way, manuring them with mineral compost, prepared by mixing together about 1 cwt. of wood ashes with a quarter of a hundred weight each of gypsum and bone dust, nearly the same quantity of nitrate of soda, and say another hundred weight of salt and lime. In another trial I used only a mixture of road scrapings, well-rotted dung, and litter, followed by a pretty heavy top-dressing of lime and salt. * * * The crop was very fine; much better, I may say, than any I ever had before. The potatoes were of excellent quality, and not at all diseased.

7. In my experiments the land was manured about three weeks or a month before planting, with fifteen or sixteen (I forget which) bushels of salt and lime, with ashes. The potatoes were very carefully dried, and manured with a small quantity of good yard manure, but I employed much less than I heretofore used. The crop was a fine one, and not in the slightest degree diseased.

8. I adopted your suggestions to a certain extent in the cultivation of the potato. I

kept the seed very dry on a boarded floor a month or more before planting, early in March. In the drills I put a small quantity of earth on the seed, then filled up with lime and salt, well mixed together, in your proportions (two bushels of lime to one of salt); the land was manured in February with earth composed of very rotten dung, quite decomposed, and road dirt. At a proper age they (the potatoe plants) were well earthed up, and the haulm was of a fine green color, and showed no symptoms of decay until the second week in August. I have not finished digging; but so far as I have gone, it is the best crop I ever had, in quantity and quality; not more in number decayed than we used to have before the disease originally appeared. If I had applied your remedy in full, I doubt if I should have done better. My men inform me no one in the parish (Westbury) has been so successful.

AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS.

The following programme is marked out by Edmund Ruffin, the distinguished agriculturist of Virginia, for conducting agricultural surveys. Though intended for his own State, the principles, with slight modification, may be adapted to any State:

GENERAL PLAN AND ARRANGEMENT, AND SOME OF THE PARTICULAR SUBJECTS, SUGGESTED FOR A REPORT OF AN AGRICULTURAL SURVEY OF A COUNTY, OR ANY OTHER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT.

I. General features and character of the country, in the following respects:

1. Situation, extent, and natural physical characters and divisions, illustrated, by a map of small size.
2. Surface and face of the country, and diversities of elevation and exposure.
3. Climate, and especially any peculiarities thereof, and the causes.
4. Geological characters of different parts, so far as known.
5. Useful minerals, and especially such as are, or may be, valuable as manures.
6. Water, in reference to uses of navigation, irrigation, propelling machinery, &c.
7. Market, towns, and manner of or facilities for transportation of products.

II. General description and management of lands.

1. Classes and kinds of soil, and of sub-soil, to be designated (when extensive) on the map.
2. Quantities of arable land, or meadow, (not subjected to ordinary tillage, or rotation of crops,) of land, swamp, or marsh, and other waste or unproductive lands.
3. Sizes of farms, usual or unusual.
4. The usual crops, of large and of small culture.
5. Rotation of crops.
6. Manner and depth of plowing, and preparation for and tillage, and general management of crops.
7. Expense of cultivation.
8. Agricultural products proper to be made in the locality, and which are brought from other places, and the extent of such supplies.

III. General market prices of lands, past and present, and causes of rise or fall in prices. Rates of rent.

IV. Drainage and embankments.

1. Of tide marshes and swamps.
2. Of swamp or other low and wet lands, higher than the tide.
3. Drainage of arable, or high and firm lands, for either surface water or springs, and by either open or covered drains.

V. Implements and machines for agricultural operations.

VI. Fencing and inclosing.

1. Kinds and costs of fencing.
2. Advantages and disadvantages of the

separate inclosing of each field, or each farm, compared to dispensing with either or both; and instead, confining live stock to inclosed pastures, or herding them, especially in reference to hogs.

VII. Grass, husbandry, grazing, and green or vegetable manuring crops.

1. Natural meadows on moist ground.
2. Artificial (or sown) grasses on permanent meadows or pastures.
3. Artificial grasses, peas, or other green or forage crops, alternated with tillage crops on arable land.
4. Mowing and hay.
5. Crops of grass, peas, or weeds, left to manure the land on which they grew.

VIII. Live stock.

1. Teams, or animals for labor.
2. Animals reared and kept for their products, or fattened for sale or home consumption, and their management.
3. Animals purchased from abroad, and general cost thereof.
4. Comparative profits of hogs confined to inclosed pastures, or to styes, and those ranging at large.

IX. Dairy management and products.

1. Products consumed or sold.
2. Supplies of butter and cheese from abroad.

X. Manures.

1. Cow-yard and stable manure, and other stock supplies. Collection and choice of material—preparation, and effects. Fermented and unfermented manures.
2. Straw, leaves, or other unmixed vegetable matters, unrotted when applied.
3. Peat, marsh, or swamp mud as manure.
4. Fossil shells or marl.
5. Lime.
6. Any supply of carbonate of lime from other sources.
7. Wood ashes—coal ashes.
8. Bone dust, or phosphate of lime in other materials.
9. Gypsum.
10. Guano.
11. Any earth containing fertilizing ingredients, and fit for manures.
12. Any other neutral salts, or materials containing them, useful for manuring.
13. Composts of different manuring materials.

XI. Orchards and their products, vineyards, vegetable gardens supplying products for sale generally and extensively.

XII. Woodland.

1. General description of the growth of different kinds of lands.
2. Uses and value of timber and other products.
3. Proportion of farms necessary to be kept under wood.
4. Disadvantages and cost of excess of wood-land to agriculture.

XIII. Old and bad practices, and new or recently introduced processes or improved practices in agriculture.

XIV. Notices or suggestions of new or neglected resources for agricultural improvement.

XV. Obstacles to agricultural improvement and profit.

1. Obstacles opposed by natural and unavoidable circumstances.
2. Obstacles caused by erroneous governmental policy, or by omission of proper legislation.
3. Obstacles caused by individual action or neglect.

XVI. Unhealthiness of residents, caused by climate and condition of the country and its agriculture.

1. Local sources of malaria, their extent, operation, and degrees of malignity—such as rapid streams sometimes overflowing the bordering land—tide-water marshes, fresh or salt—swamps, whether in their natural state or when under culture—mill-ponds, and the

passage of transient and irregular floods of fresh water over salt marshes.

2. Accumulation of putrifying matters, animal and vegetable, in towns, their injurious effects on health, and the means of rendering them innoxious, and useful as materials for manure.

3. Increase or decrease, and greater or less extent and virulence of malarious diseases, in past time and now, and the supposed causes of change.

4. Means of removing or diminishing the causes of such diseases, within the reach of individual proprietors, and such means as can not be used without governmental interposition, and compulsory direction.

XVII. Any other subjects not here indicated, which may be connected with the agriculture or economy of the county or other locality treated of, and of which the discussion would be useful in aid of improvement.

AN AGRICULTURAL ARTICLE.

We regret to see an article like the one below, in the editorial department of so widely circulating and influential a journal as the Tribune; for it is alike injurious to the cultivators of the soil, and the consumers of their produce. There is many an "old daisy field in Connecticut," and elsewhere, upon which one hundred dollars' worth of labor and manure may be expended per acre, and yet it would not yield an average of ten bushels of wheat. So far from the cultivation of such lands being profitable, it would only result in loss; and we defy certain "scientific" farmers, however pretentious, to produce any other result. Thousands of acres of such lands are only fit to pasture a small hardy race of sheep, goats, ponies, and geese; and it is to such purposes similar lands in Europe are devoted; although in a modified point of view they are far more valuable there than in Connecticut.

The writer is almost as much out of the way in his prices of potatoes, and beef, in this market, as in his calculation of the profits of cultivating a poor soil. Good Mercer and Nova Scotia potatoes, could have been purchased at this time for \$4.25 per single barrel. Allow 2½ bushel to the barrel, this would be \$1.54 per bushel, instead of \$3.00—quite a difference. In the price given of beef, he makes a still greater mistake.

The writer recommends sugar, rice, tapioca, as cheaper than flour and meat. We doubt this. Beans, peas, corn meal, and codfish certainly are, and more especially the two former—beans and peas—and the writer should know that sugar is not in large quantities adapted for summer food, for laboring men.

It strikes us that our staid, steady, reasoning farmers—for such many of the most unscientific among them are—will be little affected, except to laughter—by such epithets as "arrant nonsense," "poor pitiful brain," "stupid ignorance." We think this article must have crept in unobserved by the present intelligent conductors of the Tribune, and we only allude to it so as to call their attention to the importance of watching carefully against the admission of unreliable articles, which will in the long run work against the cause they desire to advance.

From the Daily Tribune, of April 13.

It is arrant nonsense for any man in all New-England to say that he can not raise

grain; that his land is too poor. It is not half so poor as his poor pitiful brain that will not learn the cheap art of making poor land fertile. In all inventions, except that of making poor land productive, New-England is master of the world. In agriculture she is behind the Chinese, for they do save and apply manures. There is not an old daisy-field in all Connecticut that may not be made to produce wheat with more profit than usually arises upon the arable product of the West. The ground is there to hold the seed, and that is all that is wanted. Science points out the proper ingredients to apply to make the grain. Every dollar that is so expended will pay back fifty per cent per annum. It is the stupid ignorance of those who own the land that prevents the application, and produces starvation prices. We know this is strong language, but it is true. Strong language is needed to arouse stupid. We are at starvation prices now; and, without one of the best crops ever grown in the United States, we shall be worse off next winter.

The best flour is \$13 50 a barrel. Potatoes are \$2 a bushel at wholesale; at retail 50 per cent higher. Who can afford to eat them? Last week the most common price of beef was 16 to 20 cents a pound, and choice steaks sold for 25 to 37½ cents a pound.

The only cheap article of food is sugar, and that can be bought for a less price per pound than flour. It should be more largely consumed as a matter of economy. Let the poor eat more sugar, rice, tapioca, farina, maccoroni, hominy, dried fruits, and less meat, and much less crude vegetables.

CHEESE PUMPKINS.

The following experiment shows the great profit of raising a good crop of pumpkins. When intelligently raised, we have no doubt they are as profitable a crop as can occupy the fields, as they generally command a good price in market, and when unsaleable there, they are an excellent food for almost all domestic animals.

For the American Agriculturist.

I have raised this year from a simple vine 17 pumpkins of the cheese shape variety, averaging 17 lbs. each. As there are 4,840 square yards in an acre, and allowing 14 square yards for each vine, which is more than the vine occupied, the vines being trimmed within these limits will give 1,302 vines. This multiplied by 17 will give 5,134 pumpkins; and these multiplied by 17, the weight of each pumpkin will give 87,278 lbs., which at half a cent a pound is \$436.39.

S. A.

SISAL HEMP.—A correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, under date of April 7, from Key West, says:

Upon Knight's and Duck Key we observe extensive fields of Sisal hemp. Several hundred thousand plants or suckers have been set out, and by their tall growth prove that our soil and climate are well adapted to the cultivation of this valuable plant. The hemp plant requires but little care. It is strong and thrifty, and will flourish upon a barren sand bank. It forces itself through the surrounding weeds and shrubs, and mounts high above them all. The fiber of many plants grown upon this Key exceeds 8 feet in length. It is strong, of fine luster, and in color a creamy yellow. As this plant procures more nourishment from the air than from the earth, and needs only to be watered by the dews, it is well adapted to our Keys. We know of no other article that could be grown to a profit, and we look forward to

the success of those now introducing it, with much interest.

HOP GROWING.

(Concluded from page 68.)

Diseases.—The hop, like most plants, has its diseases and its pests, in the shape of insects, which prey upon and essentially injure it. Among the chief diseases, besides those inflicted by insects, are the rust, the blight, and the mildew. No remedy is known against these, nor is the cause well known; but they are probably owing to influences of the atmosphere not as yet very well understood. The moldy fen, or red fen, as it is often called, causes the leaves to turn brown, and, if not checked as soon as discovered, is apt to overrun the whole plantation. It has been known to visit the same ground for a succession of years when neglected at its first appearance. The means of guarding against it are, to keep the ground in good cultivation by frequent stirring, and to eradicate every weed, and to manure well with manure from the pig-stye. No well-understood remedy is known against the attacks of blight and mildew. They most frequently infect the hop in seasons when the days are hot and the nights dewless; and a frequent use of ashes is recommended as a remedy.

Besides the diseases which attack the hop, there are insects which infest it; and among others the ghost-moth, (*Hepiobus humuli*), which lives in the root of the hop, and sometimes proves very destructive. A small green fly also infests the hop, and commits extensive depredations, sometimes even destroying much of the crop. This insect appears at the end of May, and in June. Syringing the field with tobacco water, soap-suds, &c., has sometimes been resorted to. I would suggest the use of quassia by way of experiment. This is the infusion of the bark and wood of the quassia tree, from the West Indies, of an exceedingly bitter taste. It may be obtained at most of the drug stores, and applied with the syringe with perfect safety and at small expense. A change of location once in eight or ten years seems to be the only remedy against the larvæ of some insects which attack the roots of this plant.

The hop has sometimes been called an exhausting crop. I know of no valid reason for this opinion other than the supposition, that, as the vines are large and luxuriant, they must necessarily draw upon the energies of the soil. But when we consider how large a proportion of their nourishment all plants, and particularly all plants which spread out a large surface of leaves, draw from the atmosphere, this supposition seems to have little weight. Whether exhausting or not, it is certain that after a hop plantation is discontinued on one spot, which should ordinarily be at the end of about eight or ten years from the time of setting, grass succeeds better than after most other crops. Indeed, all crops grow with the greatest luxuriance after a hop crop, and the soil is by no means exhausted for the hop itself. The necessity for a change of location arises mainly from the fact that insects are most apt to infest old grounds; and were it not for this reason, hops might be cultivated many years in succession on the same land. It is the practice of one of the largest growers with whom I am acquainted to change the location of his hop plantation every eight years; and he assures me that a plantation seeded down after the roots are removed will bear the stoutest grass for twelve years in succession, at the end of which time he cultivates it in hops again.

The constituents which are taken from the soil may be seen by the following analysis

of the ash of the hop vine, including the blossoms:

In 100 parts there are of	
Silica.....	13.24
Chloride of sodium.....	7.73
Chloride of potassium.....	3.77
Soda.....	0.13
Potash.....	21.49
Lime.....	34.79
Magnesia.....	4.09
Sulphuric acid.....	4.63
Phosphoric acid.....	6.34
Phosphate of iron.....	3.79
	100.00

The ashes of the dried hops alone, which amount to one-tenth of the whole weight, contain the following constituents, in the percentage attached to each:

Silica.....	21.05
Potash.....	25.18
Lime.....	15.98
Magnesia.....	5.77
Salt.....	7.24
Phosphate of iron.....	7.45
Sulphuric acid.....	5.41
Phosphoric acid.....	9.08
Chloride of potassium.....	1.67
Alumina, and a trace of manganese.	

It is safe to say that hops could be cultivated fifty years in succession, and still leave the land in good heart. It has been for many years one of the most profitable crops, on the whole, that have been grown in the State, averaging, under good management, more than \$100 per acre, often, indeed, amounting to much more than that, and exhausting the soil less than any other.

Uses.—The fiber of the hop resembles that of hemp, and a strong, white cloth is manufactured from it, after being long steeped in water. The root, stem and leaf may be used for tanning leather, in the same manner as oak bark, sumac, &c. Hops are also extensively used as medicines, having narcotic, tonic, and diuretic properties of great value. They are often used as a sedative. The lupuline, a fine yellow powder already mentioned, contains, in 120 grains, 5 grains of tannin, 10 of extractive, 11 of bitter principle, 12 of wax, 36 of resin, and 46 of lignin. All the astringency, as well as the aroma and the bitterness, of hops, is found in the lupuline, which may be easily separated from the strobiles by sifting; and as it weighs but a sixth or eighth part of the whole, and occupies but a small part of its bulk, it may be readily transported. Whether these principles could be preserved in all their strength for any length of time, when separated from the strobiles and packed in tin cases, I do not know; but it is certainly worthy of careful experiment, since, if they could, much of the labor and expense of transporting hops might be avoided.

But by far the largest use of hops is for the preservation of various malt liquors from fermentation, and to impart to them a bitter taste. Many other plants are, or may be, used for the same purpose, but they are all thought to be inferior to the hop. From forty to fifty thousand acres of hops are cultivated in England every year, although the product is subject to a tax which, in 1844, amounted in the aggregate to £256,240 15s. 2½d., or about \$1,281,200, on 44,513½ acres. The malt charged with duty in the same year amounted to no less than 37,187,186 bushels, returning a duty of £5,027,061.—*C. L. Flint's Second Annual Report to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture.*

A friend of the lamented Hood, on whom the panster's mantle seemed to have fallen, says of him: "Poor Hood—died of pure generosity—to gratify the undertaker, who wished to urn a lively Hood."

BOG MEADOWS RECLAIMED.

We find the following account in the Transactions of the Middlesex County Society, (Ms.) in the statement of Mr. Asa G. Sheldon, of Wilmington, who is one of the enterprising farmers in that region:

The swamp land I offered for premium, in 1843, was blueberry swamp, with some few maples and white pine; value not more than ten dollars per acre. I first dug a ditch through the center of it, about forty rods in length, which cost sixty cents per rod, making twenty dollars. Then I cut off the wood and brush, which barely paid for cutting. In the fall, the manure was taken from the slaughter-yard and barn-cellar, teamed to a side-hill near the swamp, mixed one load of strong manure with three loads of blue clayey gravel. This was done in September. In the winter, when the swamp was frozen, this was teamed on, tipped up in loads, and then covered with sand. In April, 1844, it was all overhauled. In May, I commenced digging over the swamp, and planting potatoes, putting a small shovelfull of this compost in a hill. I found the depth of mud to vary from eighteen inches to nine feet. Where I found the mud deep and good digging, I dug five or six feet deep, filling the holes with blackberry roots, small stumps, and hassocks, within eighteen inches of the top, then covering it over with mud from the next hole, planting potatoes on the same. The clearing and planting were both done at once. The piece managed in this way was not less than two acres. A man would clear and plant from four to six square rods per day. Wages, at that time, were a dollar a day. Cost of clearing and planting, thirty two dollars per acre. Cost of ditch, ten dollars per acre, making, in all, forty-two dollars per acre. The crop of potatoes was not less than two hundred bushels per acre.

Grass-seed was sown on the ground when the potatoes were dug, and the ground raked over. In 1845-6-7-8 and 9, making five years, it produced as good a crop of English hay as I ever raised upon any ground, without any manure except what was put on the first crop of potatoes. In 1850, the crop of grass began to fail, and some wild grass came in. In September, 1850, I plowed it by hitching the plow behind a pair of wheels, so that the oxen could walk on the grass. In the winter, when it was frozen, I teamed on manure, all kinds being mixed, about four cords to the acre. I planted it in 1851 with potatoes; the crop was from three to five hundred bushels to the acre. Finding this much more profitable than hay, I have managed it in the same way until the present time. When the potatoes have been dug early, before they got their full growth, I have not obtained so large a crop. When they have been allowed to remain in the ground, they have never failed of yielding three times as much as the upland.

The present season I invited the town clerk, with a number of other gentlemen, to witness the measurement of the ground, and the digging and measurement of the potatoes. From this, which I inclose, you will see that the crop can not be valued at less than three hundred dollars per acre, many having now been sold for more than one dollar and fifty cents per bushel.

WILMINGTON, Oct. 2, 1854.

TWO AND FOUR ROWED BARLEY.—Last spring, having a piece of ground which I was desirous of sowing to barley, and wishing to satisfy myself which variety, the two, or four rowed, was most profitable, I sowed an equal quantity of each upon equal portions of ground in the same field. The amount sowed was six bushels of each vari-

ety, at the rate of 2½ bushels per acre; and upon threshing, I found the *two*-rowed produced 715 lbs. more than the *four*-rowed. These are facts, which I thus hand out for the benefit of practical farmers, hoping it may meet the eye of some one who has tried similar experiments, and induce them to give us the result of their operations. C.

LANGSVILLE, N. Y. [Country Gentlemen.

MILLET CULTURE.

I am happy to give you all the information I can in relation to the millet crop. It has, indeed, been a favorite crop with me, for the last five or six years. This year I have less of it than usual, and am very sorry for it. There is no kind of hay that to my stock, of all kinds, prefer to millet, and if the land is rich, and it is well put in, and good seed, it produces well. I have had as much as four tons to the acre. After it is taken off in the fall, the land is in good order for wheat, by being once well plowed, not yielding quite so heavy a crop as a summer fallow, but quite good.

I plow early in the spring, at the time that I plow for oats or corn—harrow once—then after oats are sowed, corn planted and other work done up, say from the 1st to the 10th of June, plow the ground again, harrow well, and sow about twelve quarts seed per acre; harrow well again, and it should be rolled, in order to make a smooth surface for mowing. It comes up slow and fine, but grows very rapidly in hot weather, say July and August. It is fit to cut in September, when the seed is out of the milk, or pretty solid. It does not hurt by standing, till even frost comes, except that it loses seed.

Some folks cradle and bind it in sheaves, but I prefer to mow it, and put it in cock green; let it cure in cock; it may want airing, but put it in cock again to undergo the curing process. If it should rain and get wet, open the cocks till dry, and put it up again. It is a very rich, nutritious feed, in consequence of the abundance of seed, which all kinds of stock are fond of.

I am feeding, this winter, some drilled corn, which I like very much. I drill it in rows three feet apart, and six or eight stalks to the foot. Cut it up, and put it in good shock when ripe, and let it stand till winter when wanted for feed. It keeps better that way than any other and is much less trouble.

A. Y. MOORE, Pres. Mich. State Agr. Soc.
Schoolcraft, Feb. 3, 1855. Country Gentleman.

TO MAKE GOOD BREAD.

I am a farmer's wife, and have been a housekeeper for more than twenty years; raised a family of children, and the greater part of that time have personally presided over my household affairs. I have therefore not found much time for publication, but seeing in your excellent paper several items on bread-making, and believing I am pretty well posted in that department, I will give you and the readers of the Cultivator the benefit of my experience. Truth will bear twice telling.

In order to have good bread, an indispensable ingredient is good yeast. My mode of making yeast is as follows: To three pints of water add one handful of hops, boil well together, strain and put the liquor into the pot again, then take three large sized potatoes, wash and pare and grate them, and stir into the liquor while boiling, then add one table-spoonful of salt, one teacupful of sugar or molasses, and thicken with a spoonful of flour; pour it out, and when cool enough add yeast sufficient to rise it; when light, set it in a cool place for use.

To make bread, pare and cut two quarts of potatoes, boil them in water enough to mix

one gallon of sponge; when well boiled, mash and strain through a cullender, stir in flour while hot, when cool enough stir in a teacupful of yeast, then set to rise, and next morning make up your bread in the usual way; when light, mold it into loaves and let stand until fit to put in the oven.

This is my way of making good bread, and I know of none better. AUNT DERBY.
Ohio Cultivator.

THE WHEAT CROP.

The Sandusky Commercial Register states "that in the State of Ohio, at least the northern half of the State, the quantity of wheat sown is not more than half of last year, estimating by the number of acres occupied. Some who have given the subject attention, say not more than one-third." The editor further says, "a gentleman of great observation and ample means of information assures us that on the line of one of our most important railroads, for a distance equal to one hundred miles south from this place, there will be no surplus for export till every acre sown shall produce a fair crop.

Messrs. Deane & Brown, of Richmond, Va., sold, on Saturday last, to the city millers, a large lot of white wheat for *two dollars and a half per bushel*. The present price of ordinary white wheat, \$2 40a\$2 45, and prime wheat, \$2 50, has not been equaled in that section, we think, for the past 40 years.

We regret to notice in our Virginia exchanges very discouraging accounts of the wheat crop in different localities. In Loudoun county, according to the Leesburg Washingtonian, the length and severity of the winter, the unusually dry spring, and the prevalence of high winds have materially injured the crop. The Piedmont Whig brings a similar account from Fauquier, and the editor advises the farmers to endeavor to make up the deficiency in some other way. The Fredericksburg Herald has accounts from the valley of the Rappahannock, which indicate that the growing crop of wheat, is anything but promising.

The Toronto Globe, of the 7th, says it is estimated that 100,000 bushels of wheat are stored in that city for the United States market. Messrs. Johnson & Carrington, of Oswego, have purchased about twenty-five thousand bushels, ten thousand of which have already been shipped in the Grace Greenwood. Mr. W. Ross has about 15,000 bushels stored in Jarvis' new warehouse. Mr. T. C. Barrows, agent for Messrs. Vurbank & Langton, has purchased some 20,000 bushels, and is daily increasing his stock.

SUGAR PROSPECTS.—The Louisiana papers contain gloomy accounts of the prospects for a good sugar crop in that State. The Opelousas Patriot says the sugar crop can not, under the most favorable circumstances of weather and season, reach another year within thirty-three per cent of the crop of the past, and that shows at least twenty-five per cent of a falling off from the crop of 1853.

The same paper says: "Touching the cotton and corn crops, a large pitch has been

made, and with a favorable season a far better yield may be anticipated than that of last year."

STRAWBERRIES.—The New-Orleans Picayune of the 9th inst., says:

Our market yesterday gave charming proof of the speed with which spring is opening the way for summer's fruits. Already she showers her own treasures on us with a bountiful grace, strongly emulous of her sister's coming days. The beautiful strawberry decked the stalls in the earlier part of the morning, with what might almost be called profusion.

ALFALA.—This plant, sometimes called Peruvian clover, is beginning to be appreciated in California. It can be cut several times a year, and affords a very heavy crop. In deep soil the roots penetrate so far that drouth does not prevent its growth, like ordinary grass or English clover. It should be cultivated here for soiling cattle.

[The above we clip from an exchange but know nothing definitely of the plant referred to.—Ed.]

Horticultural Department.

BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

The Spring Exhibition of the Society opened on Wednesday April 11, at the Brooklyn Athenæum, and ended on Thursday evening. No better proof could be given of the flourishing condition of the Society than the excellency and completeness of this exhibition. The arrangements had been made with great care and taste, and as might be expected, large numbers of visitors were present to enjoy the festivity. The display of green, and hothouse plants was exceedingly fine, including some new and beautiful varieties. Other plants of the more familiar kinds, such as Azaleas, Hyacinths, Roses, Fuchsias, Verbenas, Cinerarias were out in great beauty and perfection. Whoever compared these creations of Nature with those gaudy shop-window imitations of flowers, could see full well how wretched are even the best devices of art. Wax and wire done up ever so fancifully could avail nothing here—absolutely nothing.

Interesting and instructive addresses were delivered before the Society on Thursday evening, by the President and the Rev. Dr. Vinton.

We are glad to learn that the efforts of the Society to establish a Botanical Garden are so successful. The bill passed the Assembly on Thursday. Messrs. Hunt, Langley, and Kent, have made an appropriation of land for this purpose, comprising about 16 acres and valued at \$25,000. Mr. Hunt gives \$50,000 towards the endowment, from whom the Institution is to be named the Hunt Botanical Garden. The whole amount of stock is to be \$150,000, of which more than \$100,000 is already subscribed. The shares are \$25 each.

Below are the Premiums awarded, which give an outline of the articles exhibited, and from the judgment and care exercised by

the committees, furnish a pretty safe criterion of relative merit.

COLLECTIONS.—For the best dissimilar collection of hot and greenhouse specimen plants, not less than 12, \$12—George Hamlyn, gardener to W. C. Langley, Esq., Bay Ridge; for the second best, \$10—Martin Collopy, gardener to J. H. Prentice, Gowanus; for the largest and best collection, comprising new and rare plants, not less than 20, \$12—J. E. Rauch, Gowanus; for the best two specimens of ornamental or variegated-leaved specimens, \$7—Martin Collopy, Astoria.

HOTHOUSE PLANTS.—For the best four specimens, \$3—Alexander Gordon, gardener to Edwin Hoyt; for the second best, \$6—M. Collopy; for the best single specimen, \$3—J. Weir, Bay Ridge; for the second best, \$2—Thomas Templeton, gardener to Alfred Large, Brooklyn.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.—For the best four specimens, \$3—A. Gordon; for the second best, \$6—M. Collopy; for the best single specimen, \$3—A. Gordon; for the second best, \$2—Colman, gardener to Cummings.

PELARGONIUMS.—For the best six specimens, \$8—George Hamlyn; for the second best, \$5—George Hamlyn; for the best four specimens of fancy varieties, \$5—George Hamlyn; for the second best, \$3—A. Gordon; for the best four specimens of scarlet varieties \$3—D. Murphy, gardener to J. S. T. Stranahan; for the second best, \$2—D. Murphy, gardener to J. S. T. Stranahan.

AZALEAS.—For the best four specimens, \$3—Alexander Fraser, gardener to Dennis Perkins; for second best, \$6—S. Hamlyn; for the best single specimen, \$3—J. Templeton; for the second best, \$2—J. W. DeGrauw.

ROSES.—For the best twelve varieties of Bourbon, Tea, Noisette &c., \$3—J. E. Rauch; for the second best, \$6—James Weir; for the best six varieties, \$5—James Weir.

FUCHSIAS.—For the best six dissimilar specimens, \$6—Wm. Poynter, Brooklyn; for the best three specimens, \$3—Wm. Poynter, Brooklyn; for the second best, \$2—T. Templeton.

CINERARIAS.—For the best six varieties, \$4—T. Templeton; for the second best \$2—Wm. Poynter; for the best three, \$2—Wm. Poynter; for the second best, \$1—Ed. Decker, gardener to J. Q. Jones, Staten Island.

MONTHLY CARNATIONS.—For the best four varieties, \$3—J. E. Rauch; for the second best, \$2—Jas. Weir.

VERBENAS.—For the best dissimilar collection, not less than 12 varieties, \$5—J. E. Rauch; for the second best, \$3—Jas. Weir; for the best six specimens, distinct varieties, \$3—Jas. Weir; for the second best, \$2—J. E. Rauch.

STOCKGILLIES.—For the best specimen, Jas. Weir.

HYACINTHS.—For the best six varieties, \$3—J. DeGrauw; for the second best, \$2—J. DeGrauw.

CUT FLOWERS.—For the best twelve varieties of Roses, \$2—Jas. Weir; for the second best, \$1—J. W. Burgess, Glen Cove; for the best six varieties of Camellias, \$2—Jas. Weir; for the second best, \$1—W. & J. Parks; best twelve Pansies, James Weir.

BOUQUETS, BASKETS, ETC.—For the best pair of hand Bouquets, \$3—W. & J. Parks; for the best Baskets of Flowers, \$4—Wm. Poynter; for the second best, \$3—W. & J. Parks.

VEGETABLES.—For the best Asparagus, twenty-five stalks, \$2—George Hamlyn; for the best dish of Mushrooms, \$2—Edward Decker; for the best six heads of Lettuce, \$1—Edward Decker.

Besides these regular premiums, several special ones were awarded by the judges.

Best collection of Roses in bloom; J. W. Burgess; Vase of Flowers, W. & J. Parks; correct labeling of specimens, J. E. Rauch; second best, W. & J. Parks.

EVERGREEN SHRUBS.

BY WM. SAUNDERS, LANDSCAPE GARDENER, GERMAN TOWN, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The scarcity of evergreen shrubbery in our pleasure grounds is a standard theme with writers on rural taste, and comparisons with other countries in this respect invariably result unfavorably to us. That there are good reasons for such conclusions will not be questioned by those best acquainted with our rural improvements; but they console themselves with the reflection that at no distant period we will be in a position to invite comparison instead of shrinking from it, and avoiding, as at present, all allusion to our examples of artificial landscape scenery.

We become more sensitive on the institution of these comparisons when we reflect that no country in the temperate zone is more bountifully supplied with the *material* necessary for the composition of landscape. Those who have any doubts on this point have never attempted to penetrate a Jersey swamp, or followed the course of a river in Pennsylvania. The Holly, Kalmia, and Magnolia, of the former, and the Hemlock, Spruce, Rhododendron, and Yew, of the latter, are familiar examples of our native evergreens, and their beauty as ornamental plants are not surpassed by any foreign productions available for these purposes; while our deciduous trees, for variety and beauty, are beyond comparison superior to any other.

The attempts to successfully remove these native plants into cultivated grounds have so often proved abortive as to lead to the belief that the operation is generally impracticable; but when we consider the most favorable conditions in the native localities, and compare them with the treatment the plants receive after removal, we will find sufficient reasons for the failures. Alluding more particular to our native broad-leaved evergreen shrubs, we find them most abundant under the shade of the Hemlock, Spruce, White Pine, and other evergreen trees. Thus sheltered from the aridity of summer, and shaded from the morning suns of winter, they attain their greatest beauty and luxuriance; and although frequently met with in exposed situations, they are never so healthy as when sheltered by taller evergreens, or located on the sides at the base of slopes, where they are protected from sudden changes in winter and have the advantage of a more humid atmosphere in summer. If we therefore find these conditions most congenial to our native broad-leaved shrubs, with how much more force do they apply to those of foreign origin, accustomed to a more uniform climate—less heat and more humidity. We see the necessity for a modification of climate, by sheltering from the excessive aridity of the atmosphere during summer and otherwise protecting from the sudden changes and extreme cold of winter.

Now let us look at the preparations made for shrubbery in our pleasure grounds. These are for the most part destitute of vegetation capable of affording either shade or shelter. It is a prevalent custom in selecting a location for a country residence, for gentlemen to "turn their backs upon the numberless fine sights with which our country abounds, and choose the barest and baldest situation in order that they may dig, level, and grade, and spend half their fortunes in doing what nature has, not a mile distant,

offered to them ready made, and a thousand times more beautifully done." These "bald and bare" situations have to be planted. Catalogues are ransacked for choice and rare evergreens, or, perhaps, the native forest is searched for a supply. In either case the results are the same—the plants linger out a miserable existence. Some few may ultimately recover the change, but their appearance is anything but ornamental, and the culture of evergreen shrubs is forthwith pronounced a failure.

In planting evergreens, therefore, more particularly those of foreign origin, we must place them in situations similar to their native localities, or otherwise modify extremes in the elements of growth so far as they are under our control. In adapting circumstances to the growth of plants, there are certain influences which can be modified, and favorable conditions which we can supply. The most favorable conditions are those which involve the least change, and that change the most gradual. It is well known that the early exposure to sun after a severe night's frost, will prove fatal to plants which would remain uninjured under a gradual thaw; consequently we find plants subjected to a northern exposure surviving through severe winters, while those seemingly more favored with a southern aspect will perish. The former never being so greatly excited, is therefore not subjected to so sudden changes, and hence its endurance.

The hardiness of plants, or the amount of cold they are capable of enduring, is, to a certain extent, dependent upon the nature of the soil in which they are growing, so far at least as concerns its contained moisture. Soil naturally wet produces late growths of succulent, unripened shoots. Early winter frosts acting upon these soft shoots expands the watery matter in their structure and disrupts their tissue. De Candolle, in his laws of temperature with respect to its influence on vegetation, remarks that plants resist extremes of temperature in the inverse ratio of the quantity of water they contain. We know the oak to be a hardy tree; but if we were to transfer a growing plant from a hot-house to the open air in mid-winter, it would be very likely to perish. The young, immature shoots of our hardiest plants are frequently destroyed by late spring frosts, and young plants are destroyed by cold which has no effect upon older ones of the same species. Hence the necessity of draining soil and allowing the escape of superfluous moisture. A few dollars expended in laying a permanent drain is often the only difference between failure and success in the cultivation of plants. We have it, therefore, in our power to modify the severity of climate in winter by choosing a proper aspect and location, shading from sun, and draining of the soil. But winter is not the only trying season for plants. The severity of our hot summers is more frequently injurious than we are in the habit of supposing. It is questionable whether the excessive aridity of our summers is not more hurtful to exotic evergreens than the winter's cold. The expansive foliage presents a large surface for evaporation, and in conjunction with a diminished supply of nourishment through the roots, the plant is drained of its juices and ceases to grow. To render the extreme aridity less injurious, we must have recourse to shelter. Experiments have shown that the effect of wind is to increase the dryness of the air. "Evaporation increases in a prodigiously rapid ratio with the rapid velocity of the wind, and anything which retards the motion of the latter is very efficacious in diminishing the amount of the former. The same surface which, in a calm state of the air, would exhale 100 parts of moisture, would yield 125 in a mod-

erate breeze, and 150 in a high wind." We can form but a faint conception of the amount of moisture carried off by our scorching summer breezes, although its continued effect upon vegetation is well known, and its results but too apparent in stunted and arrested growth during summer. The humidity that is constantly arising by evaporation from the surface soil during hot weather is very congenial to vegetation. To prevent its rapid exhalation is therefore a desideratum, and this is most effectually accomplished by sheltering and checking the force of sultry winds. A deficiency of moisture in the soil is frequently productive of failure in dry seasons. The only effectual means of counteracting this, is deep cultivation; and, in clayey soils, underground-draining may be considered a valuable auxiliary. Draining, combined with deep cultivation, will secure a regular and lasting supply of moisture during the driest weather. At first sight this fact does not seem very apparent, and many are afraid to drain, under the impression that the soil would be rendered too dry. Deep cultivation, by loosening the soil, increases its capacity for moisture. Soil, like sponge, can only absorb a certain portion of water; if more falls upon it than it can retain, it becomes injurious unless carried away through drains. The increased depth of soil forms a reservoir for suspended moisture, which in dry weather is conducted to the surface by capillary attraction, where it is available for the purpose of vegetation. Another important advantage consequent upon the removal of superfluous water from soils, is their increased temperature. Wet soil must always be cold, comparatively, because the heat of the sun is expended in evaporating moisture instead of warming the soil.

Having in a previous paper given my views respecting soil, in reference to its chemical constituents, I need not again recur to that part of the subject. In the paper referred to, I urged the importance of an annual application of decaying vegetable matter on the surface to represent the periodical layer of leaves and decaying grasses in natural woods. A moment's reflection will convince us of the importance of this consideration, especially as many—indeed most—evergreen shrubs are furnished with small fibery roots which run near the surface, and are consequently dependent upon this surface stratum for their ramification and growth.

The list of evergreens suitable for shrubberies is by no means so limited as might be inferred, judging from the appearance of our pleasure grounds. In order to render these remarks of some practical use, I will give a brief descriptive list of those that I have seen growing in this neighborhood, of a size sufficient to warrant their hardiness and availability for decorative purposes, when properly planted in a suitable aspect and locality.

MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA.—This most magnificent of all flowering evergreens is perfectly hardy. There are many specimens from four to ten feet in height. I lately had the pleasure of seeing one twenty feet in height, with a stem two feet in circumference, which produces many hundreds of its fragrant flowers annually. It is sheltered on the north by buildings, but has no protection from the morning sun, which, in winter, slightly injures young plants. There are several varieties, as *Præcox*, *Emouthii*, &c., equally hardy, notwithstanding they are rarely seen in shrubberies.

CRATÆGUS PYRACANTHA—Evergreen Thorn—is one of the most beautiful irregular growing shrubs that we possess. Its beautiful, shining, deep-colored foliage, covered with white flowers in the latter part of sum-

mer, and followed with a profusion of scarlet berries which are retained throughout the winter, are additional recommendations for its general introduction.

BUXUS SEMPERVIRENS.—The varieties of Tree Box are in the highest degree eligible. The variegated-leaved has a pleasing effect in a winter landscape, when properly introduced.

COTONEASTER BUXIFOLIA, and **C. MICROPHYLLOLA** are beautiful evergreens of humble growth. They are admirably adapted for covering rockeries, or planting on the north side of walls. They will turn brown in winter under full exposure to the sun. Their fruit is also ornamental.

EUONYMUS JAPONICUS.—This is a splendid evergreen when planted on well drained soil, otherwise the points of the young shoots will be destroyed during winter. The golden and silver variegated are equally hardy, and may be rendered very effective in composition.

GENISTA SCOPARIUM—Common Broom—is a very useful undergrowth. It is perfectly hardy. As an evergreen, its close habit renders it effective. It blooms profusely and is a valuable addition to our flowering shrubs.

ILEX AQUIFOLIUM—English Holly—There is a specimen here fifteen feet in height, a perfect pyramid of foliage. There are many single specimens about. The varieties are also well represented and seem equally at home. I have seen a plant of *I. latifolia* that stood one winter, but doubt its ability to get over the present one. The native holly is equally ornamental. It likes shade when young.

ACUBA JAPONICA.—There are many individual specimens in gardens. It requires continual shade. The summer seems more hurtful than the frosts of winter. Its beautiful foliage affords a pleasing feature, and might be more frequently introduced in shady places.

CERASUS LUSITANICA—Portugal Laurel—is not plentiful, but there are several plants which have stood out for some years. They are shaded on the south, and give hopes of proving perfectly hardy in such a position. The plants alluded to are in luxuriant health.

CERASUS LAURO-CERASUS—Cherry, or English Laurel.—This plant is also rather scarce; but from what I have seen, there seems no reason to doubt of its success, if properly situated. Much depends on aspect. Let it be introduced under the shade and shelter of trees, and plenty of leaves thrown around it during winter, and my present impression is that it will be as perfectly at home in such situations as our common sheep laurel. There are plants here, five and six feet high, in perfect health.

KALMIA LATIFOLIA—Common Laurel.—It would be difficult to point out a more beautiful shrub than this. I can not refer to any cultivated specimens. We have them in the woods in all their magnificence, but they are "born to blush unseen, and waste their sweetness on the desert air."

MAHONIA AQUIFOLIA—Holly-leaved Berberry.—This is an indispensable plant for the foreground of a winter landscape, but requires to be shaded from the sun and planted on dry soil. It is very ornamental when in flower. *B. fascicularis* is also admirably adapted for undergrowth in ornamental plantations.

PHILLYREAS.—These are beautiful small-foliaged evergreens, perfectly hardy. Specimens here are small, but stand without any protection.

CYRILLA RACEMIFLORA.—This desirable evergreen is rather scarce. It is worthy of more extensive cultivation. Its racemes of flower are plentifully produced—an additional recommendation as an ornamental plant.

TAXUS BACCATA—English Yew.—This fine evergreen is well known, and succeeds well. Small plants are sometimes injured by winter sun. *T. Canadensis* is similar to the above, and forms a fine spreading mass of evergreen. It is also plentiful in the woods, and is readily transplanted. The Upright or Irish Yew is very effective in some situations. There are plants here ten feet in height, and of proportionate thickness. It succeeds well in all situations.

RHODODENDRON MAXIMUM—Mountain Laurel.—This and *R. Punctatum*, *R. ponticum*, and *R. Catawbiense*, are under cultivation. Several magnificent specimens could be referred to. Imported hybrids also stand, under the shade of trees. The great secret in growing these plants, is to keep the roots near the surface, by top-dressings of leaf-mold, or similar vegetable matter, and plant on trenched soil, that they may have abundance of moisture without being actually wet.

YUCCA GLORIOSA—Adam's Needle.—The Yuccas are very distinct in their habits, and give quite a tropical expression when introduced in small clumps. When in flower, they command admiration. No pleasure grounds can be complete without them.

JUNIPERUS SABINA—Savin.—This beautiful dwarf shrub is well adapted for undergrowth, and adds one more to the list of suitable plants for covering the "nakedness of the land" during winter.

JUNIPERUS COMMUNIS—Common Juniper.—No plant that I am familiar with, presents so beautiful a play of light and shade in its foliage as this. It is a fine contrast to some of the deeper-foliaged evergreens.

CUPRESSUS THUYOIDES—White Cedar.—A very beautiful native evergreen. Small, flat, imbricated foliage, resembling at a distance the common Arbor Vitæ.

THUYAS—Arbor Vitæ.—The Siberian is the most beautiful when young. *T. filiformis* (weeping) is a desirable plant, and *T. aurea*, for its variegated foliage.

TORREYA TAXIFOLIA proves hardy. I have seen a small plant that has been out unprotected for several years. It is very pretty in its rough state.

PINUS PUMILIS, from its slow growth, may be ranked as a shrub. It is well adapted for rounding off plantations, or merging them into low shrubbery, planting at angles and bends of walks. Set out by itself in a lawn, it forms a superb rounded mass of close, stiff shoots and foliage.

CHILDREN.—No man can tell but he that loves his children, how many delicious accents make a man's heart dance in the pretty conversation of those dear pledges: their childishness, their stammering, their little angers, their innocence, their imperfections, their necessities, are so many little emanations of joy and comfort to him that delights in their persons and society; but he that loves not his wife and children, feeds a lioness at home, and broods a nest of sorrows; and blessing itself can not make him happy.

LIBELOUS.—The following paragraph, says an exchange, is from the regular report of the proceedings of the Connecticut Legislature:

"Bill to tax geese, cats and bachelors.—Mr. Marrison was opposed to the bill taxing bachelors. There was a tax already laid upon a goose, and any man who had lived twenty-five years without getting married, could be taxed under that section."

Many people drop a tear at the sight of a distress, who would do far better to drop a sixpence.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, April 19.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

WHAT SHALL WE EAT?—HIGH PRICES.

"All kinds of provisions, especially flour, beef and butter, are again enormously high. People will soon have to live on beans."—*Exchange.*

Such is the piteous language of several of our cotemporaries, but if no worse fate happens than that here predicted, we shall not fear the extinction of our race by starvation for some time to come, at least. The case is bad enough, however, and we ask the attention of our readers to the subject of "what kinds of food are cheapest?" which is always a matter of interest, and especially so now. Let us first get a clear idea of the use of food to the system.

The bodies of human and other animals, are chiefly made up of three parts—bones, muscles and fat—and the object of food is to supply the waste of these. Each of these three portions of the body are nourished, enlarged, or renovated by different kinds of food, or by different elements in the same food.

The BONES, constituting the frame-work of the body, are mainly composed of mineral elements. Most kinds of food, and especially the fluids we drink, contain a supply of these minerals, and we may leave them out of the reckoning.

The MUSCLES are the lean or red flesh of warm-blooded animals—including, besides land animals, whales and some other inhabitants of the water. It is upon the muscles or lean flesh that we depend for strength, or power to labor. One person may have a large body and yet be very weak, because of a lack of this lean muscular flesh; while another may have a small body, and yet be very strong, because his flesh is nearly all muscular.

The FATTY portions of the body serve to keep up the respiration (breathing) and to supply the system with warmth. We know by common observation that corpulent persons—those having much fat upon their bodies—are usually of a warmer temperament, and suffer less from cold, than those whose flesh is less in quantity, and this chiefly muscle or hard red flesh.

The waste of the *muscles* (lean flesh) depends upon the amount of exertion put forth; the waste of the fat, upon the amount of breathing and also upon the amount of heat necessary to be supplied. Active persons require more muscle-forming food. They also breathe faster and require more fat-forming food than those less active, but they chiefly need muscle.

In winter the external cold rapidly exhausts the heat of the body, and hence fat or heat producing food is required in greater abundance, than in summer, when muscle or strength-producing food is most needed. Either of these two parts of the body may be nourished by supplying it with the appropriate food. The lean, and the laboring man require different food from the corpulent or the sedentary. The working animal will thrive best and perform most work when fed with muscle-forming food; the fattening animal requires that tending to the accumulation of fat.

OF ANIMAL FOOD, laboring persons—and others in warm weather—should partake more freely of lean meats, such as beef steak, while in winter those producing fat may be consumed more freely. The usual practice among laborers of eating large quantities of fat pork while hard at work in summer, is by no means a judicious one. Lean, meats and those having little oil or grease, are much better adapted to their wants.

VEGETABLE FOOD of different kinds contains more or less of the elements of both muscle and fat, but the relative proportion of these is very different. Those kinds of food containing most *oil, starch, gum, and sugar*, yield the most fat; those having the most *gluten, albumen or legumin*, yield the most muscle or lean flesh. For example, 100 lbs. of fine wheat flour contain about 79 lbs. of starch—a fat-producing element—and 11 lbs. only of gluten—a muscle-forming element—7 to 1; while 100 lbs. of beans contain only 42 lbs. of fat-producing, and 26 lbs. of muscle-producing—or about 7 to 4½.

In the following table we give an approximate estimate of the average amount of each of these two kinds of elements in some of the more common kinds of vegetable food:

	Muscle-forming elements.	Fat-forming elements.	Relative proportion of each.	Husk or woody-fiber.
100 lbs.				
Barley.....	14 lbs.	63 lbs.	1 to 4½	15 lbs.
Beans.....	26 "	42 "	1 to 1½	10 "
Beets.....	2 "	12 "	1 to 6	(?)
Buckwheat....	8 "	54 "	1 to 6½	25 "
Carrots.....	1½ "	10 "	1 to 6½	3 "
Corn.....	12 "	77 "	1 to 6½	6 "
Oats.....	17 "	66 "	1 to 4	20 "
Peas.....	24 "	52 "	1 to 2½	8 "
Potatoes.....	2 "	19 "	1 to 9½	4 "
Turnips (field).....	1½ "	9 "	1 to 6	2 "
do. Swedish.....	2½ "	12 "	1 to 5½	2 "
Wheat flour.....	11 "	79 "	1 to 7	
Wheat bran.....	18 "	6 "	1 to ½	55 "
Cheese (whole milk).....	28 "	27 "	1 to 1	
do. (skim-milk).....	45 "	6 "	1 to ½	

From this table we may learn something of the relative value of different kinds of food. The first column gives the amount of muscle-producing elements in 100 lbs.; the second, the fat or heat-producing elements; the third, the relative proportion of these two elements; and the fourth, the husky matter, which aids digestion by stimulating to action the stomach and alimentary canal.

We see, by the third column, that barley and oats are similar, there being about 4 times as much fattening materials as of muscle-forming. Beets, buckwheat, carrots, corn, and turnips, are also similar, and are all better adapted to fattening, than either barley or oats.

In potatoes and fine flour the fat-elements are in still higher proportion.

On the contrary, beans, peas, wheat bran, and cheese, are peculiarly adapted for producing muscles. We see, also, that skim-milk cheese contains, in a given weight, more muscle elements than any of the other substance. Whole-milk cheese, from which the cream or butter has not been removed before making the cheese, contains large amounts of both elements.

Let us see what lessons this table teaches in reference to the wants of laboring persons during the summer season. We will suppose that each kind of food here named contains enough fat-forming materials for the wants of the body, and estimate the cost per pound of the strength or muscle-giving elements:

	Cost.	Muscle-producing elements.	Cost of muscle-producing elements.
Barley.....	\$1.50 P bu.	8.4 lbs.	18c P lb.
Beans.....	2.50 "	16.6 "	15 "
Corn.....	1.10 "	6.7 "	16½ "
Oats.....	.68 "	5.2 "	13 "
Peas.....	2.00 "	14.3 "	14 "
Potatoes.....	1.50 "	1.6 "	94 " (!)
Turnips.....	.50 "	1.2 "	41 "
Flour (fine).....	12.00 P bbl.	22.0 "	54 "
Flour (unbolted).....	11.00 "	24.8 "	44 "

At the prices given in our table we can readily see which of the articles named furnishes the *cheapest* elements of strength to the laboring man. They stand:

1, Oats; 2, Peas; 3, Beans; 4, Corn; 5, Barley; 6, Turnips; 7, Wheat flour (unbolted); 8, Wheat flour (fine); and last, Potatoes. Potatoes are principally composed of starch and water, and while serving well for winter food, they are little adapted to nourish and strengthen the summer laborer.

We have been unable to obtain any reliable analyses of salt fish, to compare them with fresh beef, as we intended. There is no doubt, however, that dry salt fish, at 5 or 6 cents per lb., is by far cheaper than undried beef at 10 to 15 cents per lb.

Beans are too much neglected as an article of both summer and winter food. Boiled soft—not dried up and half charred by baking—with a little seasoning added, they are the best substitute for meat to be found among the vegetable articles of diet. They are frequently spoiled by cooking them with too much fat pork. They contain in themselves a large amount of oil. Boiled with a shank of beef bone they make a most nutritious soup. One bushel of beans, costing \$2.50, is probably worth more to a laboring man, than four bushels of potatoes, costing \$6 or \$8.

Peas, barley and oat meal are each cheaper and more nutritious than flour.

Cabbages, though containing much water, are very valuable as muscle-forming food.

"ELIZA'S" communication has been received, and will appear in our next issue— if nothing happens to prevent it.

TEA IN MISSISSIPPI.

Dr. A Berry sends us, from Raymond, Miss., a sample of tea, with the seeds of the plant. It has the taste and smell of black tea, though he informs us that the leaves were not gathered until frost had touched them. The plant is an annual, and grows with very little care. A lady is of the opinion that the article, properly cured, is fully equal to the best black tea. We fear she is a little enthusiastic in her opinion, but trust it may prove to be worthy of this high commendation. We shall give a few of the seeds a chance in our garden, and see if it will grow in our climate. It will be a great day for our country when it can raise its own tea. This enterprize we believe has been started by Junius Smith, Esq., of South Carolina, with the genuine tea plants from China. He was confident of success for a while, but we have heard nothing of his operations the past year.

A paper which has just come to hand informs us that Mr. Smith, while he lived, showed the possibility of growing the Chinese teas in the south, without actually reaching any results that are likely to be of permanent advantage to the country. His plantation remains, but no worthy successor has risen to enter into his labors, and carry out his views.

Whether the annual sent us, or any other, will prove an acceptable substitute for the teas of commerce, is a problem that can be best tried at the south. We shall be glad to report any experiments with this article.

NEW LONDON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its Annual meeting on the last Wednesday in March. Mr. Clift, of Stonington, was chosen President; Erastus Williams, of Norwich, Oliver Johnson, of Franklin, E. B. Brown, of Stonington, Hon. T. W. Williams, of New London, P. A. Gillette of Colchester, B. D. Johnson of East Lyme, Vice Presidents; Dr. Daniel F. Gulliver, of Norwich Town, Corresponding and Recording Secretary; J. P. Barstow, of Norwich, Treasurer.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board of Trustees, it was decided to have a fair next fall, and a premium list of some six hundred dollars was made out. For the purpose of disseminating knowledge upon the great objects the Society labors to promote, it was voted to distribute through the premium list seventy-five dollars' worth of the *American Agriculturist*, in annual subscriptions, and twenty-five of the *Horticulturist*. A good agricultural or horticultural paper for a year, was thought to be worth more to the competitor and to the Society, than the same value distributed in money.

We commend the example of the New London County Society to the consideration of other similar associations. A premium paid in money is soon expended and forgotten; but if invested by the Society in a reliable weekly agricultural paper, its influence extends through the year; and constitutes a living premium more highly prized than money or unread copies of books, and

"Annual Reports." The reception of a paper fifty-two times a year without expense, not only frequently recalls the memory of the means by which it was obtained, but also keeps alive an interest in agricultural improvements both at home and abroad, and stimulates to new exertions. Most publishers furnish their periodicals, when taken in considerable number by Societies for distribution, at considerable less than the usual subscription price, and the often limited funds of agricultural associations can thus be made to go further than if cash premiums only are paid. We are sending out many hundreds of copies of this journal to persons to whom it was awarded as premiums at the last autumnal shows. Our publishers will be ready to extend any reasonable facilities by way of reduction in price, to all such agricultural associates as may wish to place the *American Agriculturist* among their premium list during the present year.

ONTARIO COUNTY (N. Y.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This Society have issued in neat pamphlet form a list of premiums and regulations for the annual exhibition, to be held at Canandaigua, September 25th and 26th, 1855. The officers are:

- President—Wm. Hildreth, of Phelps.
- Cor. Secretary—Henry Howe.
- Rec. Secretary—John S. Bates.
- Treasurer—Jas. S. Cooley.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE PRACTICAL LAND DRAINER: A Treatise on Draining Land, in which the most approved systems of drainage and the scientific principles on which they depend are explained, and their comparative merits discussed; with full directions for cutting and making drains, and remarks upon the various materials of which they may be constructed. Numerously illustrated. By B. Munn. C. M. Saxton & Co., New York.

We have long been alive to the importance to American farmers of a more general and thorough system of draining, believing, as we do, that draining accompanied by deep-plowing and subsoiling, is to be the great means of improving the majority of the farms in this country. In England, Scotland, and other European countries, this improvement has been carried out to an extent scarcely dreamed of by the mass of our farmers, and with the very happiest result. Books and practical treatises upon this subject have been multiplying; the agricultural press has teemed with communications, essays, &c., upon draining, and the mass of farmers there are pretty well informed upon this subject. But here, with our already large list of agricultural publications, we have not had a handbook even, devoted to draining, as it may and should be practised among our own farmers. The first if not the only attempt to discuss this subject fully, in its American application, was in a series of articles which were prepared for and published in this journal nearly two years since.

Feeling this want of something more full and practical, we seized with some eagerness a little volume bearing the imposing title-page placed at the head of this notice, and without stopping to inquire who was the author, or his fitness to undertake the work,

we commenced reading it, with strong hopes that we should find the desideratum. But we are completely disappointed, as every one will be who goes to this volume for a plain, practical description of the principles upon which draining is founded, and of the best means of applying those principles to practice in the varying circumstances in which farmers of this country find themselves placed. The compiler is evidently unskilled in communicating thoughts to unread, unscientific men.

The author (compiler) says, "he has rather sought to explain various systems and the mode of carrying them out, at the same time pointing out their comparative advantages, than to advance any pet system of his own." He does "not claim for himself any originality of principle or practice." In this he is, to say the least, honest, for we find little or nothing in this volume indicating that he has any system of his own, or which is not contained, in substance, if not in the same words, in the works of Stephens, Loudon and Johnston. We should be glad to find even a compilation of some of their more valuable teachings, arranged and translated, so to speak, into an essay easily read and understood by the generality of farmers, and including something of the experience and practice of the few successful drainers in this country. We judge the compiler has not heard of John Johnston, and others, in this country, and we see nothing in this volume which an ordinary writer, with no practical experience, could not easily gather from a small agricultural library. But having spoken thus honestly—not willingly—of the claims of the title-page, we still advise all interested in this subject—and what farmer is not—to procure a copy of this book, if he has not the works from which it is principally compiled, for he will here find considerable that will interest and instruct, and is probably the best he can obtain till some other practiced hand shall furnish us a better work.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—CITY OF NEW-YORK. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Board of Education, for the year 1854.

We are indebted to Mr. Albert Gilbert, Clerk of the Board, for a copy of the above work, which is a very valuable document of several hundred pages, embracing reports from the different departments of the Public School System of the City and County of New-York, together with a number of engraved plans of the interior arrangements, and exterior perspective of various school buildings. The whole work, and especially the engraved plans, will furnish many practical hints to those having charge of Public Schools in other cities and towns, and we advise all such to secure a copy, which we presume may be obtained free from Mr. Gilbert, as some 5,000 were printed for distribution.

KICKING MULES.—A subscriber sometime since asked for "the best method of shoeing a mule that kicks badly." We have never owned such a mule, and after repeated inquiries of those driving them in this vicinity, we have found no one who does not speak in

the highest terms of their docility and gentleness. Verily, the mule is a much abused animal. We submit the above question to those having a *different* experience from ourselves or neighbors.

THE WEATHER.—Mr. James Fellows, writing from Salisbury, New-Hampshire, under date of April 14, says :

We are having a very backward Spring. Snow is lying on the ground in this vicinity to the depth of at least two feet. Hay is worth from \$20 to \$25 per tun, and very scarce at that. I fear many cattle will die for the want of food before they can be got out to pasture.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.
LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE.—No. I.

COVINGTON, Ky., April 8, 1855.

I should have written ere this, but in truth, have been too busy or too much fatigued to do so. I expected, from accounts in the papers, to find the farmers of Ohio suffering from the effects of last summer's drouth, but it is much worse than told. In Ashtabula County it is thought 1000 cattle will die from starvation. All along the lake the drouth was particularly severe; in consequence many had to commence feeding in September. Winter found stock in low flesh; the weather has been unusually cold since, and a prospect of a late spring. It is not to be wondered at that the faces of our brother farmers are elongated to their utmost.

Railroads are doing much for landholders in this and all other parts of the State. Lands which a few years ago could be bought for a song, are now worth from \$40 to \$100 per acre. One tract in particular was pointed out to me, bought six years since for \$6 an acre—covered with an enormous growth of chestnut and oak—now worth \$100 an acre standing.

Towards Columbus corn fodder seems more plentiful; but I hear much complaint of scarcity. I was unfortunate on the road to Chilicothe, in not finding any of the breeders of good cattle, on whom I called, at home; and consequently saw but little worthy of mention, save the enormous number of dogs kept by all sorts of folks. In a walk of five miles I saw not less than fifty, many looking as though they "came here when the country was new," and should have been dead, and "gone to the place where good dogs go"—if there is any—years ago. I met two men to-day traveling, accompanied by ten dogs of high and low degree. It is a pity there was not a tax of one dollar ahead, it would pay the State debts in two years.

At Chilicothe we met with Dr. Watts, and spent some time looking over his stock. Most of them were thin in flesh (this remark will apply to nearly all the stock in Ohio); but, recollect, what an Ohio breeder calls *moderate condition*, a New-Yorker would hardly dare offer at a show, for fear of being ruled out for exhibiting *fat cattle*. Dr. W.'s cow, Strawberry and her twins, Mary Gay and Bessie Bell, are good ones, of fine size, and great substance. There I saw a speci-

men of Mr. Booth's stock—Meddalist, a white bull, imported by the Ross County Company last season. This company imported thirty head, selected in England by Dr. Watts and Mr. A. Waddel. I have seen the majority of them, and think these gentlemen have done themselves much credit by the good judgment shown in their selections. Meddalist is particularly clean about the head and throat, and has little "loose leather," against which the Ohio breeder makes great objection—yet it is rare that you will find a bull of great constitution and equal vigor who has not more or less loose, pendulous skin attached to his jaws and breast—his horns are also very fine—another favorite point with breeders in this region. Cows of large size will often have horns little larger than a man's thumb.

The next day Dr. Watts and myself called upon Mr. Anderson, who is just laying the foundation of a Short Horn herd; a good foundation too, for he has arranged his farm so as to stable his whole herd. Here we saw some fine Southdowns from the celebrated breeder Jonas Webb. Also saw a patent grist mill, for one or more horses, which grinds, or rather crushes, corn in the ear tolerably fine. This is a great convenience for feeders who are a long way from mills. We have seen many of these mills since. It is named the *Little Giant*.

Near Cincinnati we had our first view of a large vineyard. A view of the "vine-clad hills" in June, is, without doubt, pleasant and romantic; but in March it looks more like a large bean patch. A taste of the still Catawba knocked all the romance out of that the bean-poles had left. The liquor law of Ohio is stringent on all sorts of stimulants; but allows free sale for native wines, on the ground, probably, that no one will drink enough of the sour stuff to hurt them.

Near Lebanon are several good breeders. I only found time to call on Mr. R. G. Corwin, who has lately retired from his profession of law, and taken up farming and cattle-breeding. His herd of Short Horns are all good, and in the most uniformly good condition of any herd which I have yet seen. It is composed of descendants of the importation of 1836, purchased at the sale of L. F. Allen, in Indiana, and three cows imported last season by himself. Of the first mentioned stock, his cow Strawberry, twelve years old, and her daughter, four years old, were fine specimens of the breed; remarkably good in the middle of the rump and fullness of their crops. Here let me say, I have seen more good crops in Ohio Short Horns than ever before in my life. It has long been held that good crops was rather the exception than the rule with Short Horns. In the Ohio herds visited this point seems rather the rule than otherwise. His young heifers, the get of Duke of Exeter, and also a bull calf, the same get, are to my eye promising. Mr. Corwin imported Blue Bell, only three years old, seems fully mature, very fat, yet looks as though she would be a great milker by and by, judging from her fine head, somewhat drooping neck, and thin

thighs and hind legs, not quite so straight as would suit many. His White Rose, a cow of 2,000 pounds weight, is a remarkably good cow; I think I never saw a better brisket than she carries. In this respect she is much like the cow Grace, fattened by Col. Sherwood.

I could fill a sheet with comments upon every herd which I have visited, but your readers may be glad to excuse me.

In my next (if I get time to write) I will give you some account of my visit to the Shakers at Union Village, and several other good herds.

Allow me to tender my thanks through the *American Agriculturist*, to those breeders, for whose hospitality I am under obligations.

J. R. PAGE.

For the American Agriculturist
LOVE OF THE MARVELOUS.

Some people are born with a propensity to exaggerate every thing which passes under their notice. Their eyes serve as telescopes to bring distant objects near and to magnify them. Their ears, like speaking-trumpets, catch the faintest whispers of coming events, and make them almost prescient of the future. Such people observe "signs" in heaven above and in the earth beneath. They have warnings of approaching calamities. They read the world's history, for years to come, in omens and presages from the unseen world. Spirits from the realm of shades come back and bring them useful information. Demons tempt them, delude them, and frequently ensnare them. Men who love the marvelous are always credulous. Those who believe in apparitions always see them. Imagination once excited can create them without limit. They expect "signs" and the signs come.

People endued with such creative imaginations, live in an unreal world. Miracles are ordinary occurrences. They are in a land of charms, visions, phantoms and sprites. Legions of spiritual beings surround them and communicate with. Such a mental constitution is a misfortune. Life is embittered by it; imaginary woes and fears drink up the spirit and fill the soul with anxious forebodings.

A little resolution, however, will exorcise a host of such demons. Let a man of such a temperament reflect that the laws of nature are ordained of God, and are never suspended, or at all modified, except by His decree, and he will have little occasion to talk of omens, prognostics, ghosts or demons. God never works a miracle except for a sufficient cause. The Bible informs us what occasions have been signalized by such displays of his power. We are allowed to reason from the past to the future. No miracle can, therefore, be expected, unless an occasion worthy of the Divine interposition is presented. Horace, the Roman poet, gives the following rule to dramatists, respecting the introduction of supernatural agents upon the stage:

"Let not a god in person stand display'd,
Unless the laboring plot deserve his aid."

There is good sense in this maxim. It is as well adapted to human life as to the theater. If a young man, on entering life, will take with him this direction, and whenever he meets with any thing which he can not explain, propound this inquiry: Is there before me an exigency demanded the presence of the Deity? he will escape much perplexity and sorrow. If a neighbor comes to me and declares that a departed friend has returned from the dead and given him information

about some unsettled business, or mentioned some event or date which could quite as well be learned in the ordinary way, I at once inquire, what good and sufficient reason was there that the infinite wise God should send this dead man back to earth?

But, says the believer in spiritual communications, it was the spirit of my father. Very well; was your father an idiot? Would he, if permitted, return from the land of the blessed, to tell you when your grandmother died? If he was a man of ordinary prudence and ingenuity, would he adopt such a clumsy method of communicating intelligence to his dear son? Why does he not come directly to you? He can rap as well in your ear, in private, as in public. Why does he choose a hystericky girl as the "medium" of his instructions? Did your father love you, while he lived? If so, has he been changed by death into a species of buffoon or mischievous elf, whose highest pleasure is to amuse the silly crowd by tricks that would disgrace a clown?

But, perhaps some loftier personage has returned. St. Paul, or Penn, or Franklin, sometimes return to earth, on very foolish errands, if we may credit spiritualists. Has St. Paul, after a residence of 1800 years in eternity, become no wiser than when he departed to be with Christ? His recent discourses do not rise one whit above the range of knowledge possessed by a chambermaid or sickly visionary. Washington and Franklin, too, have lost their self-respect, and herd with idlers, knaves, and fanatics. They grovel beneath the feet of women, and perform feats of rapping and tipping that would better suit a circus-rider or ground and lofty tumbler. Believe it who may, those who stick to the old poet's rule will be troubled by no lying spirits. "*Nec Deus intersit, nisi dignus vindice nodus Inciderit.*"—Let not a Deity intervene unless a worthy occasion demands.
E. D. S.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

A SAW, SIR.—"I come for the saw, sir."
"What saucer?"
"Why the saw, sir, that ye borrowed."
"I borrowed no saucer."
"Sure and ye did, sir; you borrowed our saw, sir."
"Get out, you rascal, I never saw you saucer."
"Be dad but ye did; there's the saw, sir, now, sir."
"Oh, you want the saw! Why didn't you say so."

There are many who waste and lose affection by careless neglect. "It is not a plant to grow unnurtured; the rude touch may destroy its delicate texture forever," the subtle cords of love are chilled and snapped assunder by neglect.

"Do you see anything ridiculous in this wig?" said a brother Judge to Curran.
"Nothing but the head," he replied.

Hens and chickens should never be allowed to amuse themselves, as it always results in *fowl play!*

The throat of birds is generally very small, but hawks, nevertheless, often take quite large swallows.

A wag observes that he always looks under the marriage head for the *noose* of the weak.

THE SPIDER.

Why hate and shudder at spiders? Because they entangle flies and kill them? That should entitle them to our gratitude, for flies, being troublesome and injurious to man, any other insect that destroys them ought to be considered our ally, and taken into friendship. Are they not beautiful? The other day we observed one in the field. He was larger than a double-eagle and as bright and yellow, having colors more striking, indeed, because harmoniously variegated.

Few ladies could outvie him in personal ornaments, which, in his case, were not of recent purchase, but came to him by inheritance in the line of an ancient family. He had constructed one of his wonderful palaces of regular dimensions and great size; but, either seeing, as the New-York architects sometimes fail to do, that its foundations were insecure, or else disliking the neighborhood, as nice people do rum-holes, blacksmith's and carrier's shops, French boarding-houses and American piggeries—for these, or some other good reasons, he made up his mind to remove his residence.

Now, as he had been at immense expense in building his capacious house, like the Crystal Palace proprietors of New-York, and out of his own bowels too, which they did not—for speculators and brokers are not supposed to have any, purses being a complete substitute—having been at so much cost, he did not like to go away and leave his domicile behind him. For his stock of materials for such structures is limited, as well as the funds of the operators in the Fancies. Nature, it is said, only supplies the spider family with a certain quantity at first, which, if they are extravagant in spending it, they will have afterwards to make up by *knitting*, Schuylerizing or stealing—the difference between which methods, we cannot tarry to record, and might not be able to do so, was ever so much time allowed us. In short, our spider resolved as the palace proprietors, who may have taken the hint from him, are said to have determined on—he resolved to take his splendid dwelling down.

So one morning he began in earnest to pull down, and, as far as we could judge, at the point where he had ended in putting it up; that is, the last timbers he had placed in the building were the first to be removed. Patiently and carefully he worked, taking off filament by filament of those long beams and braces, which seemed single to the naked eye, but yet were doubled and trebled and quadrupled to afford sufficient strength for so large a work. For this creature, it must be observed, has discovered no iron or other new material to weave into his productions, but is obliged to labor with the same raw material as when he spun his web upon the grape vines of Mrs. Eve. So if he wants augmented strength in any portion of work, he can only attain it by putting several timbers together.

By degrees, we could see, as he wrought, the main pillars and string-pieces lessening in size, and at length disappearing one by one, till finally, the whole habitation was invisible. What had become of it? We kept a sharp look-out at this juncture, for it was evidently the crisis of the enterprise. At last we saw the spider hoist a pack upon his back in the shape of a ball, and commence his journey. It was his house, which he was thus transporting to erect in a more favorable locality. Like a snail, he was thus carrying it upon his back, though, unlike that animal, he had the rough stock of another in his belly, should this tenement of his be destroyed by the hurricane, flood, or fire. The beautiful, industrious and provident creature ran along as nimbly as Æneas,

with his father, Anchises, on his shoulders, though under the burden all of his worldly goods. He made for a large tree, where, notwithstanding all our vigilance, he forever disappeared. We sent after him a sincere wish, that he might obtain an eligible lot *up-town*, whither he was going, on easy terms.
—*Newark Advertiser.*

ABSURDITIES OF LIFE.

Not to go to bed when you are sleepy, because it is not a certain hour.

To stand in water up to your knees fishing for trout, when you can buy them in a clean, dry market.

Men committing suicide to get rid of a short life, and its evils, which must necessarily terminate in a few years, and thus entering upon one which is to last forever, and the evils of which they do not seem to take the wisest method of avoiding.

People of exquisite sensibility, who can not bear to see an animal put to death, showing the utmost attention to the variety and abundance of their tables.

To buy a horse of a near relation, and believe every word he says in praise of the animal he is desirous to dispose of.

To suppose that every one likes to hear your child cry, and you talk nonsense to it.

The perpetual struggle of affectation to pass for an oddity.

To send your son to travel into foreign countries, ignorant of the history, constitution, manners, and language of his own.

To tell a person from whom you solicit a loan of money, that you are in want of it.

To call a man hospitable who indulges his vanity by displaying his service of plate to his rich neighbor frequently, but was never known to give a dinner to any one really in want of it.

That any man should despair of success in the most foolish undertaking, in a world so overstocked with fools.

A man is in debt to you in a large sum of money, and has no means in possession or in prospect of paying you—that it may be utterly impossible for him to earn it by his industry, you immure him in a prison.

To be passionate in your family, and expect them to be placid.

To think every one a man of spirit who fights a duel.

To take offense at the address or carriage of any man with whose mind and conduct we are unacquainted.

To laugh at the appearance or manners of foreigners, to whom we must appear equally ridiculous.

To occupy the attention of a large company by the recital of an occurrence interesting to yourself alone.

Not to wear a great-coat when our joints are aching with rheumatism, lest we should be thought delicate.

The three most beautiful words in the English language are "Mother, Home, and Heaven." A young married man says, that all the beauty and happiness connected with the above three words are associated with the single word *WIFE*.

A Rev. gentleman in the course of a lecture delivered upon a certain occasion remarked: "Some persons clasp their hands so tight in prayer, at church, that they can't get them open when the contribution box comes round."

Be just before you are generous.

BUYING MARBLES; OR, "HARD TIMES" IN LILLIPUT.

Pa—(Reading a newspaper, mutters)—No rise in the rivers—never going to rise again, I believe, wife.

Little Daughter—I wish the rivers would rise.

Pa—Why, what have you got to do with the river's rising.

Daughter—A great deal, papa; for then the boats will run.

Pa—And what have you to do with the boat's running, my child, hey?

Daughter—They would bring the cotton down.

Pa—(Looking over his spectacles)—And what have you to do, pet, with cotten bales?

Daughter—Why, if the cotton was down, pa, you would be able to sell it, you know, dear papa! smilingly.

Pa—And what then?

Daughter—You would have plenty of money.

Pa—Well?

Daughter—(Laying her little hand on his shoulder and looking up into his face)—Then you could pay ma that gold twenty dollar piece you borrowed of her, you know, papa.

Pa—And what then, minx!

Daughter—Then mamma could pay aunt Sarah the ten dollars she owes her.

Pa—Ah, indeed! And what then?

Daughter—And aunt Sarah would pay sister Jane the dollar she promised to give her on New Year's, but didn't, because she didn't have no cotton, I mean no money, pa.

Pa—Well, and what else? *Pa* lays down the paper, and looks at her curiously with a half smile.

Daughter—Cousin Jane would pay brother John his fifty cents back, and he said when he got it he would give me the half dime he owes me, and two dimes to buy marbles, and this is what I want the rivers to rise for, and the big boats to run! And I owe nurse the other dime, and must pay my debts.

Pa looked at ma. "There it is," he said, "we are all big and little, like a row of bricks. Touch the head one and presto! away we all go, down to my little Carrie here. She has, as a child, as great an interest in the rise as I have. We are all, old and young, waiting for money to buy marbles."

THE LESSON.

On a beautiful evening in spring, a father said to his wife, "Let us go into the fields and rest on the hill, to enjoy the sight of the setting sun. It will be a lovely evening." When his two children—a boy and a girl—heard this, they said, "We will go before you and wait for you on the hill." And with these words, they skipped on before. Soon after the grave father and the kind mother followed them talking of the beauties of creation and of their children—the father speaking from the treasure of his wisdom, the mother from the simplicity of her heart. When they came to the hill and ascended it, the children were there already, and ran joyously towards them with a white pet lamb, which they had taken with them. When the sun went down in glory, the parents looked on with emotion, and the father lifted up his voice and spoke to the children of the creation of the universe; of the host of the stars, and of the sublime Creator of nature, who has made heaven and earth, and the sea, and all that therein is; and he made them look at the sun in his glory, saying, "It is now time to teach them heavenly wisdom." When the father had finished speaking, the children exclaimed suddenly, "Oh, see, dear father, and dear mother, how pretty—how lovely!" They had adorned their lamb with flowers like a bride, and it ate the herbs of the

hill out of their hands. The father looked at the mother, and shook his head with a grave gesture. But the mother smiled and said, "Ah, my beloved! let them continue in their child-like simplicity. They need not get the knowledge of rising and setting worlds, and the deep word of wisdom; they need only love, and of them is the kingdom of heaven." Then the father and the mother caressed the two children, and rejoiced with them at the gaily-decked lambs.—*Krummacher.*

POOR ERICSSON.—A New-York correspondent of the Boston Journal, speaking of this unfortunate inventor, says:

The Ericsson experiment is at an end. The invention is conceded to be a failure, and poor Ericsson is a ruined man. He has spent all his fortune in building his caloric ship, and in the experiments he has made on the vessel—he has done more; he has spent all his wife's fortune, which was great, and she, too, is beggared. But the worst of all is that it has led to such recrimination and alienation that they have separated, never to be united again, perhaps. Had he been successful, his name would have been enrolled with that of Columbus, Newton, Fulton, and other men of illustrious renown. But he has failed; he has lost his all; he has introduced ruin into a once loving and happy home, and the world coldly looks on and says, "I told you so."

A SHORT TIME AGO, two of the most distinguished millionaires in a flourishing southern city, met in a social chat, and discussing their mutual merits. In the course of the confab, the Judge bantered the Colonel, and offered to bet five dollars the latter could not say the Lord's Prayer. The Colonel accepted the bet; and putting himself into a solemn attitude, began to repeat, keeping time by the swaying of his body, and pronouncing with emphatic force alternate on each syllable these lines:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die—"

"Stop, stop!" cried the Judge, interrupting him, "that will do, I give it up, here's the V., but I did not think you could say it!"

NAME IN FULL.—A friend says the following story is a fact. Two boys of tender years, who went by the name of Tom and Jack, became members of a district school in a certain New-England town. On making their appearance, the teacher called them up before the assembled school, and proceeded to make certain interrogatories concerning their names, and ages, &c.

"Well, my lad," said the teacher to the first one, "what is your name?"

"Tom!" promptly answered the juvenile.

"Tom," said the teacher, "that does not sound well. Remember and always speak the full name. You should have said Thomas."

"Now my son," (turning to the other boy, whose expectant face suddenly lighted up with the satisfaction of a newly discovered idea,) "now then will you tell me what your name is?"

"Jack-ass" replied the lad, in a tone of confident decision.

The teacher was taken with a sudden fit of coughing and motioned the boys to their seats.

GOOD REASON.—A Spaniard perched his house on the summit of the Sierra Morena. On being asked why he preferred that place of clouds, storms and solitude, he said, "That he was tired of mankind, and the clouds hid mankind from him; that he was tired of his wife's tongue, and that the storm

drowned her talk; and as to the solitude, he could not be solitary who had the angels for his next door neighbors."

ADJUSTING THE MOUTH—ATTENTION LADIES.—The London Gazette contains some important information for the ladies in regard to the manner of placing their lips when they desire to look amiable, dignified, &c. It says that when a lady would compose her mouth to a bland and serene character, she should just before entering the room, say, *Besom*, and keep the expression into which the mouth subsides, until the desired effect upon the company is evident. If, on the other hand, she wishes to assume a distinguished and somewhat noble bearing not suggestive of sweetness, she should say *Brush*, the result of which is infallible. If she would make her mouth small and pretty, she must say *Flip*, but if the mouth be already small, and needs enlarging, she must say *Cabbage*. Ladies when having their daguerreotypes taken, may observe these rules with some advantage.

A TOUCHING STORY.—A lady, now residing in Newport, formerly made her home in New-Orleans. A female slave, who worked for her, was for some cause shortly to be sold, and she came to her begging that she would become her mistress, a request that was declined on principle; but incessant pleading and the most earnest entreaties on the part of the distressed woman at length prevailed, and the lady agreed to pay the sum demanded, eight hundred dollars, on the condition that the slave should wash for her family a limited time when her free papers would be given her. It was so settled that in a short time the creature was overjoyed to find herself a free woman with means enough to take her to California, where by following her old calling, of washing, she soon accumulated a handsome sum. That she did not forget her generous benefactress is self-evident, for she has since returned to the States, and her mission to present to one who had so befriended her, a superb Chinese counterpane, that must have cost at least two hundred dollars. The ground is of scarlet and satin, and is covered with embroidery of the richest and most beautiful design that the Chinese are capable of.—*Newport Mercury.*

MARY MAGDALENA.—The woman that went under the name of Mary Magdalena—whether that name be rightfully or wrongfully bestowed—who stands before us, sanctified in the imagination and in faith of the people in her combined character of Sinner and Saint, as the first fruits of Christian penitence, as a reality, and not a fiction. Even if we would, we can not do away with the associations inseparably connected with her name and image. Of all those to whom much has been forgiven, she was the first; of all the tears since ruefully shed, at the foot of the cross of sufferings, hers were the first; of all the hopes which the Resurrection has since diffused through nations and generations of men, hers were the first. To her sorrowful image how many have looked up through tears, and blessed the pardoning grace of which she was the symbol—or rather the impersonation! Of the female saints some were then chosen patrons of certain virtues—others of the certain vocations; but the accepted and glorified penitent threw her mantle over all, and more especially over those of her own sex, who having gone astray, recalled from error and from shame, and laid their wrongs their sorrows, and their sins, in trembling humility at the feet of the Redeemer.—*Sacred Legendary Art, by Mrs. Jameson.*

GOOD SENSE FASHION.—The New-York Times, in the course of an article under the head of "A Column of Talk for Young Men on Small Wages," has this plain and sensible paragraph on the subject of dress :

Then as to dress—it is great nonsense to say that all must dress fashionably or loose caste. What is the fashion? Who wears a fashionable coat, and how do you know it is the fashion? Tell us of one substantial merchant, one thrifty mechanic, one successful lawyer, or one gentleman who wears it, and we will name ten of each, equally noted and successful, who do not, and ten fops whom you utterly despise that do. The fashion in New-York for men just now requires a clean decent garment with no patches on it—no more, no less. A lady might wear her grandmother's shawl in Broadway and not be noticed. The timid ones, and those just in from other cities and villages, alone are worried about their looks when they wear last winter's bonnet to the lecture or to church. Let the young imitate the substantial and common-sensible rather than those who are keeping up appearances at a sacrifice. It will be a saving in this item.

CAMELS FOR THE WESTERN PLAINS.—Congress, at its late sessions, authorized the purchase of a number of camels, for the purpose of introducing them as a beast of burden in transporting military stores, &c., over the great western plains. The Washington Star says :

Major Wayne has been selected to conduct the experiment. To that end he is about to start for the East, traveling overland from Liverpool or Havre. He is to purchase about fifty camels in Persia, of the kind which has been in use in that quarter of Asia, for the military purposes for centuries. The United States ship Supply, in which they are to be brought hither, is to leave a cargo of stores in the Mediterranean for our squadron stationed there, on her way out. After taking in her return cargo of camels, she will probably make for Indianola, Texas, and there land them. Two or three scientific gentlemen are now engaged in investigating facts connected with the climate of various parts of the United States, in order to ascertain where it will be best to have them pass their first winter. It will be recollected that they travel comfortably sixty miles without food or water, and live on food which other animals of burden reject. We are firm believers that the experiment will succeed, and hope yet to see camels used as ordinary beasts of burden in our country.

WALKING FOR A DRAM.—One of the best stories of the season is told by Sandy Welch, of a man who was in the country on a visit, where they had no liquor. He got up two hours before breakfast and wanted his bitters. None to be had—of course he felt bad.

"How far is it to a tavern?"
"Four miles."
So off this thirsty soul started, walked four miles in a pleasant frame of mind, arrived at the tavern, and found it a temperance house!

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour remains as per our last, with a tendency to an advance. But the truth is, that it has become so very high now, that many can not afford to eat wheat bread; they are substituting Corn, Rye, Peas, and

Beans; which lessens the consumption of flour in this market considerably. Corn has advanced 2 to 3 cents per bushel. Peas, and Beans, have also slightly advanced.

Cotton we quote a little higher in the finer grades. Rice a material advance. Sugar improved $\frac{1}{4}$ of a cent.

The Weather for the week past has been highly favorable to vegetation—warm with abundant rain. The season is at least 17 to 20 days later than it was two years ago.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, April 17, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The prices to-day remain firm, though the market is less active than last week. With the present state of the money market, potatoes, however scarce, are too high to be in great demand. Several cargoes are expected in to-day, coming mostly from the west.

Apples are a little slow. Russets average about \$4 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl., and mixed lots about \$4 25. The supply is rather better this week.

Butter is extremely high, and the market limited.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—New-Jersey Mercers.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	\$4 75@5 25
Western Mercers.....	do	4 25@4 50
White Mercers.....	do	4 25@4 50
Nova Scotia Mercers.....	do	—@4 25
New-Jersey Carters.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	4 75@5 —
Washington County Carters.....	do	4 —@4 25
Junes.....	do	3 75@4 25
Western Reds.....	do	2 87@3 25
Yellow Pink Eyes.....	do	2 87@3 25
Long Reds.....	do	2 75@3 —
Virginia Sweet Potatoes.....	do	5 50@ —
Philadelphia sweet.....	do	5 50@6 —
Turnips—Ruta Baga.....	do	1 50@2 —
White.....	do	1 —@1 50
Onions—White.....	do	5 50@6 —
Red.....	do	4 —@4 25
Yellow.....	do	4 50@5 —
Cabbages.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ 100	7 —@12 —
Beets.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	1 87@2 —
Carrots.....	do	—@1 87
Parsnips.....	do	1 50@ —

FRUITS, ETC.

Apples—Spitzenbergs.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	\$4 00@4 50
Greenings.....	do	3 50@4 00
Gilliflowers.....	do	3 50@4 00
Baldwins.....	do	3 75@4 24
Butter—Orange County.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	30@34c.
Western.....	do	20@25c.
Cheese.....	do	12@13c.
Eggs.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ doz.	18@20c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY April 18, 1855.

There are 2120 cattle in market to-day, or 193 less than last week. We have to notice a still further decline in prices of about $\frac{1}{2}$ c. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and an extremely dull market. The brokers held as firm as circumstances would admit, but the butchers had the advantage, and were determined not to yield. It is difficult to assign the cause of all these fluctuations in the market, but whatever it is in the present case, we think it merely temporary. So great is the scarcity of fat cattle at the west, that it seems impossible for prices to go much lower, or even stay where they are; and doubtless in two or three weeks we shall witness a reverse tendency.

The animals, taken together, are a pretty fair lot, including several still-fed droves which, it is said, make the best beef. This, we believe, is about the only beneficial service of the distillery, which, on the whole, will be easily dispensed with.

We noticed one drove of 72 Texas cattle, which, with about 1,000 others, was brought to Illinois last season. Most of them were barreled last fall, 2 or 300 only remain at Chicago. Objections were first made to these cattle, that they would not fatten on corn, neither would be able to endure the winter, but experience has proved otherwise. Driving cattle from Texas is a new business; but as they are abundant there, and so scarce at the west, it is believed many more will be brought in hereafter.

We give below a few of the specimens offered :

Geo. Ayrault, had 66 still-fed cattle from this State, owned by Van Houten, & Henry, which were selling from

11c. to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. One pair sold for \$250 or 12c. Mr. Ayrault, had also 91 Indiana cattle which were wholesaled for about 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb.

Wm. Florence, had a good lot of 76 Ohio cattle, which were sold by John Murray, from 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ @11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

John Merritt, was selling a fine lot of 100 young cattle from Ross Co., Ohio, at an average of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. They would weigh about 825 lbs. a head, and belonged to Perrill & Pancake.

Wm. Belden, was selling 68 good still-fed cattle from Oneida Co. They brought from \$75 to \$105, or from 11c. to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. They belonged to Stanton Park.

Wells & Stewart, had 66 nice still-fed cattle from Chittenango, Madison Co., sold by David Belden. They would average about 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and were estimated to weigh 850 lbs. each.

S. M. Baker had a good fair lot of 69 Ohio cattle, selling at about 11c., or from \$75 to \$100 per head.

White & Ulery were selling a good lot of young Ohio cattle from 11 to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. and also the Texas cattle owned by Wm. Rennick.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices :

Extra quality at.....	11@11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Good retailing quality beef is selling at.....	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ @11c.
Inferior do. do.....	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ @10c.
Cows and Calves.....	\$35@75.
Veals.....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢@7c.
Sheep, poor.....	\$3 50.
do good.....	\$5@5 50.
do extra.....	\$7 50.
Swine, alive,.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢@6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.
“ dead.....	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ @8c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves,.....	2120
Cows,.....	6
Veals,.....	879
Sheep and lambs,.....	640
Swine,.....	3917

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves. 1200
Swine.....2917
Sheep.....—
Veals.....—

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves..... 39
Cows..... 6
Veals..... 879
Sheep and Lambs..... —

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves..... 640
Sheep..... 450

New-York State furnished.....	327
Ohio,.....	1100
Indiana,.....	356
Illinois,.....	290
Virginia,.....	45
Kentucky,.....	—
Connecticut,.....	5

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	2718
Beeves.....	310
Veals.....	59
Cows and Calves.....	48

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's :

341 Beef Cattle.....	8@12c.
98 Cows and Calves.....	\$30@36
3,020 Sheep.....	\$3@38.
147 Calves.....	4@6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

The sheep market to-day is very slow, with considerable stock on hand. The prices have fallen about 1 cen per pound.

The following are the sales of Sam'l McGraw :

81 Sheep.....	\$463 17
186 Sheep.....	809 62
234 Sheep.....	1209 90
103 Sheep.....	398 32
3 Sheep.....	20 00
1 Sheep.....	12 00
608	\$2,913 01
Average.....	\$6 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ head.

The following are the sales of Jas. McCarty :

50 Sheep.....	\$201 00
81 Sheep.....	325 00
100 Sheep.....	619 98
100 do.....	573 82
100 do.....	655 55
99 do.....	598 26
65 do.....	260 00
185 do.....	995 00
114 do.....	639 50
994	\$5,498 16
Average.....	\$5 72.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table listing various commodities such as Ashes, Beeswax, Bristles, Coal, Cotton, Coffee, Flax, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, Lime, Lumber, Molasses, Oil Cake, Provisions, Rice, and Salt, with their respective prices and units.

Table listing prices for Sugar, Tallow, Tobacco, and Wool, including specific grades and origins like St. Croix, New-Orleans, and American, Saxony Fleeces.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.

THE FARMERS' BEST FRIEND—Is a box of REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE—the very best ointment to have in your family in case of accidents. Burns, cuts, wounds, of every description, are healed and completely cured.

TENTS! FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, MILITARY COMPANIES, EXHIBITIONS, &c.

The Subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of Tents of every description, suitable for Agricultural Fairs, Military Encampments, Camp Meetings, Conferences, Political Gatherings, Exhibitions, &c., &c., which he will rent on liberal terms.

TENTS AND FLAGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, MADE TO ORDER.

He has on hand the largest assortment of Tents on the Continent, sufficient to accommodate seventy thousand persons, and can fill orders for any number of Tents on short notice.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle—consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals.

Also, about seventy-five (75) SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few SUFFOLK HOGS, bred from the importation of J. C. Jackson, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

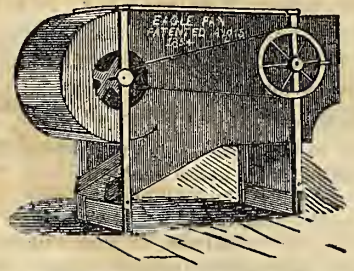
TERMS OF SALE. For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300; six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.

March 20th, 1855. J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE FARM, situated in Wallingford, New-Haven County, Conn., within half a mile of the center of the village. Said farm contains 70 acres, suitably divided into wood, pasture, meadow and plow land.

FERTILIZERS.—PERUVIAN GUANO, with Government brand on each bag, of best quality, and not DAMPENED to make it WEIGH HEAVIER. Improved Super Phosphate, Bone-dust, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, &c.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE VINES.

ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE VINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fourteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public.

CHEMICAL MANURE.—Nitrate of Soda. In bags, and Refuse Saltpetre in barrels, both highly recommended as a cheap and superior manure for fruit trees and all kinds of garden vegetables, &c., &c., destroying insects, and acting as an excellent fertilizer for peach and plum trees nothing can compare with it.

L. G. MORRIS'S CATALOGUE, WITH prices attached, of Domestic Animals at private sale, will not be ready for delivery until the first of April.

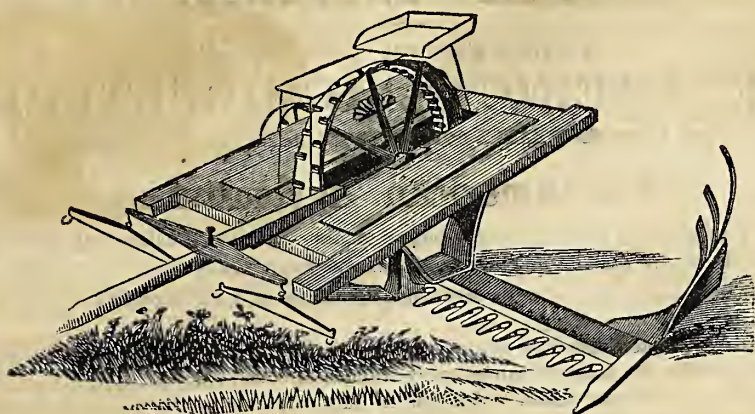
PURE DEVON FOR SALE.—The yearling Bull ALBERT, calved April, 1853. Got by imported Reuben (winner of several prizes at the Fairs of the American Institute, New-York City) out of a full blood Devon Cow.

ATKINSON'S SELF-RAKING REAPER and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth.

FARMERS ATTENTION.—Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied. The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM. LAWTON, 83-108n1188 No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

- This superiority consists:
1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.
2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.
3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made.
4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour.
5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel.
6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

- FAN MILLS--Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, &c.
GRAIN DRILLS--A machine which every large grain planter should possess.
SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.
HAY AND COTTON PRESSES--Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.
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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 85.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

RAISING POTATOES.

Their Importance.—Potatoes, for the last fifty years, have been a leading crop in the United States. Previous to this period they were scarcely known as a general field crop. We can recollect when a boy, an old friend, who was a large farmer for the time and location, relating the dilemma he was placed in when he had raised the unusually large quantity of seven bushels for a single season. He had a considerable surplus after eating all he wanted, and giving away as many as would be accepted by his neighbors. But our soil and climate throughout most of the northern and middle States, being admirably adapted to this root, and our more intelligent farmers soon perceiving their great value for stock feeding, as well as for the table, and the facility and economy of raising them, turned their attention to them as a leading crop. Much of the beef and pork and poultry of those States, for the last half century, have been largely indebted to potatoes for their growth and subsequent fattening.

Quantity Raised in the United States.—The amount raised in this country for 1840 and 1850, excluding sweet potatoes, was between 60 and 70,000,000 bushels, which amount, owing to the prevalent disease, has been scarcely increased since, unless the past season may have been an exception.

Uses.—Formerly large quantities were fed to cattle and stock; occasionally they were used for making a detestable sort of whisky; and in the States remote from the seaboard and a market, the manufacture of starch from the potato was extensively carried on, but the rot has so largely decreased production, that nearly the entire crop is now used as human food.

The Effect of Diseases.—The diseases which have infested this important esculent within the past few years, have materially lessened their production, not only in the

fields where planted, but they have discouraged many from attempting to cultivate them. The partial absence of disease for the last two or three years induced much more extensive planting last season, which was quite successful; yet from the effects of excessive drouth over large sections of the country, by which the grain crop was materially lessened, all articles of food have been greatly in demand, and there has consequently been an increase of price in potatoes beyond any thing before known. In our principal markets, they have steadily commanded from a dollar and a half to two dollars per bushel, at retail, throughout all the winter and spring. These excessive rates, reaching almost to starvation prices, have directed the attention of our farmers to the increased cultivation of potatoes the present season, and we shall be greatly disappointed if there is not a larger breadth of land subjected to raising them this year, than has ever before been witnessed in North America. Notwithstanding, the farmer need not apprehend planting too largely. They will be a profitable crop, however successful, as they will pay well as food for domestic animals, after they have fully supplied all that may be required for human consumption.

Cause of Diseases.—Innumerable experiments have been made by the most intelligent men, at home and abroad, to detect the cause of the recent wide-spread diseases, (which have, in some years, almost annihilated the potato crop,) but hitherto with only partial success. It has been variously attributed to the presence of animalculæ or larger insects; to a miasma in the atmosphere peculiarly inimical to this plant; to sudden and severe alternations in the atmosphere; but mainly to the exhausted constitution of the plant from long and highly artificial cultivation. The latter is doubtless an important item in contributing to the progress of the diseases (which have been induced by other causes), from the debility resulting from long-continued growth of certain plants or vegetables, in nearly the same place, and under nearly similar circumstances; but there is no probability that this is the exciting cause. Nor is there any probability that we shall speedily discover it; but equally with the causes of Asiatic cholera, certain virulent influenzas, the wheat midge or Hessian fly, and their unusual prevalence at certain seasons and under certain circumstances, it may never be revealed to us.

Remedies for Disease.—These have been

tried, in numberless forms and under a great variety of circumstances, and some with very marked, though by no means universal, success. The weight of experience favors the planting of potatoes on *sod land*, and especially on *new lands*, and *old pastures* which have long remained in grass. If the field has been recently cultivated, it should have been in grain rather than in roots. No recent putrescent vegetable or animal manures should be applied directly to this crop, or, if applied, they should first be thoroughly rotted. A compost containing this kind of manure may be safely used, but this should be intimately blended with the soil. Guano may be used, but must be well distributed in the earth, and not come in direct contact with the tubers or roots. Lime has been found particularly beneficial in preventing or arresting disease when spread through and over the hills, at the rate of one or two gills to each. Charcoal has been found equally beneficial. The use of unripe seed, early dug and exposed to the sun for a day or two, then kept dry through the winter, has been found efficacious in preventing rot; and just the reverse practice—leaving the potato in the soil throughout the winter where grown—is alleged to have produced the same result. Placing the rows due north and south is an essential precaution against disease, as it gives the fullest effect of the mid-day sun, in drying up the unwholesome vapors, which sometimes hover around the vines and are a prolific cause of disease whenever there is a tendency towards it.

Soil.—Perhaps nothing has had more to do as a preventive of disease than the selection of a well-drained, (naturally or artificially,) wholesome, upland soil, fully exposed to the sun and air. Calcareous soils—such as abound in lime—are excellent soils for potatoes, and potatoes growing in such soils are seldom exposed to disease. Heavy, wet and clay lands have been peculiarly favorable to the progress of disease. The soil for potatoes may be made rich by former manuring, but never by long or unfermented manures, applied directly to the crop. Few causes are more potent in producing disease than this.

Manures.—If necessary to apply these to the growing crop, it is better to plow and harrow them in after they are effectually decomposed. Guano may be plowed or harrowed into the land before planting, or when intimately mixed with muck, may be applied as a top dressing. Lime may be always safely applied to this crop if an abundance

is not already in the soil. So, too, may charcoal, which is an excellent preventive of disease. Wood ashes are an excellent and always safe manure, and plaster is seldom without a beneficial effect. The phosphoric acid yielded by bones and superphosphate of lime, is thought to be needed and if not already applied in some of the foregoing manures, may be amply provided for from these fertilizers. Salt has a tendency to keep the land moist, and to the extent of three or four bushes per acre, is seldom without a beneficial effect. Swamp muck, decayed leaves and chip manure are all excellent manures for potatoes. Very large products have been secured by applying compost manure upon the potatoes after the first hoeing and before blooming. When abundant rains are certain after this application and before the ripening of the tubers, this is doubtless an excellent practice; and by acting as a mulch and keeping the surface moist, a beneficial effect may follow, even without rains to wash the soluble fertilizers to the roots; for it must be remembered, that although a well drained soil is essential to producing healthy potatoes, yet it must be such as will preserve a proper moisture throughout the season, to mature potatoes to a satisfactory extent, and of desirable character and flavor.

Preparation of the Ground.—Deep and thorough tillage is essential to the success of potatoes. If a sod be turned over deeply, it is better to let the bottom of the turf remain undisturbed, but harrow the surface of the upturned earth to a fine tilth. The gradual decomposition of the turf will yield nutriment to the plant during the whole season. There is little choice in planting whether hills or drills be selected. If in hills, they should be about three feet apart each way, and if in drills, about four feet. These distances may be varied according to the growth of the vines, some being much more luxuriant and consequently requiring larger space than others.

Planting.—If in drills, plant about ten inches apart, and if in hills, place two potatoes a few inches apart in each hill. Medium size potatoes are to be preferred. A smooth, fine tuber, just such a one as you would select to eat, is precisely the one you should use for planting. Cutting the potato is objectionable in a dry season, or when rot prevails, however successful some may occasionally be who deviate from this practice. Place the seed a few inches below the surface, and cover lightly with the plow or hoe.

Cultivating.—When the plants first appear, run a plow by the side of the rows and flit the dirt up to them, and if it entirely covers them it is of no consequence. This may soon after be done a second time with advantage, and should be accomplished before blooming if possible. Early stirring the ground hastens the growth of the potatoes, and checks the weeds, and if planted sufficiently near, the vines will soon overspread the surface and effectually keep the weeds in check. Flat cultivation is always to be preferred, unless the ground is stiff clay or inclined to wet

Digging and Storing.—For potatoes designed for the table, it is better to allow them to remain in the ground till the approach of the autumnal rains, unless they are of the early kinds, or rot prevails. In the first case early digging is required to prevent a second growth; and in the latter, rot frequently, though not always, proceeds if thus left, when in many instances it might be arrested by proper management. We know of no more appropriate machine for digging potatoes than some of the plows that have been constructed with a reference to this purpose. The potatoes should not be long exposed to the sun, but thrown into heaps to be lightly covered by the vines, and when the surface moisture is off, carry to a cool, dry place. If there is danger from rot, spread the potatoes and sprinkle them with lime or dry wood ashes. On the approach of winter, when further apprehension from rot is removed, the potatoes may be stored in dry bins containing 40 bushels each, and covered with straw or dry turf to exclude air, light and variations of temperature, which last should be always cool and the atmosphere dry.

For Seed Potatoes, the management must be quite different. They should not be allowed to become fully ripened, and when dug, they may remain in the sun for three or four days, till they have assumed a greenish color, then pack away for winter as above. Success has in some instances followed, when the seed has been left in the ground where grown throughout the winter.

Storing in the Fields is a good way for keeping winter potatoes. Select a porous, sandy or gravelly bottom, if possible, from which the surface water runs; then excavate to a moderate depth, place the potatoes on the ground, straw, or boards, as you prefer, and make oblong or conical heaps, according to your taste, the nature of the ground and the quantity to be stored. They require but slight covering till the approach of frost, when they should be thatched with straw, then cover deeply enough with earth to exclude frost. Small apertures at the top are required to let off the gas generated by the heap. These must be protected against frost by loose wisps of straw.

Varieties of Potatoes.—These have now become almost innumerable. The resort to planting the balls or seeds for the production of new kinds, induced by the recent rot, has originated many new varieties of considerable value. We forbear any enumeration, as we should omit some of the most valuable for certain localities. The best for any particular section may be easily known, if in an intelligent farming community, and if not, choice kinds may be procured from the large markets on the seaboard, where the best seek a market. Such should be used as combine in the highest degree the requisites of good quality, good keepers, prolific and hardy.

In addition to some extracts in our last paper from the Mark-Lane Express, we subjoin one or two further instances of great success, following the application of mineral manures. One correspondent says:

"This year I planted about five acres of

potatoes. The soil was dry, and the land in good condition, and has been in pasture for several years. I manured with salt and lime, in the proportion of about one bushel of the former to two of the latter, and at the rate of perhaps twenty bushels to the acre. In preparing this mineral manure, I dissolved a portion of the salt in water and slacked the lime with it, and then mixed up the powder, and dried it with soot and coal ashes (well screened). The sets were dried by exposure in a warm place for some time before planting. I had an excellent crop—the potatoes were fine and mealy, and much superior to my neighbors'. I should inform you that I applied the compost to the land some little time before I planted the potatoes."

Another correspondent, after trying several experiments, gives much fuller details, as follows:

"I divided the land into a dozen different plots of nearly equal size. The first of these, which I will call No. 1, I manured with salt and lime only—two bushels of the latter to one of the former, about twenty bushels to the acre. No. 2 plot I top-dressed with salt and lime, mixed with soot. No. 3 I manured with farm-yard manure, first giving it a top-dressing of salt and lime. No. 4 was prepared with a compost of 30 parts ashes, 15 bone dust, 10 gypsum, 20 common salt, 30 air-slacked lime, and 7 nitrate of soda. No. 5 was prepared in the same way, but was also treated with dung. In all these, the tubers were first dried by exposing them on the boards in a warm room for some time before planting. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 plots were manured in exactly the same manner, but the tubers were prepared by first immersing them for a longer or shorter period of time, in sulphate of copper of various strengths, and then planting them as before. In plot No. 12, the potatoes were treated in the ordinary mode, that is to say, were manured with farmyard manure only. My results may be thus briefly stated: In No. 12 the potatoes were diseased both tuber and haulm, and did not keep well or turn out well in cooking. Those, on the contrary, that were manured with the mineral compost, and with the compost and yard-manure, were excellent (Nos. 2, 3, and 5, I think, were the best); a few were diseased, but I never tasted better or more mealy potatoes. In the case of the other plots—I mean those in which the roots were first steeped—I think the best crop was obtained from the one in which the tubers were steeped for only about an hour in a solution of about one ounce to the gallon of water. In the others, the plants, I thought, were not so strong and healthy. Whether this was owing to the dry weather we had several weeks about the time of planting, I can not say; but I think you will find a weak solution of about this strength will give the best results. Neither do I think it necessary or advantageous to keep them in the copper solution longer than half an hour, or an hour. In fact, merely dipping them into it will, I think, answer quite as well, and save time."

NEW-JERSEY STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
—A meeting of the Executive Committee was held at New-Brunswick, on the 6th inst., and Camden fixed upon as the sight for the fair; the schedule adopted will contain premiums amounting to \$5,000. Arrangements for transmitting produce, stock, &c., will be made with the railroad companies by a special committee. The Executive Committee will hold another meeting on the 8th of May, at the Park House, Newark city.

THE HORSE.

We recommend the following valuable article on the horse to the attention of our readers, and trust its length will not prevent a careful perusal. Like most Virginians, Mr. Rives inherits a love of horses; and having resided several years in Europe, and had excellent advantages for making himself acquainted with the best methods practised there of breeding and rearing them, he has well qualified himself to write, no less intelligently than justly on this important branch of rural economy.

From the Southern Planter.

CASTLE HILL, Va., January, 25, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR: The accompanying letter on the Horse has been addressed to me recently by my son Francis, as containing the result of observations and inquiries which he pursued very closely and earnestly during a tour he made last summer and autumn in England and France. You will perceive that, like myself, he is quite an enthusiast on this subject, and warmly enlisted in the cause of improving our native breeds. Supposing the information he communicates to me would not be without interest and utility to many of our agricultural brethren, and knowing there is nothing he has more at heart than to be useful, in however humble a degree, to his native State, I have concluded to place the letter at your disposal for the columns of the *Planter*, as his contribution to a branch of rural economy which, I am glad to observe, is beginning to attract the general and earnest attention due to it. I remain, my dear sir, with great respect, very truly and faithfully yours.

W. C. RIVES.

F. G. Ruffin, Esq., Ed. So. Pl.

ON THE HORSE.

PART I.

Classification, Nomenclature and Breeding of the Different Varieties of Useful Horses in England, particularly Yorkshire, the great Horse-breeding District of England. The Percheron Horse of France.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 15, 1855.

My Dear Father:*

The Agricultural Society of Yorkshire, the principal horse-breeding district in England, for their prizes, divide horses into four classes.

(See the Prize List inclosed.)

1. Coach, Coaching or Carriage Horses;
2. Hunters;
3. Roadsters;
4. Horses for Agricultural Purposes.

1. In coaching or carriage horses the largest dealers in Yorkshire for the stud are William Burton, residing just outside the walls of York, and Jonathan Shaw of Aconib Hall. The former breeds most of his coaching stallions and travels (or as we say stands) them, as well as thoroughbred, cart and roadster or nag stallions. The latter does not breed any of his horses, but buys coaching and roadster entire colts at a half year old, and rears them from that age chiefly on a farm at some distance from York. Both these men quoted to me the saying of the District of Cleveland—the low lying district extending from the York Moors to the River Tees—that “a Cleveland horse of the old race has neither blood nor black.” The meaning of this is that, according to tradition, there are horses of the aboriginal tribe of Cleveland which have not been crossed with either the race horse or the cart horse—the color of the old English cart horse being generally black. Burton showed me three mares, two very old, which he said were of

the unmixed ancient race, and I afterwards saw one on the estate of Stewart Majoribanks, Esq., M. P., in Hertfordshire. Though very highly valued by their owners, I thought they needed some refinement for quick work. Burton has bred his exclusively to pure blood horses of the most superior style—latterly to a brown horse called Postemper. Rubens, mentioned in the letter of the Inspector General of the Agriculture of France to you, the finest horse Shaw says he ever owned or saw, who, of the coaching or carriage stallions, received the first prize of the Royal Agricultural Society, was bred in this way. This prize was a “local prize” of £30, awarded at the York Country Meeting in 1848, celebrated for the finest show of horses ever brought together in the Kingdom.* At that time there was a distinct prize for a “Cleveland stallion.” The Yorkshire Agricultural Society, I am informed by Mr. Watson, the Assistant Secretary, only award prizes for “coaching or carriage horses;” but allow the old “Clevelds” to compete in the same class. The distinction now abolished, but which was formerly drawn, for the purposes of premiums, between a “coaching” stallion and an old “Cleveland,” was that the former was derived from an engrafting of more or less of the blood of the racer on the original British stock of the vale of Cleveland, while the latter, according to tradition at least, was not, within the memory of man, of mixed lineage. At present coaching stallions are frequently called Improved Clevelds or New Clevelds. Low (recently Professor of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh) contends that all Clevelds were formed by the progressive mixture of the blood of oriental horses—not directly, but through the intervention of the English thoroughbred—with that of the native parent stock of Cleveland. He, with several other writers, asserts that the race horse is of mixed lineage, and says, “The basis [of the race horse] was the ancient horses of the country, which were modified after the Norman conquest by progressive changes, and at length by a large infusion of the blood of the horses of Africa and Western Asia. The mixed progeny thus formed being made to breed only with one another, or with the races of the East, to which they were already allied in blood, have assumed the common characters of a race.” While it is certain that every modern race horse may be traced back to some Arabian, African, or Turkish ancestry, or all three mixed, (assuming that they are sub-varieties of one and the same race—a doubtful point,) I am not satisfied there is any evidence that Eastern mares were imported with or soon after the first stallions, so as to furnish an uncrossed breed. But I do not intend to discuss the vexed questions of the origin of breeds or the unity of species at a very remote period or the beginning of time.†

The female progeny of an “old Cleveland mare,”—one at all events in which the native blood of Cleveland, if not pure, is largely in excess—by a thoroughbred horse, Burton breeds to a stallion, in whom the blood of the race horse and that of the old Cleveland bay—the latter predominating—have been well intermixed. The descendants formed in this or a kindred manner are then bred with one another for successive generations to produce the breed of the New or Improved Clevelds, and to establish and maintain constancy and permanency in their characters. In order further to fix the type when the dash of blood is not remote, breeding in-and-in is occasionally resorted to, but to a very limited extent. I have been

*See Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society.

†“England’s breed” of men, now very distinct, was formed by the successive commingling of a great variety of races. Its tongue owns a cross-bred origin.

thus particular in describing Burton’s practice, for, from the number of stallions he owns and travels, he must exercise a marked influence on the breeding of Yorkshire.

Among Burton’s New Cleveland horses, I saw two stallions of high repute, both by Rimphon, (now the property of the King of Prussia,) who was highly commended by the Royal Agricultural Society of England in 1848, and mentioned by the Inspector General of the Agriculture of France in his letter to you. They are magnificent animals, standing with shortish legs sixteen hands and one or two inches—the favorite height.* One of these stallions, Aristocrat, particularly conformed to a Yorkshire criterion of excellence, in being short on top (that is in the back) and long underneath. Your Cleveland horse’s half brother on the dam’s side—*le poulain enorme*, mentioned by M. Ste Marie—was bought by the Queen of Spain. Before the war, the Emperor of Russia annually purchased coaching, as well as blood horses, in Yorkshire, chiefly through Mr Kirby, to whose stables Burton has succeeded. It is universally admitted in Paris that all the finest horses for the carriage (*carrossiers*) and for private vehicles, from the Emperor’s down, of every description—excepting our American trotting wagons—as well as for the saddle, the chase and the turf, and for the service of the officers of the army, come from England. These facts in connection with the importations of the French government for the stud (*haras*) sufficiently attest the preëminent esteem in which the coaching horses of England are held in the various countries of Continental Europe.

I was exceedingly struck with the certain and harmonious result of mixing the blood of the racer with that of the Cleveland Bay in any proportion—a result which may be owing to the fact, if Low’s supposition be correct, that the two breeds have been for a long time allied, and may, therefore, be further brought together without any violence in crossing. I found that the *Hunters* in the neighborhood of Ripon (where some of the most prized horses in England are reared) owed their stoutness and power to a dash of the Cleveland blood, on the part of the dam more commonly.† Some tenant-farmers in Yorkshire keep two or three mares of the

* Some blood horses get up to sixteen hands, though in that case they are prone to be too slim bodied and leggy, or, as the English say too, slender timber.

†The more general practice in crossing in Yorkshire is to have the superior size of race on the side of the mare. This is probably founded mainly on the notion, which authority and experience both show to be fallacious, that there would not be, in the contrary case, sufficient room in the mare for the uncramped development of the fetus and for facility of parturition. Spooner, on the other hand, prefers that the mare should be smaller than the horse, as tending more to refinement in the progeny, while the size of the future colt, derived from the larger parent, would not be materially affected thereby. Stephens discredits generally the theory of the dependency of the size of the fetus before birth on the size of the sire, and maintains that it depends, by a provision of nature, on the capacity and functions of the organs containing and nourishing it. For example, in an over fat, and therefore inwardly contracted female, the unborn young can not be largely developed, no matter how great the size of the sire. After it has come into the world, however, it tends in growing to approach or attain the dimensions of the bigger parent. It does not follow because a foal is small, when dropped, that it will be a small horse. Frequently animals of great size are the issue of small females by large sires, and were small, comparatively, at the date of their birth. M. Malinje Nouel, who founded the celebrated French race of sheep, *De La Charmoise*, by crossing heavy imported Kentish (Romney Marsh) tups on ewes, of mixed indigenous breeds, less than a fourth of the weight of the tups, states that in over two thousand cases but one single accident was occasioned in yearning by the size of the lambs, and yet after their birth they grew so rapidly that before they were weaned they had become larger than the ewes. No one who visits the great market of England of live stock for the shambles—Smithfield—can fail to be struck with the vast preponderance of cross-bred animals. Their male parents are, in most instances, of the very largest races, for example, Short Horn bulls and Cotswold and Leicester tups. This, compared with the reverse method in breeding, has superior economy, for a breeder can keep more good small animals on the same ground than large ones, and the breeding females are in the proportion of sixty to one of the males.

*Des Bêtes a laine, p. 42.

*W. C. Rives, Esq., from Francis R. Rives,

old or new Cleveland race as animals of all work, and at the same time with a view to profit in rearing horses for London use, or mares for which there is a great demand, under the general denomination of "Yorkshire mares," for breeding purposes, in most parts of the Kingdom.

2. Hunters at this day do not exist as a distinct breed. All stallions exhibited at the Lincoln Country Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, as adapted to get Hunters, according to the terms of the special prizes offered, were thoroughbred.

3. The third class embraces Roadsters, whose merits I was perhaps not in the best condition to appreciate, having just seen the much more stately and imposing Clevelands, and Flying Dutchman, Chanticleer, and other renowned thoroughbreds, at the Rawcliffe Paddocks. Roadster, in Yorkshire, is the synonyme of Nag; and I infer from an account of the last Yorkshire Agricultural Society's meeting, from what Burton told me, and from other sources, that it is likewise the synonyme of Hack or Hackney, as the term is frequently used in that part of England by the tenant-farmers. It is alleged that the Roadsters constitute a distinct breed. The trotting horses of the county of Norfolk, I should judge from the specimens I saw, they are a sub-variety of this Roadster race, which is probably a modification and improvement of the best character of the old English pack horse effected originally by a cross with the French "cart-cob." The Roadster is a plain, strong, compact, and rather low horse, not exhibiting in his appearance indications of any share of oriental lineage, and very frequently having cloven quarters (*croupe double*) like the Cart Horse. His only smart action is a trot. He bends his knees and lifts up his feet, throws them out and puts them down well in this gait. I saw none of this breed except stallions and mares, at York, stallions at the Royal Agricultural Society's meeting at Lincoln, and a mare, called a Roadster, of the Messrs. Hall at Dudding Hill, used by them for driving to cover, in the hunting season.* This last animal is a capital trotter and a good "stepper," but exceedingly plain in appearance. The Roadster was formerly used and is still chiefly used as a tenant-farmer's (not a landed proprietor's) saddle horse, but not without being called upon occasionally to do light work in harness—for example, in a gig, drosky, or light marketing vehicle. He is a degree above the Cob, (*double poney*), who, I suppose, is the accidental result of crosses between sturdy pony stallions and small cart mares, or mares of the old Pack Horse English race. The Roadster I take to be the substitute of the old Road Horse, of whom Low spoke in 1840 as follows: "Not only has the system of public conveyance by coaches called forth a lighter and more agile race of horses, but it has acted in another way on the saddle horses of the country. By altering the mode of performing journeys it has diminished the inducement to cultivate particular kinds of horses. Few persons now make distant journeys on horseback, and are willing to travel at the rate of five miles an hour, when they can be carried forward at the rate of ten or more. A horseman with his load of saddle bags is now almost as rare a sight as an elephant. A class of saddle horses, accordingly, formerly used for journeys, has now almost disappeared. They were termed Road Horses, and were suited to their employment. They were strong, useful and safe, but had little or no breeding. Their paces were the walk and trot; and the canter and the gallop were nearly as much out of place with them as with the Cart

Horse. The Cob, too, a little squat horse fitted for drudgery, is with some difficulty to be procured. For the shorter journeys now in use, and for all the usual services of the equestrian, animals of lighter form and more easy paces are preferred, and few habitual riders are satisfied with horses that have not more or less of breeding."

I also quote below what the same author says of the Hackney,* expressing, however, my dissent from his description, if it were intended to apply at the present day, unless he means the tenant-farmer's Hackney, *alias* Roadster, *alias* Nag, for now the pleasure hack or the park hack has generally fully as much breeding as the Hunter, (if not more,) and height also frequently, and would probably be used as a hunter or harness horse if he had sufficient "stoutness," which is strength coupled with constitutional vigor, bottom and general powers of endurance.†

"The term Hackney, in common use, is employed to denote a kind of horse fitted for general services; and is, therefore, understood to exclude the horses of the highest breeding, as the Thoroughbred horse and Hunter; and there is further associated with the idea of a Hackney, an animal of moderate size, not exceeding fifteen hands, and possessing action, strength and temper." But he adds—"the Hackneys of the present day [1840, and much more so in 1855,] are of lighter form than those formerly sought for, and there is greater difficulty in obtaining them to suit the services required from our present mixed varieties of half-bred horses, than when horsemen were contented with the older class of Hackneys of stouter form but inferior breeding." It is important to bear in mind that Low, in the passage just cited, means part-bred by half-bred, and that the English apply the term half-bred, to every horse with any degree of breeding, no matter how minute, if it be appreciable, nor how great, provided it be short of full blood.

The term *saddle-horses* sometimes signifies only Hacks—no body now-a-days taking the trouble to say Hackneys—but it is commonly employed in a more general sense to embrace Hunters and Chargers as well, but not Race Horses, although they go under the saddle on the turf. Horses for the field or the chase are Hunters. Horses used only for road purposes under the saddle, or for road riding in contradistinction to both field-riding and turf-riding, are Hacks. The most showy and elegant variety of Hacks are called Park Hacks, the nobility and gentry of the British Empire riding them in Hyde Park in Rotten Row during the London season. Harry Hieover,‡ if I recollect rightly, divides Hacks into three classes, and gives his opinion of them respectively, in substance, as follows:

"The thoroughbred or nearly thoroughbred Hack," whose trot is nothing to boast of, and whose chief gaits are the walk, canter, and gallop. This is, according to the English phrase, a most "gentlemanly horse" in appearance.

"The general Hack," not so highly bred as the foregoing, but with general paces—one who canters and gallops well but does not "slip along" like the thoroughbred or nearly thoroughbred, and also trots well, but not like the Trotter or Trotting Hack, next to be mentioned. This is quite a gentlemanly-looking animal, and entirely a gentleman's horse.

* This word is doubtless derived from the French *Haquequet*.

† On the turf, stoutness is used in contradistinction to mere speed; and it is applied to a horse who can run and win long races, and many of them to an advanced age, with heavy jockeys, on deep ground, and, if need be, make his final brush with advantage up hill.

‡ Practical Horsemanship.

ENCOURAGING TO FARMERS.

Under this head we wrote a short article last week, urging farmers to prepare their ground as well as possible, and plant the very most they could take good care of this season; adding that their crops, however large, could not but sell extraordinarily high as soon as ready for market. A correspondent thinks we are over sanguine in our estimation of high prices, should the crops prove very abundant. In answer to this we will say that since writing the article alluded to, we find many of our cotemporaries take the same view of the question as we do. The following on this subject is from the N. Y. Tribune:

STARVATION PRICES.

It is the duty and interest of every man who owns a piece of land whereon he can sow a bushel of grain, not to allow the Spring to slip by without doing it. We are at starvation prices in breadstuffs as well as in meat. We shall have a famine if we do not look out. The nations of Europe are engaged in the amiable business of butchering one another, and if the half dozen gentlemen at Vienna and their backers do not come to terms, this state of things will continue, and perhaps for half a dozen seasons. The fertile plains of that continent, instead of being used for producing what will feed its population, will be the scenes of havoc and bloodshed, and Death alone will reap a harvest therefrom. If, in addition, the crops in the island of Great Britain should be cut short, (and it must be remembered they were very abundant last year,) it will be left to the valley of the Mississippi, mainly, to supply the immense vacuum abroad. Under such circumstances, the drain upon us for foreign consumption is likely to be greater than it has ever been before. Our present reserves of breadstuffs must be very light, as the high prices of corn and flour plainly enough denote. Our corn crop last year was wonderfully small, as was well established at harvest time, without aid from the prices current.

Entering upon the year with exhausted granaries at home, with a poor crop following, and an immense European demand, grave apprehension may well be excited as to our circumstances a year hence. We have had a hard winter and enormously high prices throughout. But what is all we have seen to what we shall see, if we should chance to have a bad summer, and the war goes on in Europe. We may then see suffering and starvation in earnest.

It is in view of this not merely possible, but too probable state of things, that we invoke the attention of farmers every where, in the East as well as the West, to omit no effort or opportunity to swell, in large and in small quantities, the product of the soil the coming year. New-England, especially, should bestir herself. At a dollar a bushel for corn and ten dollars for flour, these articles can be raised at very great profit all over the North. The low prices of many years have diminished the cultivation of the cereal grains throughout the northern section of the country immensely, and New-England has learned to rely on Illinois and Michigan, on North Carolina and Maryland, for her supplies of breadstuffs. The amount of corn and flour taken into Boston and other Eastern ports from the South and West, for consumption at home, is wonderful. Whole lines of packets go freighted weekly to the East with grains and flour from New-York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, poured into those markets through the great arteries of trade from the West, to be distributed over the

*The more usual custom is to ride "Hacks" to cover.

interior. At present prices, the drain upon the Eastern States to pay for these vast supplies is a serious hindrance to their prosperity. Millions of dollars have thus been required during the last year over and above the sum that it would have cost even that generally thrifty and well-paid people to raise the same amount of similar food. This consideration surely should induce them to enter upon its cultivation the present year with industry and energy. The prospect of a reduction of present prices should be considered quite too slight by every man of sense and forethought to neglect any opportunity to raise a patch of wheat, corn, barley, or rye. Everywhere in the North all these grains will grow and flourish, excepting corn in the most northern part of Maine. Let every one then try his hand at one or the other as occasion may present. Let every man who owns an acre of arable soil at least raise as much bread as he and his family require. In this way starvation prices may be remedied and a possible famine be averted. But if things go on in the old way nobody knows where we shall come out a year hence.

We now find that the wheat crop within 100 to 200 miles of the sea-board, from New-York to Virginia, has suffered very much from the dry, windy weather for upwards of two months past; little or no snow having been on the ground. Farther west there has been more snow during February, and March, and their wheat is looking tolerably, and may turn out a good average; but all along the Atlantic coast, we fear the crop is too much injured already to yield anything like a full average.

The truth is, wheat is rather an uncertain crop with us; and unless we can overcome the attacks of the "insects," hit upon some improved method of cultivation, or the seasons grow better, it is destined at some future day to become an article of luxury, which none but those pretty well off will be able to indulge in.

GYPSUM AND SALT.

To the Farmers of Nottinghamshire:

GENTLEMEN—None of the sulphates of the various earths and metals occur so abundantly in the natural state as the sulphate of lime, or gypsum.

You are no doubt all aware that there are several quarries in our own immediate neighborhood from which large quantities are annually procured, and in Derbyshire it is still more abundant. Some of the beds in Derbyshire are exceedingly pure; and very large quantities in the unburnt state, ground to a fine powder, not only for adulterating articles of food and luxury, such as flour, sugar, lozenges, &c., but also for mixing with Peruvian guano—a trick which, I am sorry to say, has been known to be practised to an enormous extent.

The chemical composition of gypsum is lime 28 parts, sulphuric acid 40 parts, and water 18 parts. It is a compound, therefore, capable of supplying both lime, sulphur, and sulphuric acid to plants.

When gypsum is burnt it loses all its water, and is converted into plaster of Paris, the uses of which are too well known to require explanation.

Burnt gypsum dissolves with greater difficulty than unburnt, but both require a large amount of water for their solution. A gallon of water will only take up about 3 drachms of unburnt gypsum, so that, valuable as it may be as a manure, large quantities at a time can never be needed. A dress-

ing of 3 ewt. per acre, whether applied to clover, which on certain descriptions of land it so greatly benefits, or to other green crops requiring sulphur, will be found to be ample.

The addition of gypsum to the dung heap is very valuable for improving the quality of the manure and assisting a little in the fixing of ammonia; I say a little because it only acts in the presence of a great deal of moisture, which, in the case before us, is rather an evil than an advantage. As a fixer of ammonia in the tank its effects are more observable, because there is more liquid for its solution. In this state, therefore, it produces the greatest benefit; but the refuse salt cakes of the nitric and muriatic acid are far more valuable for this purpose.

The benefits which arise from the use of common salt are due to the chlorine and sodium which it contains. All fertile soils and all edible plants contain it; but its solubility favors its easy removal from the soil, hence the need of its being applied more frequently than gypsum.

When mixed with farm-yard manure as I have previously directed, it improves the quality, causes a more complete decomposition of the manure, and furnishes the best mode of supplying it to the soil. Salt and lime mixed together in some cases are not to be despised. These mutually decompose each other, forming a muriate of lime and carbonate of soda. The carbonic acid, as fast as it is absorbed from the atmosphere by the lime, goes over to the soda contained in the common salt, at the same time the muriatic acid with which the soda is associated transfers itself to the lime, forming a muriate of lime; thus you will perceive that the soda and lime exchange their acids.

Such a compost as this is most destructive to insect life, but it is requisite that the lime and salt should remain together several months before the change becomes complete.

Salt acts in a similar way with gypsum, for when these two are in contact for any length of time they are converted into sulphate of soda and muriate of lime.

The sulphate of soda is much more soluble than the sulphate of lime, hence the advantage of applying salt and gypsum to the soil after they have been mixed together several months, thereby enabling the plant to take up the sulphur more readily and in greater abundance. A portion of the soda here liberated would be returned again to the soil, and have a tendency to combine with or decompose the silicates contained therein, rendering them more soluble and in a fit state to be taken up by plants. It is probably owing to this property which it possesses that the straw of wheat is rendered so bright and stiff after a dressing of salt.

I will now draw your attention for a short time to what is usually termed the "clover sickness."

It having been disputed by several of the most influential farmers in the neighborhood that lime exercises any beneficial influence upon the clover plant, and one gentleman even going so far as to assert that Professor Liebig committed an error in classifying it among the family of lime plants at all; let us endeavor to make out what are the constituents requisite for the production of a good crop of clover, which, perhaps, may be a guide as to the kind of management which ought to be employed in this particular instance. By argument and investigation we can only arrive at the truth; and when we are in possession of the knowledge of ingredients removed from the soil by the clover crop, we must naturally infer that the absence or deficiency of the substances which enter into its composition will be a hindrance to its full and perfect development.

According to the analysis of the late

Mr. Haywood, of Sheffield (whose melancholy death you will recollect having been recorded only a few months ago), two tuns of clover remove from the soil—

Nitrogen.....	132 lbs.
Phosphoric acid	20 "
Alkalies (potash and soda).....	61 "
Earths (principally lime).....	146 "
Silica.....	10 "
Sulphur.....	6 "

Before I proceed any further I should wish you to understand that nitrogen, the first-mentioned component part of clover, may be represented in the soil by organic matter—such as vegetable fiber, farm-yard manure, or in fact by any other substance capable of producing ammonia, all of which must contain nitrogen, which, as I have explained in a former letter, is converted by the properties of lime, first into nitric acid and subsequently into nitrate of lime. I need scarcely say that the treatment of the land must vary according to its nature; thus a good marly or loamy soil will generally contain a sufficiency of the alkalies, a sandy or gravelly soil quite enough of silica in a soluble state after it has been well limed, or a soil full of vegetable matter will for the most part be found to contain the requisite quantity of nitrogen; but as we cannot arrive at any accurate conclusions with regard to the treatment of the different kinds of soil without first having them analyzed, I can only give you a general prescription, which will answer in every case, because it will supply all the ingredients which are required. For the clover crop then I would recommend a dressing of 4 cwt. of superphosphate of lime, 1 cwt. of common salt, 1 cwt. of gypsum, and ½ cwt. of potash, or 1 cwt. of wood ashes. The superphosphate, when properly prepared, will furnish all the organic matter and phosphoric acid; the salt will aid greatly in supplying the alkalies, provided the land contains plenty of lime, which, as you have seen, will convert the salt into carbonate of soda, in which case the potash or wood ashes may partly be dispensed with; and the gypsum will afford the necessary quantity of lime. But, in addition to all these, the mechanical state of the soil has also something to do with healthy and luxuriant growth of this valuable crop. Who has not observed that clover arrives at the highest degree of perfection where the ground has been well trodden and rendered comparatively solid by the feet of animals? And, therefore, where the soil is light and of a porous texture, a good rolling with a heavy roll or Crosskill will be found to be of great benefit.

These are the necessary conditions, according to my idea, for the production of a good crop of clover, which, if strictly adhered to, will in the generality of cases be attended with success, and we then shall not hear so many complaints about the "clover sickness" as hitherto; for it must ever be borne in mind that when a plant is furnished with all the necessary articles of food, the land being at the same time in a proper condition, it is then, and then only, that you may reasonably expect a first-rate crop.

I have now treated upon the principal manures in general use, with the exception perhaps, of the sewerage of large towns, which, in the absence of the means of application, it would here be useless to dwell upon. With regard to this subject, however, I will just remark that thousands, nay, I might almost say millions of pounds' worth of manure is annually carried away by the rivers of this country, and entirely lost, so far as we are concerned; but I trust the period may not be far distant when these wasted manures will also be made subservient to the increased production of the soil.

Mark-Lane Express.] SAM'L PARR.

ITALIAN RYE-GRASS.

A report of the discussion on rye-grass cultivation, which took place before the London Farmers' Club, will be found in to-day's publication. If Italian rye-grass is only to be cultivated by itself, and its growth stimulated by irrigation, or rather liquid manuring, as the resolution of the Club bears, there is little probability of its being more generally cultivated. The chief value of rye-grass, in our opinion, is to sow along with clover in the regular rotation of the farm, and to occupy the place of a part or the whole of the common rye-grass, now all but universally grown in Scotland. The experience of some of the best farmers in East Lothian, however, is against the growing of Italian rye-grass, they having some years ago cultivated it in place of the common rye-grass, and as a mixture with it. The most of those have now abandoned it—we think, however, somewhat prematurely. Thinness of plant was generally complained of. Where grass is grown for soiling, it possesses the great advantage of coming again in the second crop of clover; whereas common rye-grass is only available in the first crop. Stock also prefer Italian rye-grass, whether in a green state or made into hay, to common rye-grass.

Besides, one of the great advantages of Italian rye-grass is, that it comes early in spring and grows late in autumn, thus affording food for sheep stock at a season when its value can scarcely be estimated, particularly in backward springs.

We feel confidence, therefore, in recommending farmers generally to substitute Italian for fully one-half of the common rye-grass in the ordinary rotation; and where the land is very rich and the grass to be used for soiling, the Italian can be advantageously substituted in whole for the common rye-grass—of course the usual portion of clover being sown along with it. The objection of thinness of plant can only be partially overcome by thick seeding. Italian rye-grass produces a great bunch of roots, and thus the roots occupy more ground than the common varieties.

We have copied the above, from the North British Agriculturist, for the purpose of warning American farmers not to think of cultivating rye-grass in this country. It does very well in the open, rainy winters, and cool, moist summers of Great Britain; but would not answer at all for our hot, dry climate. We have tried this grass effectually here, and write this from our own experience. It is little better for pasture than common rye. The ray grass is another thing entirely; it is a perennial, and succeeds well in this climate.—ED. AM. AG.

PRACTICAL BENEVOLENCE.—Under the new law there were, up to to-day, ninety-seven unpaid letters remaining in the Albany Post-office—three directed to places abroad, and ninety-four to places in the United States. A public spirited and benevolent neighbor happening in the Post-office, inquired the amount of postage due on the whole lot, and finding it to be \$2 94, paid it and sent them on their destined way—a piece of kindness that will benefit many people without their knowing who they are indebted to.

Albany now starts fair again. We hope there will be no more violations of the law. People who have not learned by this time to pay their postage, deserve to lose their letters.—*Albany Journal*, April 20.

SORE MOUTH in sheep may be cured by smearing the diseased lips with tar.

LARGE GAME FOWLS.

Having recently received a letter from an experienced breeder of fowls and other stock in Pennsylvania, we take the liberty of giving some extracts, which present somewhat novel results on the subject treated. The intelligence and truthfulness of the writer places the information and facts stated beyond question:

* * * * The largest game cocks (red) I know of are in the possession of ——. He, I think, has cocks as heavy as 8½ lbs. Perhaps you could get a good one from ——. He likes heavy cocks, and occasionally has them to run from 8 to 8½ lbs. The one I had of 9½ lbs. was extraordinary, even for my large breed—8½ lbs. being usual; the hens 7½ lbs.

These fowls were bred in-and-in for a long time, and instead of decreasing in size, as is generally supposed to be the case, they increased. The same thing occurred with swine. But in the cases both of swine and fowls, although the individuals were very fine, they became much less prolific, and in the swine many of the females were barren.

I have always bred my game fowls very close, as my aim has been size and sameness in feather—all my cocks being alike in plumage, and the hens also, with the exception of now and then of what is called a "furnace-back," but no mingling of the feathers. A large game cock bred with Shanghai hens one season, and then with his progeny the second season, makes very fine, plump fowls—giving the full breast, which all the Asiatic fowls are so deficient in, and also the propensity to fatten.

The experiments on breeding swine and fowls in-and-in, were made by myself—not for me; and there is no mistake on my part as to the result.

For the American Agriculturist.

VITALITY OF SPANISH MOSS ON DEAD TREES.

I notice some inquiries in your 81st number relative to the vitality of the Spanish moss, after the tree has died on which it grew. The gray Spanish moss is a parasite, and doubtless draws largely on the atmosphere for its subsistence; but its vitality ceases with that of the parent tree. This would be evident to the most careless observer, did not the moss retain its gray coat long after it and the tree had ceased to vegetate. After the tree dies the moss loses its attachment and is blown off, when it is either gathered up and buried in a pit, or is covered by the drift in the swamp. In a few months the gray bark or cuticle rots and by manipulation is rubbed off, and thus makes the black moss of commerce. I have never seen the black moss hanging to any dead tree, except in a few rare instances to the sugar locust, which would not have been noticed but for its extraordinary occurrence.

W. S. BRANDON.

ARCOLA, Miss., April 12, 1855.

CABBAGES.—For the purposes of the dairy one acre of cabbages is considered to be worth three of turnips. They require to be raised from seeds sown in beds in autumn or spring, and transplanted into the field towards the end of May, or in the beginning of June, and will be ready for use in October. One pound of seed will produce 24,000 plants, and about 8,000 plants are required to an acre of ground. The beds must be well-sheltered, and have a free exposure to the

sun of the whole day. The nutritive matter of the cabbage is wholly soluble in water, that of the potato only partially so, as a great portion of the potato consists in starch. One pound (7000 grains) of drumhead cabbages, York cabbages, and green curled kale gave in grains of

	Drumhead.	York.	Kale.
Nutritive matter.....	430	430	440
Woody fiber.....	280	312	880
Water.....	6,290	6,258	5,650

Horticultural Department.

INCREASING THE SIZE OF FLOWERS.—From an exchange we learn that a horticulturist of the suburbs of Versailles, in studying the physiology of the vegetable kingdom, conceived the idea that the smallness of certain plants—the violet, for example—was owing to an atmospheric pressure too great for their delicate organs. Having fixed this idea in his mind, the florist conceived the idea of putting his theory into practice. Providing himself with a small balloon, rendered sufficiently tight to prevent the escape of any gas, he launched it into the air, having attached to it a silken cord twelve hundred meters long. Instead of a car, the balloon sustained a flower-pot of Parma violets. This experiment has been going on about two months with the most wonderful results, in the shape of violets large as Bengal roses. It is expected that the above experiment may be turned to some account.

VILLAGE CEMETERIES.

BY WILLIAM H. SCOTT, ADRIAN, MICH.

Away from the larger cities, improvement of the quiet abodes of the dead is not keeping pace with the progress of cultivation and improvement in the living. Why the large cities—who must usually of necessity bury their dead, on high-priced ground—should more liberally and more becomingly provide for the dear ones whose affection remains only in the memory, than the village and the country, where land is more abundant and labor cheaper, is a question I need not attempt to answer. There are many good reasons why there should now exist a tastefully kept burial-place contiguous to every village, and in every rural district. How many, think you, Mr. Editor, are there of this character? You may range the whole country through, and I will venture that it will not have shown you a dozen whose keeping is creditable to the wealth and supposed affection and kindred of the large portion of the community whose certain destiny it is to provide some kind of a place for the dead. Nearly every community has its church edifices—pretty much up to the means of that community, too, in convenience and decoration;—but while we are taught in them that the spirit of the good shall have a beautiful home beyond the grave, the hearer must instinctively and gloomily turn to the destiny of the mortal casement left vacant by its departure. He can not help thinking of the desolate home that barbarous custom has thought good enough for such bodies as his when the spirit shall have left it. And perhaps he can not help thinking, too, how much better the accommodation within those decorated walls for his carnal portion—whose wants the religious teacher tells him should be as nothing—than that same earthy tenement is likely to get when it can no longer sit upon the pleasant cushion. Reflections of this nature may quite naturally suggest the

thought that there must be an essential want in our education, when the most devoted of parents, children, and friends, allow the remains of their relatives to pass from their pleasant homes on earth to such dreary and desolate habitations beneath it. Here some barbarous nations may shame us.

Happily there may be traced a coincident change for the better in the school-house and the burial-place. While through the early influences of well beautified, well ventilated, and convenient school structures, opportunity is afforded for the refinement as well as health of our youth, there has been some progress from the barren "grave-yard" to the properly embellished cemetery. But this progress has been nearly all confined to the large cities. Thousands of villages in America have chosen their interment grounds almost solely with reference to first cost; scarcely with an eye to beauty of position, or with reference to protection. Generally, grounds have been chosen where water might escape, and where the sexton's spade should not find too much impediment either by stone or clay. But how many have been set off from the corner of some treeless field, whose best day of farming fruition had passed, and whose owner could find no more profitable use to put it to! A day's ride in almost any part of wealthy and cultivated New-England will usually show many cheerless spots whose purpose is surely marked by broken, leaning, and prostrate stones; by the twisted mats of decayed grass and briars; and by the cold, stately, and mocking monuments that ostentation raised to preserve that same caste in the population of the dead that the names to whose memory they were erected, strove to maintain in life. If you step over the stile, you will find as much incongruity as you are likely to find in the same space elsewhere. You will pass the stunted willows—almost the only tree-life in the spot, and they with scarcely vigor enough, even, to effectively weep. Have a careful eye to briars, and to the snakes with which your imagination at least will people a spot so congenial to their tastes. Look out, too, for the recumbent, half-visible slabs that in the first impulse of grief were made to tell such flattering tales. The virtues of the living for whom they speak, seem to have had their full posthumous reward in the flattering or warning lines of the graver's chisel; for you see no further offering to their memory—nothing else to show you that the ground below you holds something once valuable. The mound of earth has sunk to the surface level or below it, and you will readily conjecture that no shrub nor flower had ever been planted there. Advancing, occasionally, a forlorn myrtle, stunted sweet-briar, or blush rose, will supplicantly peep out at you through the dead and matted grass and weeds, as if hopeful of relief. As your eyes will be entirely open for shade, you will not overlook the more pretending balsam fir, which has found its way into the lot—as stiff and ungenial as all the rest. Here a tall picket fence, mainly white, with red tops, carefully guarding and as happily hiding what it encloses; then another, all black; then another, with white pickets and black tops. With little disposition too linger among associations so forbidding, you will gladly reach the opposite side from where you entered, and be grateful to find relief for your vision in the naked field beyond.

In one of the oldest and wealthiest towns of Connecticut, and within a mile of each other, there are two very much such spots as I have described. One is the depository of many generations, and was dedicated to the dead in a ruder and less cultivated age than the present; but the other has been in use a comparatively short time, and was purchased by wealthy people. The town has a

larger average wealth to the individual than any community within my acquaintance;—scarcely any poor people, but full of the wealth of long years of rapid accumulation by the oldest inhabitants, and the superfluity of New-York retired merchants. The two miles square whose many well improved eminences look out upon the waters of Long Island Sound, is almost all in the highest state of cultivation. Some of the best planted ornamental grounds and most elaborate architectural specimens in the country here meet the eye in quick succession. But such neglect of the dead!—the tamest and least interesting spot, receiving the smallest possible attention—treeless, shiftless. The railroad and the steamer, that every day bear home the proprietors to their comfort and luxury, should also, when this life is departed, be the medium to carry their remains to some rest less in contrast with the beauties they have enjoyed while living.

The newer portions of the country have less reason to feel ashamed of their efforts in this matter than the older States, where everything but a wrong spirit in the people seems propitious for tasteful and fitting attention to the dead; but while the latter have better material in their more picturesque and varied surface, so frequently coursed by bright little streams, the former are showing the most spirit in the selection and subsequent care of their smaller cemeteries. This should not be. All over the pleasant burial-places should show that the spirit that conceived and so elaborately carried out the idea of Greenwood, Mount Auburn, and Laurel Hill, may be extended to the suburbs of all our villages, and be profitably appropriated by all thriving farming communities away from the towns—not the extravagance and childish display which so frequently mar the beauty of those cemeteries, but the much that is refined and appropriate in them—the fine native trees so judiciously preserved; the natural effect of a variety of trees gracefully arranged; and—what these noted spots have not had sufficiently in view—a monumental architecture less pretending, showing more feeling, and in better keeping with the spirit of the spot. May I suggest, without incurring the imputation of want of due respect, that *black* is a hideous accessory in cemeteries? There is enough to remind us of somber mortality without any such black and gloomy reminder as the iron inclosures that so frequently mark out individual rights. Where *all* is carefully guarded, there can be no use for such fences. Cheerfulness and warmth should be constantly in view; their is no want of respectful dignity in either. Anybody but a misanthrope would choose the living beauties of green trees and bright flowers to cheer the place of his rest. If any barrier may be used to mark lot-boundaries, it should be some plant of modest growth, or one easily controlled by the use of the pruning-knife. Most hedge plants grow too large and rank, and unless cut very close, would soon altogether hide all modest plants within. Something smaller—as the Burgundy rose, or the box—is more appropriate.

The error of most private grounds—crowded planting—extends to the cemetery. Variety of anything of the tree kind is quite out of the question in the usually small lots. When the spirit of tree-planting seizes one in the first genial days of spring, he is tempted to anticipate time's rapid progress by a very profuse use of trees; and where there is scarcely room for one well developed tree, half a dozen or more uncongenial striplings gratify the planter's present eye at a sacrifice of all future good effect. Better prepare the ground well for one good tree, and make that show how much luxuriance and beauty may be attained. Almost any of the forest

trees may be used successfully in the cemetery. They should always be taken from open ground in the field, hedge-row, or nursery; never from close woods. If the ground selected be so fortunate as to have thrifty second-growth young Hickories, it has what can not easily be got by transplanting. If nature has favored it with but few specimens, they should be judiciously preserved; for there is no tree of equal beauty more difficult to remove. But the same characteristic that produces the difficulty, is a marked virtue for cemetery adornment which renders it valuable. Its long tap root, that finds its way into the earth, supplies, in the driest seasons, sufficient moisture to preserve an unfading foliage; while the absence of lateral roots near the surface allows no obstruction to roots of grass. The smooth clipped turf may grow as thriftily next the body of the tree as away from it. No roots, either, to be molested by the sexton's spade. A beautiful effect may be produced by planting handsome vines, to climb the trunks of the trees. The climbing Roses, which have very greedy roots, would grow nearly as well by the side of a Hickory, if the ground was made rich, as in the open ground; while if planted by the side of an Elm, it would find its long horizontal roots quite in the way. I do not speak of the Hickory to the exclusion of others, but only as a very common undomesticated tree, and too little valued as an ornamental shade. The greater variety of really good trees a cemetery can have, the better. The Elm is a more graceful as well as a more majestic tree. The peculiar green of the White Ash upon its well rounded head gives variety of foliage. The Oak family have an imposing and characteristic dignity; and there is a long list of other good trees, each having its merit. There are the trees of the continual green; and there are those, too, that, destined to part with it, assume the not less beautiful and appropriate hues in which advancing autumn never fails to clothe them. There is a higher beauty, even, in the soft and richly blended, ever-varying tints of the later year, than in the more even verdure of June. Hence the merit of that large class of trees that so persistently defy the frosts. Those common trees, the Dogwood and the Sassafras, then have beauty enough to win that attention that their earlier modesty could not. The beautiful Virginia Creeper, which possesses among the vines this autumn glory in a marked degree, might be made to atone somewhat for the want of it in the suddenly denuded Hickory.

As it is almost always desirable to select ground at least partially covered with natural forest, a matter of next importance is a judicious selection of Grasses. In our own very prettily wooded cemetery, the result of much labor in seeding under the young second-growth trees has been discouraging, and only from ignorance of the fact that only a few domesticated Grasses thrive under trees. The more generally used are the least suitable—such as Timothy and Red Clover. Orchard Grass is far better.

But I will not prolong what was only commenced as a reminder of the attention due to what should be a leading matter connected with horticultural improvement. For lack of the well beautified public grounds that every town should have, our cemeteries may be made delightful places of resort for all citizens who choose to pass a pleasant and quiet hour away from care and confinement. Almost every village may find some wild spot capable of ready adaption to such use. If swamp or rock does not make too large a portion, the wilder, the better. In cemeteries, as in private grounds, forest trees are quite the most effective and economical form of embellishment.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, April 26.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

ENGLISH HORSES IN THE CRIMEA.

WE notice articles going the rounds of the agricultural press, stating that the reason English horses have proved so worthless in the Crimea is, they have "too much race-horse blood in them." This is an erroneous assumption, and is not the real reason. We do not care how much racing blood a cavalry horse has in him, provided he has been properly bred; and the more blood he has, we contend, the better he will be for it.

What is *blood*, in the horseman's acceptance of the term? It is the finest, strongest, and most ivory-like bone; the hardest, toughest, and most elastic of sinews and muscle; the best wind and greatest endurance; the highest courage; the greatest speed and endurance for its size; in short, the finest and best possible moral and physical development of that noble species of animal—the horse.

The true reason why English horses have not endured equal to the French and some others is, that they are too delicately reared and high fed for rough campaigning. But gradually season them to it, and they will go through any thing that horse-flesh is capable of. If part bred horses were more roughly reared in England—say something like Welch ponies—they would endure an open winter campaign in the Crimea with as little suffering as the French or Cossack horses.

The stables in England are made very warm and close—too much so. They are generally built of brick or stone, with perfectly tight roofs, and are often lathed and plastered. In addition to this, the horse is very warmly blanketed, summer as well as winter, groomed in the finest manner, and regularly fed the best of grain, hay, or grass. Under such artificial treatment he becomes momentarily delicate, the same as man does in tight, warm houses, with thick, warm clothing, and a luxurious table. Now take horses thus reared and turn them out, exposed to wind, rain, sleet and snow, with the cold ground for a bed, and the open sky for a canopy; days perhaps without food, and even the little they then get of a damaged or

inferior quality; over-worked and ungroomed; would not sickness be expected as a natural consequence from such a sudden change to their rough treatment? This is even more than a hardy, rough Cossack or Tartar horse can endure, for it is well known that many of them have also perished in the past winter campaign in the Crimea. The French horses and soldiers have been taken better care of than the English in the Crimea, and this is the principal reason why they have suffered so much less; though the circumstance of their hardier rearing has doubtless been somewhat in their favor. But rear a Polar bear as English horses are reared, and then abruptly turn him out to rough it in a Crimean winter, and see if he does not suffer materially from the cold weather; yet if gradually inured to it he would, after proper seasoning, become as hardy as any of his Polar bred and reared kindred.

BACK NUMBERS from the beginning of this volume (March 15), can still be supplied to new or renewing subscribers. We are pleased to find, by an examination of our books, that scarcely fifty subscribers have failed to renew, out of the large number whose time expired at the close of the last volume. This is the best evidence that our efforts are appreciated, and acts as a stimulus to future exertion.

BOOKS FOR THE GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

Next to the blessedness of having a bit of earth to call your own, is that of having a practical treatise to tell you how to cultivate and improve it. A man who would go miles to see a gardener or fruit-grower, to learn the best method of growing a plant or tree, would not, perhaps, open a book containing the same information more fully and clearly stated. We are glad to see the multiplication of books upon rural affairs, and we, who were stunted in our boyhood to the very brief agricultural hints found in the Farmers' Almanac, really envy the young farmers of this generation, who have handsome duodecimos, and octavos even, illumined with splendid drawings of trees, fruits and flowers for their edification. If we ever wish to be young again, it is to improve the comparative leisure of youth in gaining that knowledge of the garden, the orchard, and the farm, which the press is continually sending out upon the world. Our best gardeners and fruit-growers are now writers for the public, embodying their experience of long years, in agricultural journals and text-books, so that a novice in the manipulation of the soil, if he will avail himself of their teachings, may, in a few years, become skilled in all the mysteries of cultivation.

A friend of ours, who says he takes agricultural papers and buys books to save postage, has the right view of this subject. You will really obtain more practical knowledge of cultivation from almost any of the volumes issued from the agricultural press, or from a year's file of a good agricultural journal, than you could gain from ten times their cost expended in correspondence with the

best farmers and fruit-growers in the country; saying nothing of your own time spent in the effort.

The time of seed-sowing in the garden has already come, and now is the time to take counsel, and lay out your plans for the season.

WE call special attention to the advertisement "Home on a farm wanted." The advertiser has ample references, and will be a pleasant addition to the family of some intelligent practical farmer.

FAST TROTTING AND RUNNING.

WHAT A HORSE CAN DO.

We believe the fastest trotting done in this country, was by Tacony, under the saddle—one mile in two minutes and twenty-five and a half seconds.

The fastest running was:

Lexington, four miles, ...	7m. 19½s.
Lecomte, " " ...	7m. 22½s.
Fashion, " " ...	7m. 32½s.
Geo. Martin, " " ...	7m. 33s.

Several others have nearly equaled the latter's time. The great four mile race between Henry and Eclipse, on Long Island, was done in 7m. 37s. Lexington and Lecomte ran at New Orleans last month. The first time, 7m. 19½s., was by the former running alone against time. The second, of 7m. 22½s., was a match run between Lexington and Lecomte, in which the former was victorious.

It must be recollected that the New Orleans track is very elastic, and is considered several seconds faster than the Union Course on Long Island. Perhaps on that, Lexington and Lecomte would have made no better time than Fashion and Boston did, at their celebrated race in 7m. 32½s. Boston is the sire of the Lexington above.

A SHORT STORY.

Young Wing, the son of Loo Chung, was a citizen of the Celestial Empire, and lived on the banks of the river Min. His ancestors for many generations back had been employed in the cultivation of Tea; and this employment, as it were, hereditary, at last fell to the fortune of Yung Wing. In the early history of China, while agriculture was yet unsettled, the true nature and treatment of this plant was very imperfectly understood; but, at last, time brought to light several new modes of culture, which, while they required less labor, were far more productive.

Now, the wiser class of citizens not only favored these discoveries themselves, but also sought to make them known among their countrymen. They even went so far as to write books abounding in much instruction and experience. But what had books to do with raising tea! So thought Yung Wing. And when his friends told him what they were doing, and what improvement they had made, beseeching him to listen to reason, and imitate their example, he only replied:

"Custom is my law. Her lessons are sure, and must not be set aside. Shall he

who has been taught the experience of centuries, now hearken to the dogmas of an hour? No! by Confucius! Never be it recorded in the annals of China, that the vast and accumulated wisdom of the Wings was first set at nought through the folly of their son Yung!"

So saying, he filled his mouth with opium, and thanked his little gods that the wisdom of Confucius was still alive. *

WEATHER, WHEAT, &c., IN CENTRAL NEW-YORK.—Our correspondent, N'Importe, writing from Waterloo (Seneca Co., N. Y.) under date of April 23d, says:

Our peach trees are all but done for, I fear, to the end of their lives, and new ones will have to take their places. We have at last fine weather for the season, and every farmer is plowing. On Thursday night and Friday last, we had the first continuous rain in ten months.

All agree that wheat never looked so well on the ground before at this season.

FLOUR.—The Buffalo Republic rebukes the croaking about the scarcity of flour at present in the country, and states that it is in possession of information which fully warrants the expectation that the following quantities will arrive at that port this season:

From Lake Michigan	650,000 bbls.
From Detroit	125,000 "
From Toledo	100,000 "
From Cleveland	50,000 "

Total 925,000 bbls.

The Republic adds that it had no means of estimating the amount that will be received from Canada, in addition to the above, but learns from gentlemen whose means of information are extensive, that it will not be less than 250,000 barrels, and may be four times that amount.

BLAK-FOOT, OR HOOF-AIL.

The Ogdensburg Sentinel says:

"The cattle in this vicinity are suffering severely from the black-foot, or hoof-ail. We hear of many farmers who have lost ten, fifteen and twenty head during the winter and spring. The disease has made frightful havoc among the dairies, and in anticipation of a short crop of butter at some future period, the price has advanced beyond the reach of short purses. The quotations ought to frighten a millionaire."

Several of our cattle were badly affected with the hoof-ail in the month of March, some seventeen years ago. They had been fed more or less coarse hay all winter, which grew on a wet meadow. Upon closely examining this hay, we found ergot in it. We attributed the foot-ail to this poisonous substance. We immediately stopped feeding this hay, and substituted timothy and clover entirely for it. We then washed the cattle's feet affected in warm soap-suds, smeared with tar, and gave them small doses of sulphur daily in a little meal. They got well rapidly; and as we have not allowed them to feed on hay cut from this meadow since, we have seen no more of the foot-ail.

We lost several swine and fowls one season from feeding them the screenings of rye and other grain, in which, upon subsequent investigation, we found ergot.

PLOWING WITH THE ELEPHANT—DOCTORING THE LAND—DISSOLVING BONES.

It is well known that many have occasionally "seen the Elephant" to their great cost and chagrin; but as to plowing with him, we, believe Mr. Barnum is the first who has effectually made the experiment in this country. Being curious to know how this succeeded, we wrote him a note of inquiry, to which we promptly received the following characteristic reply:

BRIDGEPORT, April 21, 1855.

DEAR SIR: The Elephant has been at work on my farm a little over one week. He takes the subsoil plow and drives it down 16 to 21 inches, in a tight, hard sward, and moves so fast and easily, that it is hard to realize that he has any thing attached to him. He walks nearly twice as fast as a horse, and plows as correctly as the best broken team in the world. His attendant sometimes rides him, and sometimes walks (fast) by his side, while another man holds the plow. He also draws carts, stone-boats, (drags), loads wood, piles timber, picks up stones, and makes himself generally useful about the farm.

As for the profit of farming with elephants, I have not taken that part into consideration, and probably shall not, though at a "rough guess," I should think, all things considered, oxen, horses, or mules would be quite as economical on a farm as elephants. But of this, I will leave the public to judge for itself, when I inform them that he eats three pecks of oats per day, and about 200 lbs. of hay. The one I use is as docile as a cow, yet this is not always the case.

In answer to your inquiry I will say that my "salts doctoring" works well, and my wheat and grass already show that the physician has had a good effect.

I have dissolved several tons of bones with oil of vitriol, and doubt not the result will be excellent.

Deep plowing, draining, and fertilizers are the true investments of the farmer who loves to see large and rich crops. Every man should this year sow and plant all the land that is tillable. If this is not done, another drouth would give us a famine.

P. T. BARNUM.

For the American Agriculturist.

COTTAGE UPHOLSTERY.

USEFUL HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

IN the various suggestions made through your excellent paper for the improvement of our homes, I have been most interested in that which relates to the furniture within doors. By furniture, I do not mean covering the floors with tapestry or velvet, nor arranging brocatelle and damask, ormulu and bubble, so as to produce a gorgeous and striking, if not always tasteful, effect. All this I leave to the denizens of the Fifth-avenue and the palaces upon the Hudson, where money, if not the handmaid of taste, has the privilege of purchasing the creations of genius. But in farm-houses or country-villages, remote from cabinet-maker and upholsterer—with no money to spare for either—if the wife and mother does not exert her own ingenuity, her house will be but scantily and uncomfortably furnished.

How easily may a lounge be constructed, by nailing four boards together, and tacking strong pieces of factory muslin over it; then stuffing the top with cut straw or tow. And, by covering it with furniture-cloth or shil-

ling calico, a neat and comfortable sofa may be constructed, upon which the husband and father may recline when wearied with the toils of the day, without danger of being called to account for bringing his feet to a level with his head—which might happen if the materials of which his couch are composed were more expensive or less washable. How frequently, in reply to the eager questions of visitors as to where I procured those "beautiful ottomans," am I compelled, by turning them bottom upwards, to prove that they are only a barrel cut in two, and after being interlaced over the top, are stuffed and covered with morocco—thus forming a neat and appropriate parlor ornament.

The comfort of bed-chambers may be much enhanced by couches constructed of scantling nailed so as to form a frame-work with four plain legs, thus making a portable bed, suitable for children; and, in time of sickness, convenient for grown persons, taking less room and without being as unsightly as the ordinary cot bed.

I might fill pages with descriptions of home-made furniture, by which any lady of ordinary tact and ingenuity could, with slight assistance from the village carpenter—or, better yet, from her husband and sons—greatly improve the appearance of her house, adding to the comfort, and consequently to the happiness, of its inmates. But my hour has expired, and possibly I may again resume the theme. ELIZA.

We thank our fair correspondent for the above suggestions, and hope she will frequently favor us with similar communications.

A little ingenuity exercised on the part of housekeepers, with, or even without, the assistance of their other halves, would add much to the comfort, convenience and neatness of our dwellings. We will add, to what is given above, an instance or two coming under our own immediate observation.

A common packing-box for boots—about 3 feet long, 15 or 18 inches high, and 14 inches wide—is covered upon the sides with a sheet of cotton batting, and over this is placed furniture-calico, gathered at the top like bed valancing, and hanging to the floor. The lid of the box is fastened at one side with hinges made of leather strips (from a boot top). Upon this lid is a cushion, made by putting on some 2½ inches of fine hay, separated by one or two pieces of worn calico or cotton from some cotton batting over it. A covering of cotton cloth is brought over the edges and nailed upon the inside of the lid or cover, and this again covered with furniture-calico nailed down to the edges. A gathered fringe or flounce of the same material is then tacked upon the edge, and hangs down some three or four inches, so as to entirely hide the opening of the box. The whole cost of such a seat does not exceed fifty cents, and one or more of them placed in the kitchen, dining and other rooms, add to the good appearance, furnish excellent seats for two, and form a very good closet or chest for the reception of a great variety of articles.

An ingenious, economical person will, in

getting up these articles, turn to account for cushions, coverings, etc., a variety of materials, such as dresses, bed-spreads, and comforters, &c., that have been accidentally soiled or injured in some part. Any common chest or trunk may be covered in the same way.

We have seen a fine plaster cast of the "Child at Prayer," standing upon a very neat pedestal that, if closely examined, would be found to consist of a square soap-box, with pieces of a "comforter" upon the sides and top, for a frame-work, and the cover, quilted cushion, and fringe or flounces, supplied from a white spread or counterpane.

We might add several other examples of a similar character, but will leave the subject to our lady correspondents. A plain description of any convenient household article, which is not adopted by all your neighbors, will furnish useful suggestions to at least some of the thousands of readers of the *American Agriculturist* elsewhere.

POPULAR FALLACIES—MORNING WALKS.

Hall's Journal of Health, a monthly periodical, published in this city, at one dollar a year, contains more practical common-sense articles, written in a plain popular style, than any similar work we are acquainted with. It aims at uprooting popular fallacies in regard to health, by applying to them common-sense reasonings, adapted to the popular mind. We have just read through the April number, and, had we space, would copy the whole for the benefit of our readers, whom we advise to become subscribers to that journal. Though somewhat long, we will insert the first article, with the endorsement that it is not only compatible with reason, but it agrees entirely with our own experience and observation. A morning walk or much exercise before bracing up the system with a meal, has always unfitted us for strong mental exercise for that day. We have felt this more sensibly when, as often happens, we have been detained upon the water by the late arrival of a night steamer. The coolness of the water is peculiarly fitted to condense near its surface the malaria and noxious vapors from the higher ærial regions. But read what the Journal of Health says:

It is a great mistake, that a morning walk or other form of exercise before breakfast is healthful; the malaria which rests on the earth about sunrise in summer, when taken into the lungs and stomach, which are equally debilitated with other portions of the body from the long fast since supper, is very readily absorbed and enters the circulation within an hour or two, poisoning the blood, and laying the foundation for troublesome diseases; while in winter the same debilitated condition of these vital organs readily allows the blood to be chilled, and thus renders the system susceptible of taking cold, with all its varied and too often disastrous results.

I do not wish to dismiss the statement which I have made with a simple assertion. The denial of what is almost universally considered a truth so palpable, as scarcely to admit of proof, may well challenge investigation. Besides, I do not want the regular readers of the Journal to have their memories crowded with abstract precepts

and pithy saws about health; I desire them, on the contrary, to become masters of general principles, to know and to understand the reason of things; then, these things can be remembered without an effort, while the principle being known, a very varied application is easily made and practically observed, a striking example of which is given in the March number, in reference to the prompt cure of poisons and bites and stings of insects and reptiles by the employment of familiar articles of kitchen use.

What I shall say on the subject of morning exercise is intended to apply mainly to all sedentary persons, those whose employment is chiefly in-doors. And here I will simply appeal to the actual experience of any sedentary reader if he has not before now noticed when he has been induced from some extraordinary reason to take active exercise before breakfast on some bright summer morning, that he felt rather a less relish for his food than usual; in fact had no appetite at all; there was a certain sickishness of feeling, with a sensation of debility by no means agreeable. It will be said here, this was because it was unusual, that if followed up these feelings would gradually disappear. If that is so, it is but a negative proof, for the system naturally has an inherent resisting power called into action by hurtful appliances. A teaspoon of brandy will produce slight symptoms of lightness of head in some persons if taken before breakfast, but if continued, the same amount will, after a while, produce no appreciable discomfort; the eases are precisely parallel; that a man gets used to drinking brandy is no proof that it does not injure him.

Another person will remind me that the early air of a summer's morning seems so balmy and refreshing, so cool and delightful, that it can not be otherwise than healthful. That is begging the question; it is a statement known by scientific observers to be not simply untrue, but to be absolutely false. It is a common observation in New-Orleans, where I lived a number of years, by those who remain in the city during the raging of the yellow fever, that when the air of mornings and evenings appears to be unusually delicious, so clear and cool and refreshing, it is a forerunner of an increase of the epidemic. Like the deceitful Syren, it destroys while it lures.

The fruitful cause of fevers and other epidemics in southern climes is the decomposition of vegetable matter: the ranker and more dense the vegetation, the more deadly are the diseases of that locality; this decomposition cannot take place without moisture and heat approaching ninety degrees of Fahrenheit. We are all familiar with the sad fact, that thousands upon thousands who have endured the hardships of mining in California have taken the "*Isthmus fever*" on their return, and lingered and died. From the first discovery of gold in the Sacramento valley the newspaper press was united in its cautions against the almost certain death attendant on sleeping at Chagres a single night, and even now it is considered one of the most important effects of the railroad *finished across the isthmus*, that passengers do not land at all at Aspinwall, but get into the cars at once and cross to Panama, where a steamer is always in waiting to receive passengers for San Francisco, thus avoiding a night on the isthmus. Before the removal of the landing from Chagres to Aspinwall, it became common to make arrangements to remain on board the steamers until the passengers were ready to start immediately for Panama. All these precautions forced themselves on public attention. Now why was all this? Simply to avoid breathing the concentrated malaria arising from such immeasurable quantities of decaying vegetation

shooting out of swamps and stagnant marshes, and so dense as to make penetration by man or beast impracticable.

The night was more dreaded than the day, for the following reason: The great heat of the sun caused a rapid evaporation of the malaria, rarifying it to such a degree that it almost instantaneously ascended to the upper atmosphere after the first morning hours; but in the course of the day, when the sun declines in power, these vapors gradually condense, get heavier, and fall to the earth, thus giving the layer of air within fifteen feet of the surface, a density and concentration of malaria malignantly fatal; while in the morning this density is not diminished until the sun has gained some power.

The older citizens of Charleston will tell you, that in early years, it was certain death for a stranger to sleep in the city one night, that during the most violent ragings of epidemics, citizens themselves would not go to town to attend to necessary business, except at noon-day, the hottest portion of the twenty-four hours, because, then the malaria was most rarified and found by observation to be least hurtful. Few knew the reason, but the fact was so palpable, that its propriety enforced practical attention.

In the old books which treat of the terrible plagues which depopulated the large cities in the middle and earlier ages, the people who could not leave town, retreated to the upper stories of their dwellings, and would not come down to purchase necessary marketing from the country people, but would let down baskets by ropes, and draw up their provisions, and thus escaped with impunity, to a considerable extent; these were the practical results which followed the observation of actual facts, by a comparatively rude and unthinking age, and we unfortunates of the nineteenth century, who cannot leave the city in summer, but must have our noses always at the grindstone, whose mills stop when absent for a single day; we doctors, who never have a leisure day or night, or hour, who always have a greater or less number who are looking up to us for life; looking to the hour of our anticipated visit as the happiest of the whole twenty-four; and we poorer Editors, who could not go if we would, otherwise our children would go supperless to bed: I say, we all may gather a practical lesson of great value from the customs of those of a far ruder age, a lesson which if learned well, and acted on, would save to us many a darling child, many a life's only hope, many a poor heart's only comfort—thus

Never allow your children to leave the second or third story in the morning until they have had a plain hearty breakfast; and send them up stairs within half-an-hour after sun-down, or give them their supper at sun-down: these observances ought to be adhered to from May until October in the North, and from April to November in the South. A rigid attention to this, would prevent at once, half the diarrheas and summer complaints, and croups which desolate our hearths and hearts so often in summer time in the city.

It is a striking argument for the perversity of human nature, and one which often forces itself upon the attention of observant men, that we bolt a concentrated untruth without wincing, while what is true, with all its simplicity and beauty, and usefulness, is disputed inch by inch, with a suspiciousness and a pertinacity most remarkable.

So it will be, I have no doubt, with the sentiment I have advanced; instead of being received, and acted upon, many a mind will be busied in finding an argument against it, instead of considering the force of the proof offered for it, just as we all many times have observed when ordinary minds are engaged in

an argument, it will occur in perhaps nine cases out of ten, that the listener's whole attention is occupied in casting about for an objection or new proof, instead of weighing the argument of the speaker; consequently, at the end of the dispute, neither party is a whit the wiser, but rather more confirmed in his previous opinion, from the fact that no argument or proof to the contrary was allowed a hearing. I will just step aside a moment here to make a useful suggestion, for being "free born," and in a remarkably "free country," so said at least; so free indeed, that if you differ from anybody else upon any subject, or fail to walk in the exact track of your predecessors, or do or say anything different to Mr. Everybody, you are considered a ninny, or a mule; being as I have just said, a citizen of this remarkably free and tolerant country, why should I be bound to stick to the literal text for six or eight pages; persons meandering along the cow paths in the woods, like to step aside occasionally and pick an inviting flower, which otherwise would have wasted its sweetness on snakes, lizards, and spiders; so I step aside from my consideration of disease and malaria, and cull a flower for my reader, relative to argumentation. It is such an important truth, so easily practised, would save so many hard words, and harder thoughts, so many wounded feelings, so much love's labor lost, and by the way accomplish so much good, that I think it is worth the whole year's subscription price to the Journal—it is this:

If you want to convince anybody of anything, argue alone.

Having delivered ourselves of this great and useful apothegm, we will resume the thread of the argument, taking it for granted that the reader has not forgot the subject matter of discussion, it being so imaginatively beautiful—a summer morning's walk. It sounds charmingly, it brings with its mere mention, recollections so mournfully pleasing, or associations so delightful, that we long for the realization, at least until "sun-up" to-morrow, then what a change! we would not give one half-awake good stretch, one five minutes' second nap, for all the summer morning walks of a whole year. Who does not feel that the *vis inertia* of the first waking moments of a May morning, is worth more than a dozen rambles before breakfast. I am for the largest liberty of enjoyment; I am not among the multitude of weak-minded folk, the negative sort of minds, to discard what is good to eat or drink, or enjoy, for no other reason, than that I can perceive, than that it is good, and a cross is meritorious. One man says tea is injurious; another Solomon avers that coffee makes people bilious, a third, and he a Broadway author too, has written a whole book to prove that if we eat wheat bread, it will make our bones brittle, and that if we live to get old at all, the first time we fall, we'll break all to pieces like a clay pipe-stem. Verily this is a free country, for if everybody is to be believed, we are free to eat nothing at all. So I do not advise a denial of that most deliciously enjoyable entity, a summer morning's nap, because it is for the reasons I have just named, more healthful than the so lauded "*exercise before breakfast*;" if you must remain in bed until breakfast, or be out in the open air an hour or two before breakfast, on an empty stomach, then I say, as far as health is concerned, the nap is better than the exercise, for the incontrovertible reasons I have already given.

It requires no argument to prove the impurity of a city atmosphere about sunrise and sunset, reeking, as it must, with the odors of thousands of kitchens and cess-pools, to say nothing of the innumerable piles of garbage which the improvident poor

allow to accumulate in front of their dwellings, in their back yards and their cellars; any citizen may satisfy himself as to the existence of noisome fumes by a summer evening's walk along any of our by-streets; and although the air is cooler in the mornings, yet the more hurtful of these malaria saturate it, but of such a subtle nature are they, that no microscopic observation, no chemical analysis, has as yet been able to detect, in an atmosphere thus impregnated, any substance or subsistence to which these deadly influences might be traced, so subtle is the poison, so impalpable its nature; but invisible, untraceable as it may be, its influence is certain and immediate, its effects deadly.

Some will say, look how healthy the farmer's boy is, and the daily laborers, who go to their work from one year's end to another by "crack of dawn!" My reply is, if they are healthy, they are so in spite of these exposures; their simple fare, their regular lives, and their out-door industry, give their bodies a tone, a vigor, a capability of resisting disease, which nullifies the action of malaria to a very considerable extent. Besides, women live as long as men, and it cannot be said that they generally exercise out of doors before breakfast.

Our Knickerbocker ancestry! the very mention of them suggests—fat! a double fatness in fact—fat as to body and fat as to purse; if you catch hold of one of them, instead of getting a little pinch of thin skin, as you would from a lean Yankee, you clutch whole rolls of fat, solid fat—what substantial people the real, identical, original old Knicks are! how long they live too! expectant sons-in-law echo, sighingly, "*how long!*" in fact, I do not recollect of their dying at all, at least as we do; they simply ooze out, or sleep away. May we not inquire if there is not at least some connection between their health as a class, and the very general habit of the sons here, derived from their sires in fatherland, of eating breakfast by candle-light? Another very significant fact in point is, that the French in the south are longer lived, and suffer far less from the fevers of the country than their American neighbors; in truth, their exemption is proverbial; and as a class they have their coffee and boiled milk, half and half, with sugar, brought to their bedsides every morning, or take it before they leave the house.

It is not an uncommon thing for persons to go west to select a new home for their rising families, never to return: "*took sick and died*;" this is the sad and comprehensive statement of the widowed and the fatherless, owing doubtless, in many instances, to their traveling on horseback early in the morning and late in the evening, in order to avoid the heat of the day.

Many a traveler will save his life by taking a warm and hearty breakfast before starting in the morning, and by putting up for the night not later than sundown.

It is of considerable practical importance to answer the question, why more persons have died in "the States" from Isthmus fever than in California? Simply, because on their way out, their bodies are comparatively vigorous, and there is in addition a degree of mental and moral excitement, which repels disease; but on the return, it is strikingly different; the body is wasted by hardship and privation, while the spirit is broken by disappointment, or the mind falls into a species of exhaustion, when successful, from the long and anxious strife for gold: both causes operating, one to weaken the body, the other to take away all mental elasticity, it is no wonder that the whole man becomes an easy prey to disease.

In subsequent numbers I may discuss other "POPULAR FALLACIES" in reference to the

all-important subject of health. A whole number could be easily filled with them; but it was not my intention to tell too much at once, it would not be remembered; and then again, Wifey has several times given a gentle but a very decided admonition, "*Thy Journal reads very well, William, but I am afraid thee will give out.*" I have, however, a ready quietus to these groundless apprehensions, in a basket under my table, well filled with scraps, each of which affords matter for a leading editorial. The truth is, when I think it all over, the world has so many things to learn and unlearn, I am afraid I will get gray—what a delightful Tense that is—before I can set it right at all points, my ideas of right, and propriety, and truth, being considered the standard! What a vain creature is poor know-nothing man! how little indeed does the wisest of us rightly and truly know!

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

THE WORLD WOULD BE THE BETTER FOR IT.

If men cared less for wealth and fame,
And less for battle-fields and glory;
If writ in human hearts, a name
Seemed better than in song and story;
If men, instead of nursing pride,
Would learn to hate it and abhor it—
If more relied
On Love to guide,
The world would be the better for it.

If men dealt less in stocks and lands,
And more in bonds and deeds fraternal;
If Love's work had more willing hands
To link this world to the supernal;
If men stored up Love's oil and wine,
And on bruised human hearts would pour it;
If "yours" and "mine"
Would once combine,
The world would be the better for it.

If more would act the play of Life,
And fewer spoil it in rehearsal;
If Bigotry would sheath its knife
Till Good became more universal;
If custom, gray with ages grown,
Had fewer blind men to adore it—
If talent shone
In Truth alone,
The world would be the better for it.

If men were wise in little things—
Affecting less in all their dealings;
If hearts had fewer rusted strings
To isolate their kindly feelings;
If men, when Wrong beats down the Right,
Would strike together and restore it—
If Right made Might
In every fight,
The world would be the better for it.

GETTING MARRIED.—It is curious to some to note how people's ideas of preparation for this species of amusement vary. Moze and Lize "take a notion" to each other. Moze buys a second-hand bedstead, three wooden chairs, a table, a small looking-glass and a light stand; while Lize provides a hen feather bed, four sheets and two coverlids, a table-cloth, six towels, some little arrangements, with a disposition to make the best of everything forthwith; two dollars are paid for the minister's blessing upon their joint adventure on housekeeping; the scene whereof is a three-story back room, with a seven-by-nine chamber attached, where the first baby is born soon after the parents are of age. Mr. Count-the-cost, on the other hand, never thinking of the matter until he is thirty, courts Miss Prudence for fourteen years, perpetually putting off the "happy day," because he hadn't got quite enough to buy a nine-storied marble front on Style

street, and furnish two suits of reception rooms in ebony and silver; preferring (for such acquisition) to wait until both are too old—almost to be glad the suspense is ended. They get the big house, have a grand wedding, a great many enemies, a few friends, and no children. After two sumptuous funerals, and a long lawsuit, the property is at length equally divided between the "Timbuctoo Female Moral Reform Association," and the lawyers, who contest the will in behalf of a blind cousin, who fights it on the ground of "insanity," alleging the long courtship of the parties as evidence thereof. The cousin being at length ruined, the "Timbuctoo" directors compromise by paying the opposing counsel's fees and costs, and the marble front, with all its belongings, is converted into cash. Ten years afterward the books of the sexton, and the stone in the cemetery, are the only records of the existence of Mr. Count-the-cost and his forgotten bride. Funny world, very.—*Warcester Transcript.*

A DROVE OF "IRISH BULLS."

The following piece of "composition" may be "backed" against any thing ever produced. It was written half a century ago by Sir Boyle Roche, a member of the Irish Parliament, in the "Troublous Times of 'Ninety-Eight," when a handful of men, from the County of Wexford, struck terror into the hearts of many gallant sons of Mars, as well as the worthy writer himself. The letter was addressed to a friend in London; and it is old enough to be new to nine in ten of our readers:

"My Dear Sir—Having now a little peace and quietness, I sit down to inform you of the dreadful bustle and confusion we are all in from these blood-thirsty rebels, most of whom are (thank God!) killed and dispersed. We are in a pretty mess; can get nothing to eat, nor any wine to drink, except whiskey; and when we sit down to dinner we are obliged to keep both hands armed. While I write this, I hold a sword in each hand, and a pistol in the other.

"I concluded from the beginning that this would be the end of it, and I see I was right; for it is not half over yet. At present are such goings-on, that every thing is at a stand-still. I should have answered your letter a fortnight ago; but I did not receive it until this morning. Indeed, scarcely a mail arrives safe without being robbed. No longer ago than yesterday, the coach with the mails from Dublin was robbed near this town. The bags had been judiciously left behind, for fear of accident; and by good luck there was nobody in it but two outside passengers, who had nothing for the thieves to take. Last Thursday notice was given that a gang of rebels was advancing here under the French standard, but they had no colors, nor any drums except bagpipes.

"Immediately every man in the place, including women and children, ran out to meet them. We soon found our force much too little; we were too near to think of retreating. Death was in every face, but to it we went, and by the time half our little party were killed, we began to be all alive again. Fortunately, the rebels had no guns, except pistols and pikes, and as we had plenty of muskets and ammunition, we put them all to the sword. Not a soul of them escaped except some that were drowned in an adjacent bog; and in a very short time, nothing was to be heard but silence. Their uniforms were all different colors, but mostly green. After the action, we went to rummage a sort of camp, which they had left behind them. All we found was a few pikes without heads a parcel of empty bottles full of water, and a bundle of French commis-

sions filled with Irish names. Troops are now stationed all round the country, which exactly squares with my ideas. I have only time to add that I am in a great haste.

"P. S.—If you do not receive this, of course it must have miscarried, therefore I beg you will write to let me know!"

PRETTY WOMEN AND POLITENESS.

A talented lady who "writes for the papers," speaks thus of city railway cars: "The seats of the car were all occupied—crowded, yet the conductor stopped for me. Not wishing to disturb those who were seated, I was intending to stand, but a gentleman up at the far end arose and insisted upon my taking his seat. Being very tired, I thanked him and obeyed. Presently a lady, much younger, much prettier, and much better dressed than myself, entered the car. No less than four gentlemen arose instantly, offering her a seat. She smiled sweetly and unaffectedly, and thanking the gentleman who urged the nearest seat to her she seated herself with a peculiar grace of manner. She had one of those faces Raphael was always painting—touchingly sweet and expressive. A little after this young beauty had taken her seat, a poor woman, looking very thin and very pale, with that care-worn, haggard look that poverty, and sorrow, and hard labor always give, came in. She might have been one of those poor seamstresses who work like slaves and—starve for their labor. She was thin and meanly clad, and seemed weak and exhausted. She had evidently no sixpence to throw away, and came in the car not to stand, but to rest while she was helped on in her journey. While she was meekly standing for the moment, none of the gentlemen (!) offering to rise, Raphael's angel, with sweet reproving eyes, looked on those who had so officiously offered her a seat, and seeing none of them attempt to move and just as I myself was rising to give the poor old lady a seat, she arose and insisted upon the woman taking her seat. It was all the work of but a moment: and the look of grateful surprize the old woman gave her, and the glance of sweet pity the beautiful girl bestowed on the woman as she yields her seat, and the evident consternation of the broadcloth individuals, who were manifestly put to shame—all were to me irresistibly interesting and instructive. One of these same broadcloth wearers, apparently overpowered with confusion, got up and left the car, and Raphael's angel took his vacant seat."

SOLD.—Two well known gentlemen of Detroit were slightly "done for" on the Saturday morning train, coming from Niagara to this city. Having grown weary with the ennui of the journey, on their arrival at London they concluded they would obtain a pack of cards for their amusement. Accordingly a boy was dispatched with a three dollar bill to purchase the desired article. The time had nearly arrived for the cars to start, but the boy did not make his appearance. The gentlemen got uneasy—one of them stepped to the platform and discovered the roguish youth peeping slyly round the corner of a building. Our friend began to smell the rat, and was about to leave the train and chastise the roguish messenger when the bell sounded—it was too late—he was obliged to content himself with a violent shake of his fist at the boy, who coolly applied his thumb to his nose, and cried out—"does your mother know you're out."—*Detroit Ad.*

The parent who would train up a child in the way he should go, must go the way he would train up his child.

PERICLES.—The anecdote is well known of the young man in Boston whom Dr. Bethune overtook as he was walking to the Hall, where he was to lecture on "The Age of Pericles." One of them said to the other, "Where are you going to-night?"

"To the Hall, to hear Dr. Bethune on the Age of Pericles."

"Oh hang it, who cares how old Pericles is? let's go to the theatre!"

But a better one than that was told the next day of Smith in Washington street, who said to Johnson, confidentially, "I say, Johnson, I say, do you know what *perikles* is? My wife asked me, and I said, 'Pshaw, don't you know?' The fact is, I don't. Tell a fellow, if you do."

COMICAL.—A gentleman by the name of Man, residing near a private mad house, met one of its poor inmates, who had broken from his keeper. The maniac suddenly stopped, and resting upon a large stick exclaimed:

"Who are you, sir?"

The gentleman was rather alarmed, but thinking to divert his attention by a pun he replied:

"I am a *double* man; I am a man by name and a man by nature."

"Are you so?" rejoined the other; "why I am a man *beside* myself—so *we* two will fight *you* two."

A little boy of six years when undressing for bed one night, with his night dress on the back of his neck, was heard musing aloud as follows:

"I can beat Tom Tucker; I can write my name in writing; I can spell Nebuchadnezzar; and I can tie a double bow-knot."

Another little fellow, of four, wading into a mud puddle, after a shower, came across an angle-worm, and thus delivered himself, in audible reverie:

"Worms are the snakes' babies; little mice are the rats' babies; and the *stars* are the *moon's* babies!"

The Boston Post, although it takes ground against the Nunnery Committee, can not restrain its propensity to fun. Copying from the Advertiser a quotation concerning the committee, "*falsus in uno falsus in omnibus*," (false in one, false in all), it remarks that the quotation should be "*falsus in two omnibusses*."

A speculator who buys largely of the producers, remarked to us, that the first thing he looked for when he went into a man's house to purchase was a newspaper. If he saw none, he was sure of a good bargain.

Markets.

REMARKS.—The lower qualities of Flour have advanced 25c. per bbl.; Corn 4c. to 6c. per bushel.

Cotton an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a cent per lb. in the finer qualities.

We have the most delightful spring Weather, quite warm, with occasional rain. Vegetation never advanced more rapidly than it has the past week, although still much later than two years ago. The first full blossoms we noted of the Apricot appeared on the 23d inst. Wheat at the west is uncommonly promising, but it has suffered somewhat on the Atlantic border, from the ground being so bare, and cold winds so prevalent during

February and March. The season was never better for planting in this vicinity, and we hope the farmers will improve it to the utmost of their ability.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, April 24, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The prices ranged a little lower the latter part of last week, with a very dull market. This week there is greater activity, but a downward tendency in prices. There is a full supply of Nova Scotia potatoes in—no less than seven cargoes. Round Yellow, Pink Eyes, and Western Reds are in good demand, and the supply limited.

Apples have fallen about 50c. P bbl., and are rather slow of sale. They decay very rapidly this weather.

Butter has fallen off somewhat. Eggs and cheese, the same.

VEGETABLES.

Table listing various vegetables and their prices, including Potatoes, Onions, Cabbages, and Eggs.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY April 25, 1855.

The supply of cattle is about 370 less than last week, with an equally dull market. The butchers came on this morning with a determination to buy at their own prices; but, if statements are correct, drovers could not well afford to lose more than last week.

We present a few lots offered: Franklin Ford had 96 superior beeves from Pratt Co., Ill., sold by Wm. Belden, at about \$100 per head.

Mr. M. Henry had 25 good still-fed cattle, from Oriskany Falls, this State, which were selling from 10c. to 11 1/2c. per lb.

The best drove in the yards belonged to Harris & Pratt, of Cass Co., Ill. Mr. Harris says this drove was detained on the Michigan Central Railroad 46 hours, and that they were damaged \$500.

They would weigh at home 750 lbs. each, and had fallen off about 50 lbs. They would average 11 1/2c. and a few brought 12c.

Edward Wheaton was selling 87 good cattle from Iowa, owned by Ellis & Budlong. These came entirely through in about 10 days, by the Michigan Central, Lake Shore and New York Central Railroads.

Ulery & McConnell had 114 nice young cattle from Ross Co., Ohio, fed by J. Mulginghen. They would weigh 750 lbs., and sold for \$77, or 11c. P lb.

Mr. Seldomridge had 96 good young cattle from Muskingum Co., Ohio, sold by John Merritt, for 11c.

Mr. Williams had 83 Virginia cattle, part of which he

sold yesterday, at Bergen Hill, for 12c. He had another lot, selling from 10c. to 11c.

Table listing prices for various types of cattle including Cows and Calves, Veals, and Swine.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK. IN MARKET TO-DAY.

Table comparing received quantities and market prices for Beeves, Cows, Veals, and Swine.

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves.. 823 Swine..... 480 Sheep.....

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves..... 42 Cows..... 5 Veals..... 363

By the Hudson River Railroad—Swine..... 355 Sheep and Lambs..... 326

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves..... 300 Sheep..... 346 Swine..... 415

Table listing New-York State furnished cattle from various regions like Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, etc.

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Table showing weekly sales for Sheep and Lambs, Beeves, Veals, and Cows.

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

Table listing specific sales for Beef Cattle, Cows and Calves, and Sheep.

The sheep market is a little better than last week, and the demand fair with a light supply.

The following are the sales of Sam'l McGraw:

Table listing sales for Sam'l McGraw, including 32 Sheep, 326 Sheep, and 6 Sheep.

Average.....\$3 81 P head.

The following are the sales of Jas. McCarty:

Table listing sales for Jas. McCarty, including 103 Sheep, 297 Sheep, 31 Sheep, 36 do., 30 do., and 100 do.

Average.....\$3 50.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table listing prices for various commodities including Ashes, Beeswax, Bristles, Coal, Cotton, and Gunny Cloth.

Table listing prices for Coffee (Java, Mocha, Brazil, etc.) and Flax.

Jersey..... P lb.— 8 @— 9

Flour and Meal—

Table listing prices for various types of Flour and Meal, including State, Western, Michigan, and Ohio brands.

Grain—

Table listing prices for various types of Grain including Wheat, Corn, Rye, and Barley.

Hay—

North River, in bales..... 1 12 @—

Lime—

Rockland, Common..... P bbl.— @1 —

Lumber—

Table listing prices for various types of Lumber including Timber, Oak, and Pine.

Molasses—

Table listing prices for Molasses from New-Orleans, Porto Rico, Cuba, and Trinidad.

Oil Cake—

Table listing prices for Oil Cake from Thin Oblong and Thick, Round.

Provisions—

Table listing prices for various Provisions including Beef, Pork, Lard, and Butter.

Rice—

Table listing prices for Rice, Ordinary to fair and Good to prime.

Salt—

Table listing prices for Salt from Turk's Island, St. Martin's, and Liverpool.

Sugar—

Table listing prices for Sugar from St. Croix, New-Orleans, Cuba, Porto Rico, and Havana.

Tallow—

American, Prime..... P lb.— 11 1/2 @—

Tobacco—

Table listing prices for Tobacco from Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, St. Domingo, Cuba, and Florida.

Wool—

Table listing prices for various types of Wool including American Saxony Fleece and American Full Blood Merino.

THE BULL DOG.

The Bull Dog is the most brutal and the least intelligent of its species; its depressed forehead, its underhanging jaw, and blood-shot eyes, unite in forming the very personification of the savage. Although capable of some attachment, it can not be relied upon as a friend. So utterly without intellect is the courage of the bull dog, that it will attack anything that gives offense. This dog has never been a pet in the United States; but in England, among a large class of citizens, it is carefully raised, and employed in bull-baits. In these bull-baits, the dog, while fastened to the nose of some unfortunate bull, has had one leg after another cut off with a knife, to test its courage; and this display has been hailed by the plaudits of the "rural population," and by the encouragement of the scions of the nobility! History relates that Alexander once witnessed a bull dog attack a tamed lion, and being willing to save the lion's life, ordered the dog to be taken off, "but the labor of men and all their strength was too little to loosen those ireful and deep-biting teeth." The dog was then mutilated by its keeper, and not only its limbs, but its body were severed from the head; "whereat the king was wonderfully moved, and sorrowfully repented his rashness in destroying a beast of so noble a spirit"—a very natural feeling, one would suppose, to every generous mind.

Many years ago an English ship was at one of our docks, on board of which was a bull dog. The animal was so ferocious that he gained an extensive reputation. Chained at the gangway of the ship, he spent the livelong day in the hopeless task of springing at every person who passed along, either on pleasure or business. The owner, first mate of the vessel, would sit for hours and detail the wonderful deeds of this mighty dog. Crowds of idlers daily collected, and there stood the hero, or rather, there raved the insane creature at the multitude, each individual indulging the vague hope, that he would presently break loose and pitch into somebody, and thus show his prowess.

Among the idlers was an Indian who occasionally visited the city, and made a few pence by shooting an arrow at pennies stuck in the end of a stick. Upon the very appearance of the Indian, the bull dog was particularly violent, greatly to the amusement of the fellow, who took a malicious pleasure in irritating the animal. The mate finally interfered, and told the Indian to go away, lest the dog might break loose and eat him up. The Indian, not the least alarmed, in broken English announced to the crowd that if the dog was brought down to the ground, and chained to a post, he would, for five dollars, fight the dog with nothing but his hands and teeth. The money was raised, and the mate, after expressing much reluctance at the idea of having the Indian killed, brought the dog down from the ship, and fastened him to a post. The Indian put away his bow and arrow, his knife, laid his neck bare, and rolled up his shirt sleeves. A ring was formed, and the battle commenced.

The Indian approached the dog crawling on all fours, barking and growling, as if he was one himself. The bull dog meanwhile jumped and fumed at the end of his chain, gnashed his teeth, foamed at the mouth, while his eyes beamed living fire with irritation. The Indian, however, kept up his pantomime, and gradually brought his face in fearful proximity to the dog's teeth. The mate now interfered, for he felt confident the Indian would get killed; but the crowd had become excited, and insisted upon "seeing the thing out." A mutual silence ensued between the combatants, the dog straining his

chain in his anxiety to reach the Indian, until it was as straight and solid as a bar of iron. Suddenly the Indian seized the bull dog's under-lip between his teeth, and in an instant whirled himself with the dog, over on his back. So unexpected was the attack, and so perfectly helpless was the dog, with his feet in the air and his jaw imprisoned, that he recovered his astonishment only to give forth yells of pain; whereupon the Indian shook him a moment as a cat does a mouse, and then let go his hold. The dog, once so savage, putting his tail between his legs, retreated from his enemy, and screamed with terror to get beyond the reach of the chain.

PRETTY GOOD FOR PAT.—The other day the conductor of a train on our railroad discovered an Irishman in a car soon after starting from Rome, and demanded his fare. Pat declared he had no money. The conductor, after lecturing him, told him to leave at the first stopping place, not far distant. Accordingly Pat was one of the first to get off at the next station. But judge of the conductor's surprize and wrath to find him aboard when fairly on the way. "Did I not tell you to get off?" "And sure I did." "Why, then, are you here again?" "And sure did you not say "all aboard." This was too much for the worthy conductor, and notwithstanding the decree against 'dead heads,' he was allowed to pass.—*Watertown Sen.*

THE SPIDER'S LOVE OF HER PROGENY.—All her limbs, one by one, may be torn from her body without forcing her to abandon her hold of the cocoon in which she has wrapped her eggs; and if, without mangling the mother, it be skillfully removed from her, and suddenly thrown out of sight, she instantaneously loses all her activity, and seems paralyzed, and coils her tremulous limbs as if mortally wounded. If the bag be returned, her ferocity and strength are restored the moment she has any perception of its presence and she rushes to her treasure, to defend it to the last.—*Prof. Hentz.*

LEGAL.—Two weazels found an egg. "Let us not fight for it," said the elder weazel, "but enter into partnership." "Very good," said weazel the younger. So taking the egg between them, each sucked one end. "My children," said Redtapes, the attorney, "though you have but one client between you, make the most of him."

SPRING.

In the spring, a deeper crimson comes upon the robin's breast;
In the spring, the wanton lapwing gets himself another crest;
In the spring, a livelier iris glows upon the burnished dove;
In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thought of love. *Tennyson.*

MEDICAL POETRY.—On the smooth surface of a ledge of rocks at Rainsford Island, that gem of Boston harbor, in front of the hospital, is the following epitaph:

Near these gray rocks,
Enclosed in a box,
Lies Mr. John Cox, who
Who died of small-pox!

The following is a rendering of Martial's famous couplet:

An epigram is like a bee, a thing
Of little size, with honey and a sting.

Edgar A. Poe's "Raven" has been denounced as Persian. This is a shameful libel on a respectable American bird, and the most respectable literary authorities flatly disown that *fowl as-Persian.*

DURATION OF VEGETABLE LIFE.—Lord Lindsay states that in the course of his wanderings amid the pyramids of Egypt, he stumbled on a mummy, proved by its hieroglyphics to be at least 2,000 years of age. On examining the mummy after it was unwrapped, he found in one of its closed hands a tuberous or bulbous root. He was interested in the question how long vegetable life could last, and he therefore took that tuberous root from the mummy's hand, planted it in a sunny soil, allowed the rains and dews of heaven to descend upon it, and in the course of a few weeks, to his astonishment and joy, the root burst forth and bloomed into a beautiful dahlia.

Always laugh when you can—it is a cheap medicine. Mirthfulness is a philosophy not well understood. It is the sunny-side of existence.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion.
Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.
Advertisements standing three months one-third less.
Ten words make a line.
No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

HOME ON A FARM WANTED.—A

Young Man who has been obliged in consequence of ill health to discontinue a regular course of study, wishes to engage in the lighter services of a farm. Proximity to New York city is desirable. He will assist in the instruction of those members of the family who may desire it, in the English branches, in Latin and Greek preparatory to a collegiate course, and in plain and short-hand writing. No compensation will be expected. Communications descriptive of the farm addressed to FARMER, Office of American Agriculturist, will be immediately noticed. References exchanged. 85n1192

BLACK HAWK HORSE RAVEN.—

This Horse will stand at the farm of the subscriber, in NORFOLK, Conn., called the Robbuis Farm, the coming season, at ten and fifteen dollars. The oldest colts of this Horse are three years old. The stock is of extraordinary promise. RAVEN is by Vermont Black Hawk—dam has the blood of Gifford Morgan and of Cook of the Rock. 85-30n1191 ROBBINS BATTELL.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT.)

The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Miners, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Copper-smiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c. Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c. Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping. Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85-136n1190ew

L. G. MORRIS'S CATALOGUE, WITH

prices attached, of Domestic Animals at private sale, will not be ready for delivery until the first of April. It will contain Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, South-down Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine. Mount Fordham, March 6, 1855 79n1179

ATKIN'S SELF-RAKING REAPER and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth. THREE HUNDRED, scattered into 19 different States the past season, mostly in inexperienced hands, and nearly all giving good satisfaction, cutting from 50 to 600 acres, proves it not only strong and serviceable, but also simple and easily managed. It saves not only the hard work of raking, but lays the grain in such good order as to save at least another hand in binding.

IT IS WARRANTED TO BE A GOOD, DURABLE, SELF-RAKING REAPER, and I have also succeeded in attaching a mowing bar, so that I also WARRANT IT AS A MOWER. Price at Chicago, of Reapers, \$170; of Mowing Bar, \$30. Discount on the Reaper, \$15, and on Mowing Bar, \$5, for cash in advance, or on delivery. Price of Mower, \$120. Pamphlets giving all the objections and difficulties, as well as commendations, sent free, on post-paid applications. AGENTS, suitably qualified, wanted in all sections where there are none. J. S. WRIGHT. "Prairie Farmer" Warehouse, Chicago, Dec. 1854. [67-68

FARMERS ATTENTION.—Basket Wil-

lows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied. The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention. WHY NOT TRY IT? Cuttings can be had in any quantity upon early application to the subscriber, and instructions for planting &c. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. Hitherto the labor of peeling willows by hand has been the great objection to their cultivation, but now a machine has been perfected, capable of doing the work of twenty men, and doing it well. 79-61

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the **IMPROVED POUURETTE** made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1.50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3.50; 3 barrels, \$5.00; 5 barrels, \$8.00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the **LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY**, No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York.

WATER TOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854
LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY.
Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUURETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN DANA.
70-121m152]

WILLARD FELT, No. 191 Pearl-street, (near Maiden-lane,) Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in **PAPER and STATIONERY** of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

SUPERIOR SEED WHEAT.—A LARGE assortment of the best varieties of improved Seed Wheat; among which are the **Red, Mediterranean, White Mediterranean, Soule's and Blue stem.** For sale by
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, and SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on **WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE** next, my entire **HERD of Short-Horned Cattle**, consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals. Nearly the whole of them are **IMPORTED**, and their direct descendants.

Also, about seventy-five (75) **SOUTHDOWN SHEEP**. These are imported from the flock of **Jonas Webb, Esq., of England**, and their descendants.

Also, a few **SUFFOLK HOGS**, bred from the importation of **J. C. Jackson, Esq.**

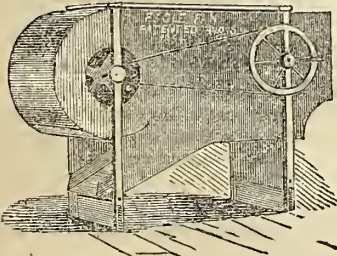
CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

TERMS OF SALE.
For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.
J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y. 81-32m1165
March 20th, 1855.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE FARM, situated in Wallingford, New-Haven County, Conn., within half a mile of the center of the village. Said farm contains 70 acres, suitably divided into wood, pasture, meadow and plow land. A never-failing stream of water runs through it. On it is a fine Orchard of graded Apple trees; also a variety of Cherry, Pear and Plum trees. Said farm is in a high state of cultivation, and is located on one of the pleasantest streets in the town, and is one of the best farms in the county. The buildings are a two-story dwelling with ell and wood-house, all built in the most substantial manner, four years since, and a barn 28 by 61, with cow-houses and wagon-house. There is a first-rate well, also water brought in pipes to barn and house, and capable of being carried to every room in the house. For further particulars inquire of **ELIJAH WILLIAMS**, on the premises.
76-82m1168.

FERTILIZERS.—PERUVIAN GUANO, with Government brand on each bag, of best quality, and not **DAMPENED** to make it **WEIGH HEAVIER**. Improved Super Phosphate, Bone-dust, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, &c.
83-if
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists

First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

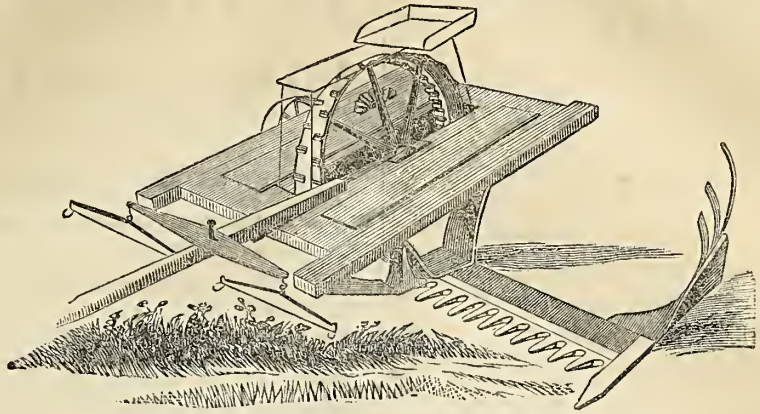
Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of **WM. LAWTON, 83-106m188** No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.

2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.

3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line, and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.

4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.

5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.

6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.

7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

- FAN MILLS**—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, &c.
- GRAIN DRILLS**—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.
- SMUT MACHINES**, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.
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- GRAIN MILLS**, Corn and Cob Crushers, of a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.
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Sweet-scented Clover.
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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

When sending a subscription always state what number it shall commence with. The back numbers of this volume can still be supplied to new subscribers. Back volumes neatly bound can now be furnished from the commencement. Price of the first ten volumes \$1 25 each, or \$10 for the entire set of ten volumes. Vols. XI, XII, and XIII, \$1 50 each. Price of the thirteen volumes, \$14 00.

We can generally furnish back numbers. Where only one or two may be wanting, no charge will be made to regular subscribers, and all numbers lost by mail we will cheerfully supply.

Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can begin with any number, but it is preferable to commence the 15th of March or the 15th of September, as a half yearly volume of 416 pages, with a complete index, begins on each of those dates.

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Paper is cheap, so is postage, and we earnestly request correspondents to write on one side of the sheet only; and further, that they will place their lines as widely apart as may be, so that in preparing articles for the printer, we can always have room between them to insert additions or corrections.

When money is paid at the office, a receipt can easily be given, but when subscribers remit by mail this is less convenient and they may consider the arrival of the paper as an acknowledgment of the receipt of their funds, unless otherwise informed by letter. Any person particularly desiring a written receipt can state the fact when remitting funds, and it will be sent in the first number of the paper forwarded after the money is received.

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT BACK NUMBERS, &c.—Back numbers from the beginning of the present volume can still be supplied at 4 cents per number.

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The first ten volumes (new edition) can be furnished bound at \$1 25 per volume, or the complete set of ten volumes for \$10. Price of the first thirteen volumes \$14 50.

No new edition of the volumes subsequent the tenth will be issued, as the work is too large to admit of stereotyping.

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A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

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It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

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The Publishers confidently believe that the Agriculturists of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow *monthly* issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and *reliable* character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

ESSENTIALLY AN AGRICULTURAL PAPER.

The *Agriculturist* will not depart from its legitimate sphere to catch popular favor, by lumbering up its pages with the silly, fictitious literature, and light, miscellaneous matter of the day; it has a higher aim; and a small part only of its space will be devoted to matters not immediately pertaining to the great business of Agriculture. The household as well as the out-door work of the farm will receive a due share of attention. The humbugs and nostrums afloat in the community will be tried by reliable scientific rules, and their worthlessness exposed. It is the aim of the publishers to keep this paper under the guidance of those who will make it a standard work, which shall communicate to its readers *only* that which is safe and reliable.

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The *American Agriculturist* stands upon *its own merits*; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is *untrammeled* by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the *organ of any clique*, or the *puffing machine* of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

The *American Agriculturist* is under the *control and management* of MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M., an *experienced farmer*, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness and reliability* of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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Subscriptions may be forwarded by mail at the risk of the Publishers, if inclosed and mailed in the presence of the Postmaster, and the name, number and letter of the bill registered.

Communications for the paper should be addressed to the Editors; Subscriptions, Advertisements, and all matters relating to the business department, should be addressed to the Publishers,

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 86.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

SUGAR BEET AND MANGEL WURZEL.

We do not know why it is, but the cultivation of these valuable and highly productive roots has not spread any thing like so rapidly in the United States as in Europe. For stock feeding in the latter country, Sugar Beet holds the first rank; and in February, March, April, and May, this and Mangel Wurzel are the chief dependence for fattening animals and milk cows.

It does not require so deep nor so rich a soil to raise the beet and wurzel as carrots and parsnips; for with the exception of the Belgian variety of carrot, they grow much more out of the ground, and draw more of their nourishment from the atmosphere; they can also be grown in stiffer soils, which in some sections of our country is an important consideration. They are not subject to the fly like the ruta бага and the turnip, nor to the rot like the potato; hence they are a much more reliable crop. We have cultivated them with great success for the past twenty years, and have never known them attacked by insects or vermin of any kind; in fact, we consider them among the most certain of all our root crops.

The Sugar Beet is much sweeter and more nutritious than the Mangel Wurzel, and its fattening properties are quite superior; but it is not so hardy, nor is it so great a yielder; nevertheless, we much prefer its cultivation, and would always plant twice as much of the former as the latter. There is no root equal to the Sugar Beet for milk cows in winter. Fed liberally of this and good hay, they will give almost as much milk in winter as in summer; and the butter is about as yellow and rich as when feeding on the best of grass, which is more than we can say of carrots, parsnips, or indeed any other root, with the exception perhaps of the small, sweet parsnip, which is nothing like so great a yielder as the Sugar Beet. With

these preliminary observations, we will now proceed to the particulars of the cultivation of the Beet, which is the same as that for the Wurzel.

Latitude of Cultivation.—They may be grown from the Equator as far up as the 45th degree of North latitude, but from 39° to 44° is their best range in America. Farther north than this the beet does not ripen well, and to the south it is subject to be injured by the blister-fly and grasshopper; the summers also are too long and hot for it as a winter crop, and corn and potatoes answer a better purpose; still, if planted as early as garden vegetables in the southern latitudes, it may be brought forward for green food for the stock, about the time that grass gets parched up and fails, and thus answer a very good purpose. We think beets might succeed well among corn, planted sufficiently wide apart to admit a row of roots in the center. In this case, the corn would protect the beets from the too scorching rays of the sun at the south, and we should think add to their juiciness and sweetness by the shade of the stalks.

Soil.—The best soil for the production of the beet, is a deep, light, and moderately rich loam, resting on a clay subsoil; yet, as it has the power of drawing much of the food necessary to its growth from the atmosphere, by means of its large leaves, it will do very well in thin sands, a leachy gravel, or hard clay; a good manuring, however, on such soils would be essential as a preparation for the crop, and frequent stirring of the earth during its growth. A very rich soil, such as the deep alluvials of our river bottoms, is not a proper one for beets, inasmuch as the roots grow too large and rank in it, and are consequently coarser and less nutritious, and do not abound with as much saccharine matter, as is found in those growing on poorer soils.

Manures.—When manuring is necessary, the best fertilizer that can be applied to this crop is rotted dung, though in a stiff clay or moist land, long (unfermented) dung is perhaps to be preferred, as it warms and lightens up the land. If these are not to be had, use a compost of muck and lime, or 200 to 500 lbs. of guano per acre, or 300 to 600 lbs. of superphosphate, or 13 to 20 bushels of bone dust; or, what would be better, compost these in requisite quantities with the dung or muck, spread broadcast on the land, and then plow in.

Preparation.—Plow deep, and roll and harrow the land fine, and throw it up into beds

about one rod wide; and if the subsoil be at all tenacious, have the furrows between the beds well hoed out, so as to drain off all falling water.

Kind of Beet.—The white Silesian is the best variety which we have cultivated, it being the sweetest and finest-grained of all others, and to these good qualities, it joins that of producing an equally large crop.

Kind of Wurzel.—The long red is the greatest yielder, hardiest, and best adapted to rich heavy soils. The long yellow is the best for light soils.

Preparation of Seed.—It is essentially necessary that the seed be soaked at least three days previous to planting, and if it be a whole week, it is no matter. This should be done in soft tepid water; and just before planting, roll the seed in ashes or plaster of Paris, so as to prevent their sticking together, and facilitate the sowing. The beet seed has a thick, hard pericarp or shell, and till this softens and breaks, it is impossible for it to vegetate; and unless one can be sure of wet weather immediately after sowing, it will frequently not come up at all, or be so long about it, as to be the means of losing half the crop.

Planting.—The beet may be sown broadcast like the turnip, but as weeds are likely to spring up in most soils and prevent its growth, and the labor of exterminating them is much greater in this way, it is preferable to sow in drills. For this purpose the drill-barrow may be used the same as in planting the ruta бага; but beet seed is more difficult to deliver evenly through a small aperture than turnip, and we would not therefore depend upon the drill, except in a well pulverized, friable soil. For sowing in a heavy, tenacious soil, take a piece of joist four inches square, or a round stick of the same diameter, half or just as long as the land to be sown is wide, fill this with iron or wooden teeth in wedge-shape, as far apart as you wish to have the rows, put a pair of fills to this, and hitch on a stout man or steady horse, and passing once or twice over the land, it drills it from one to two inches deep. Then follow immediately with the seed, dropping it by hand, or from a long-necked bottle, or tin cup with a hole in the bottom, and a handle attached to it, shaking the cup or bottle as you walk along, and following sharp with the eye to see that the seeds are evenly dropped. Faithful children of ten years old, can do this with more ease and facility than grown persons. As fast as dropped, cover with the hoe—in heavy soils

about half to three-fourths of an inch deep; in sand or light gravel, twice this depth.

The rows may be from two to three feet apart for a field crop—three feet is the best. This distance enables one to use the cultivator for weeding, without danger of cutting or covering the plants by the dirt being thrown up as it passes through the rows. The product is not quite so great per acre from wide rows, but land being cheap and labor dear in America, we must study to facilitate manual operations, at the same time that we have some calculation to a good yield. Four pounds of seed per acre is generally considered enough, but it is better to have a dozen extra plants to thin out, than to be obliged to transplant one. Those transplanted do not thrive half as well as those that remain where they vegetate; besides, the labor of so doing is more expensive than extra seed and time of thinning. We therefore mean in sowing to have a good seed dropped as near as every two or three inches in the drills.

After Culture.—As soon as the weeds begin to appear, run the horse-hoc or cultivator between the rows, and follow with the hand-hoe. It is very essential that the ground be kept clear of weeds, especially for the first two months, and three hoeings with the use of the cultivator are generally sufficient for the season. As the plants attain a height of about three inches, they should be thinned to a distance of about four inches, leaving the strongest and healthiest; then during the season as they grow, gradually thin out the remainder, leaving the roots in the rows at least nine or ten inches apart. If left too thick, they shade and choke each other in growth, and the product is not so great as when well thinned. These thinning are valuable to feed to stock during the summer, and are frequently considered equal to half the expense of the cultivation of the whole crop.

Harvesting.—When the leaves begin to decay and turn yellow, is the best time to gather the beets, for if left longer than this in the ground, the roots grow hard and strong, and do not yield so great a per cent of saccharine matter. This of course will take place earlier or later in different climates, and is undoubtedly as good a rule as can be given, it being adopted after a strict chemical analysis of the beet in its various stages of growth. If the soil be light, as the roots generally grow so much out of the ground, they can be pulled up by taking hold of the tops with the hand—but if more tenacious, the dung-fork is the best instrument that we know of for digging them. Let part of the hands be at this operation, and the other part follow with large knives or bill-hooks; taking up the root with one hand, top off the leaves with the other, and toss the roots into small heaps to dry through the day, and if left out over night and there be danger of frost, let them be lightly covered over with leaves or straw; a hard frost injures the roots, and makes them more liable to decay. They may then be taken to a well-ventilated cellar, or be pitted in heaps of 100 to 200 bushels. The beet is rather

apt to heat and commence sprouting if thrown into large heaps, or packed away in the cellar. If put in the latter place, any other roots except the turnip may be placed at the bottom, and the beets on top, and if in pits the same roots or straw in the center. All the beets then have a good ventilation, and an opportunity of throwing off the impure air; and to facilitate this, after covering the heaps with dirt, holes should be made every few feet on the top of them, and wisps of straw be placed in such holes. In this way we have experienced no loss or deterioration in the value of the root, but have preserved them till May, as fresh, sound, and sweet, as when first taken from the ground the preceding fall. In a climate as far as 39 degrees north, they might be preserved all winter in tolerable tight sheds and barns.

Feeding.—Throw them on to the ground or floor, and take a hay-knife or spade, and a man will slice up a bushel a minute sufficiently fine to prevent cattle choking on them; or they may be cut very rapidly in a root-cutter. The best way to cook them for stock is by steaming; but they can not be kept so over two days in warm weather, and a week in cold, without undergoing a fermentation, and losing the saccharine matter so grateful to the taste and so essential to nutriment. Either raw or cooked, stock frequently prefer them to meal or corn. Raw, we think them as nutritious as any root whatever, and as far as our experience extends, three bushels of beets with neat stock, is equal to one of Indian meal. Hogs demand less bulk to fill themselves than cattle, and perhaps their value to them would not be in as great a proportion. All kinds of stock are fond of them, but care must be used in feeding (the same as with other roots) to pregnant animals a month or two before the time of parturition. Poultry are very fond of the sugar beet, especially geese, ducks, and turkeys.

Product.—Four hundred bushels is a fair yield in field culture, but six or eight hundred per acre is about as common. We have grown at the rate of 1,300 bushels to the acre on a hard clay soil, and our average field product is usually 600 bushels. We have heard of 3,000 bushels being produced to the acre on rich loams. The roots will frequently weigh from 17 to 20 pounds each, and 10 pounds is not unfrequent; now admitting this last weight to each root, and that seven rows stood in the width of a rod, which would make them about two feet apart in the rows, and allow 60 pounds to the bushel, we should have the enormous product of 3,080 bushels to the acre; but roots so large are coarse, stringy, and not unfrequently hollow, and have much less saccharine matter in proportion to their bulk, than smaller ones. Those of about 5 pounds weight are far superior; and these standing one foot apart in rows, and the rows about three feet apart, will give the large yield of 1,100 bushels per acre, which is quite as great a product as it is desirable to strive for, and upon the whole, perhaps the most profitable.

Raising the Seed.—There is as much in choosing proper roots for this purpose, as in selecting animals to breed from, and the same general rule holds good in both cases—a medium size and fine true form. Roots weighing four to six pounds, and of four to six inches in diameter at the top, and nine to thirteen inches long, and smoothly and evenly tapering to a point, without straggling branches, and of a creamy white color and smooth grain, are the most desirable. “Like produces like,” and with such selections followed up, the crop will soon run evenly of the same shape and size as the roots from which was grown the seed. Plant out the seed-roots about the first of May, three feet apart; and as the stalks grow, set small stakes round them in a circle, and tie a cord from stake to stake for their support. When the seed shells easily, (which, if planted in May, will be in September,) is the proper time to gather it. It ought to be spread out a few days on the floor of some high, dry room, or on boards in the sun till well dried; it may then be packed away in boxes or barrels, or be put up in bags. We have generally found this essential to a proper preservation of all seeds. If not well dried before packing, they are apt to heat and mold, and lose their germinating powers. Two or three dozen roots will grow seed enough for acres, and at one-tenth the cost usually asked for it at the seed-stores. When grown at home, one knows what he gets, and as it comes to him abundantly and cheap, he can, without grudging, give to his neighbors, and thereby greatly promote the cultivation of this most valuable of roots.

DURHAM CATTLE VS. ALL OTHER KINDS.

We commend the following letter to the perusal of all who are seeking improvement in cattle breeding. We do not think Mr. Creasor speaks as highly of the Devons, however, as they deserve. On the light soils of our country they are greatly to be preferred to the Short Horns. We believe the day is rapidly approaching when Short Horns and Devons pure, and their crosses on the native stock, will alone be of any consideration in our country. They are the two best breeds for general purposes unquestionably, and they are destined to become more and more popular and generally sought after from year to year. The coarse Short Horns Mr. C. speaks of, are the common grades of Yorkshire. They have little true Short Horn blood in them; they are mainly the coarse, unimproved, original stock of that country.

To the Editor of the Mark-Lane Express:

The Short Horn or Durham cattle are not only spreading over every county in England, but Ireland; and the Long Horns will soon become extinct both in England and Ireland. There are many first-rate Durhams to be found in Scotland, and many fine Short Horns have crossed the Atlantic Ocean, and will soon spread all over the globe. They are a large size at early maturity. In England, the cows and heifers are worth more than any other kind for the milkman in the metropolis and other great towns. It is rare that you see a Hereford, Devon, or Long

Horned cow among the milkmen in London. The best Durham oxen have thick, wide, fat backs, with a handsome frame, and plenty of lean flesh, with heavy thighs, and generally, when made fat, weigh all the weights they are laid at; they are longer than the generality of Herefords and Devons, and a great many Short Horns are as large and as heavy at three years old as the Devons and Herefords are at four. They carry plenty of tallow according to age, and the best of them have a fine silky grain, with marbled flesh. I find no beast come to the scale better, with the exception of the thickest, lean-fleshed, short-legged, polled Scots; and I have purchased many half-breeds between the best polled Scots and the Durhams fed in Scotland; these half-bred bullocks weigh exceedingly well according to size—no beast better. The Herefords have beautiful, fine-grained, marbled flesh; but many of them are light in their thighs and lean flesh, and deceive the butchers in weight, especially when they are patchy with pommels of fat flesh without, and but little tallow within. I consider the Durham cattle, take them all in all, are the best breed for the farmer or breeder for profit; and Sir Charles Knightley's Durham oxen, when cut up, are as good flesh as the best Herefords, and are worth as much per pound. When I speak of Durhams, I do not mean coarse Short Horns.

WILLIAM CREASOR, Butcher.

Newport Market, March 27th, 1855.

For the American Agriculturist

WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

RENOVATING OLD SOIL, ETC.

You very properly demur to a very slashing agricultural criticism in the New-York Tribune, on the "old daisy fields of Connecticut"; it would have been better had the writer given the *modus operandi* by which said starved fields "could be made to produce wheat with more profit than usually arises upon the arable products of the west," so that "every dollar thus expended would pay back fifty per cent per annum"! But the mistake of the Tribune is in the profit, not in the feasibility of renovating an exhausted soil. I have seen land in New England brought up from a barren sand, so thoroughly exhausted of the mineral constituents of plants, that even the daisy refused to take root in the desert waste. Leached ashes and stable manure composted with swamp muck gave a crop of millet and clover, which was plowed in when ripe as a more thorough amendment. Winter rye for early spring soiling; and millet and clover, Indian corn, &c., succeeded; all were manured by the droppings of milk cows, which were fed in stalls, and bedded on dry peat or swamp muck. But if there is no "fifty per cent" profit in this farming, there is some intellectual comfort in seeing the desert blossom; and the present incumbent can now keep forty milk cows and pay rent for a farm, on which, before, no organic life could be sustained. I am inclined to believe that it is much easier to keep up a calcareous soil, like ours in western New-York, to a state of ordinary fertility, than the granitic formations of New-England, perhaps for the reason that lime plants, the best of all amendments when plowed in as a fertilizer, will not perfect themselves on the granitic soils when they are even partially exhausted by cropping.

In his late pamphlet on the relations of

chemistry to agriculture, Liebig tells us, that his experimental field of ten acres was so thoroughly sterile that its "vegetable yield would not feed one sheep," and that to bring that little farm into full productiveness, cost him, with his experiments, in four years, \$3,200 more than the sale price of the products grown on it." But as farmers do less by proxy than a chemist, have a better physical training, and more habitual economy in the details of farm labor, they can, if properly instructed, do more with much less expense. Liebig had also ulterior views to subserve in multiplied experiments by no means connected with the necessary amendment of the soil. It is at least evident that the great chemist of Giessen must have had his head a little turned by what he took to be the result of his mineral applications to the soil, when he says, "The effect of individual substances could be clearly traced and was manifested in many cases in a truly wonderful manner. A deficiency or excess of phosphate of lime, of alkalies for root crops, of alkaline earths for clover, of alkali silicates for the cereals, was plainly revealed in the growth of these plants. The trial plots appear like the *writing on the leaves of a book*; their significance was evidence even to the uninitiated."—p. 33. But as these mineral substances were never trusted alone, but always accompanied by stable dung or other organic refuse, how could he refer the above results solely to his *cherished* minerals.

I have no doubt but that to thoroughly exhausted soil, such mineral manure as it contained in leached wood ashes is the most economical, if not the most indispensable, as a nucleus for the soils renovation; but so far as my small experiments extend, give me vegetable refuse or stable dung in preference to concentrated manures, either organic or inorganic, particularly for heavy tenacious soils; because in the process of decomposition a fine mechanical action is kept up in the soil, and the crop is fed as it needs it, with both ammonia and carbonic acid. I take it that no mineral application nor the salts of ammonia alone, could, in three applications in three years, turn a stiff, drab clay into a fine permeable earth of the color and appearance of black virgin mold, capable of retaining all the necessary moisture for growing crops in the most trying drouth. Fall plowing or trenching in such manure in a tenacious soil, is an almost indispensable condition to the results, and without the aid of the frosts of winter, it would take six years, instead of three, to produce the same amelioration of the soils, color and texture. The draining of a stiff soil is always a preliminary necessity to its amendment; it should never be treated with sand, unless it is accompanied with carbonaceous matter or refuse, as the affinity between clay and sand is so great that the product is too compact; but if sand is united with coarse vegetable materials, the affinity is broken and the amelioration perfect, until the soil becomes abused by long-continued cropping, without any return of enlivening manures.

N^O IMPORTE.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR SUGAR CANE.

The annexed letter from Rev. Mr. Wilder, a missionary of the American Board in South Africa, says one of the editors of the Journal of Commerce, will be interesting to agriculturists, as bringing to their knowledge a substitute for the sugar cane, which is represented to be capable of culture wherever Indian corn will grow. Whether it will be found more economical to cultivate this plant at the North, than to purchase sugar grown in Louisiana and Brazil, is yet to be ascertained. The general name of the new plant is *IMFE*, of which there are several varieties. Mr. Wilder has sent us three of them, as will be seen by his letter. The seed is small, about the size of broom-corn seed, which it resembles. Indeed the plant itself, from the description given of it by our correspondent, must belong to the Indian corn family. Every farmer knows that the stalk of our common Indian corn contains much saccharine matter, and it has sometimes been expressed, and reduced to molasses by boiling. We shall give the *IMFE* a fair trial, so far as culture is concerned, and will report the result to our readers in due time.

UMTVALUME, Natal, }
South Africa, Jan. 6, 1855. }

I herewith send you a few seeds of a plant indigenous to this country, for the manufacture of which into sugar a patent has recently been obtained in England by a gentleman from this colony. Those interested in the patent have no doubt of its entire success, and that it will bring streams of *gold* into their pockets.

The plant is called *Imfe* (vowels as in French) by the Kafirs, but they distinguish some two dozen varieties by specific names. I send you *three* varieties, with names on each paper, viz: *Ufatana*, *Umofwini*, *Ihlosa*. While growing it resembles *Broom corn*, and produces its seed after the same manner. The natives of Natal plant it with Indian corn, and cultivate it in the same manner, and it comes to perfection in about the same time, say from 3 to 4½ months. They cultivate it wholly for its saccharine juice, of which, under but slight pressure, it yields a much larger quantity than does the common sugar cane, but not of so rich a quality. I should say that the same bulk of juice contained from one-half to three-fourths as much sugar as the juice of common cane. The advantages it has over common cane, are, that it grows well wherever Indian corn does; it is raised from the seed in four months, ready to be made into sugar; it grows on high lands as well as on low, and the abundance of seed it produces, may be used for provender for horses.

I give you below the names as called by the Kafirs, of the different varieties with which I am acquainted:—*Nitwe*—very long, 12 feet or so, one half the head hangs down. *Ilibohla*—head hangs flowing around the stem. *Unyezana*, *Ihlosa*—has two black stripes on the stem, just below the head. *Ufatana*—small erect head, an excellent kind. *Ilicnga*—drooping head. *Uboleleka*—has an appearance of decay. *Usompofu*—buff-colored. *Ubchiana*—seeds like Guinea corn of West Coast. *Ulubemba*—has two distinct heads. *Uboyana*—has down on the seed. *Utyaka*, *Imfemkulu*—tall thick stem; spreading head. *Unfimbalyapa*—very long joints. *Umhambahlale*. *Umhlagonde*—red leaves and erect head. *Inyao*—long joints, drooping head. *Nidakandoda*—erect head, black seeds; fit for use before the seed ripens.

Amazelwako—red cane. *Umswazi, Ihlokonde, Umofwini, Umdendebula.*

I hope you will cultivate the seed I send, or give it to some agricultural friend who will, and if you think proper, notice it in the Journal of Commerce. I understand that there will be an effort made to take out a patent for its manufacture into sugar in the United States. Yours truly,

H. A. WILDER,
Missionary, A. B. C. F. M.

THE HORSE.

[Continued from page 100.]

The Trotting Hacks or Trotters [resembling the Yorkshire Roadsters] differ a good deal in their breeding, but are not as highly bred as the first two classes. Harry Hieover evidently thinks the riding a strongly pulling trotter at his fast pace presents a very vulgar and butcher-like appearance. He likes, however, fast trotters in harness in light vehicles, and considers their looks in action then not ungentlemanly.

Under all circumstances Harry Hieover unites with the French in condemning as abominable the gait of the amble or *pace* to which some of our Virginians at the present day are so partial.* He complains of the term *Cob* as a hacknied one, and it is plain from his undercurrent of opinion that he dislikes the whole class of Cobs as ungentlemanly brutes. Cobs, from the docility and quietness of their tempers and their nearness to the ground (*près de terre*) are well adapted to the service of inactive and old men—old fogies, as Young America would disrespectfully say. I remember to have seen Lord Lansdowne, among others, riding a Cob, taking care, however, to have the sorry figure he made redeemed, in a measure, by an attendant groom mounted on a horse of the most distinguished style.

The Rev. John M. Wilson † speaks of the Hunting Horse as the country gentleman's saddle horse, and of the Hack or Hackney as a riding or road horse of any kind. He adds—"The common saddle horse, technically a *Hackney*, may possess any character intermediate between that of a well-tempered easy-going and long-enduring Hunter, and that of the most miserable road hack. The farmer's saddle horse is, in some instances, a Hackney, in some a Hunter, but in the great majority, a horse of all work, adapted equally to the saddle and to draught."

I have not the English or any unmutated edition of Youatt, but I believe he speaks of "the farmer's horse," and describes him as half Hackney and half Cart Horse. He probably refers to a horse very similar in character to the heaviest Yorkshire Roadsters or the old Road Horses mentioned by Low. Cecil and other well known English writers, I think, employ the term Roadster in so vague a sense as to embrace every thing of the horse kind that can go out of a walk, and is used on the road, whether in harness or under the saddle, in contradistinction to the field and the turf; ‡ and Nimrod occasionally employs the word road-horse as synonymous with stage coach horse. It must be confessed that there is much confusion in hippological nomenclature, partly in consequence of the modern change and continued advance to a lighter standard of all the classes and varieties of English horses for quick movement.

Although Yorkshire is the most decided breeding county of the Race Horse in the Kingdom—the Rawcliffe Paddocks Company alone having the past season forty-three, and

*The best Virginia horsemen of the old school did not ride *pacers*.

†Rural Cyclopædia—Edinburgh and London, 1852.

‡A "Roadster" in the northern portion of the United States is a horse used in a light pleasure vehicle.

Sir Tatton Sykes thirty-seven, racing foals—the Agricultural Society leave him out of view, (except as the progenitor of Hunters,) as having other patrons in abundance, and perhaps as not falling strictly within the description of a "useful" horse, and recognize but the three distinct classes of horses for service out of a walk which I have considered—Coaching or Carriage Horses, Hunters and Roadsters; but you will have perceived that one of these classes, that of Hunters, is not a breed by itself.

4. The horses for agricultural purposes, the plow or the cart, in Great Britain, are incapable of any other than a walking draft, and are divided into the three following classes:

The Suffolk Punch horses are characterized by general uniformity of color, varying, however, in shade. In England they are called "red" and "chestnut;" but we should, for the most part, designate them as of a light yellowish sorrel, with lighter manes, tails and legs. They have often a blaze in the face and some white feet, and are very plain in appearance, being pig-eyed and having heavy, coarse heads. Their strong predisposition to the numerous hereditary diseases of the hock, and indeed unsound legs and feet generally, are such insuperable objections to the Suffolks, according to the old proverb of "no feet no horse," that it would not be worth while to criticize them further, more especially as I am entirely supported in this estimate by Mr. Yager, the competent and intelligent agent whom our public spirited friend, Mr. Dulany, despatched to England to bring over horses for him. I should infer—it is impossible to know—from a comparison between the Suffolks of the present day and the descriptions of the preëxisting breed, that crosses upon the original stock of that name with a view to their elongation, to give them a more adequate stride, or enlargement for additional weight in the collar, had not in the aggregate result been successful, but had caused them to lose much of their former energy and pluck. At the last Annual Country Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society the Suffolk stallions were badly beaten.

The other English race of agricultural horses, usually designated the "Cart Horse," is various in color, but more frequently black. The largest specimens are seen in the brewers' drays in London, and, as you are aware, are the heaviest horses in the world. This race was, to a certain extent, modified by crosses of native stallions upon some mares which Bakewell imported from Holland. The horses of this breed, I presume, would be dissolved by our sun in summer, and are moreover only adapted to circumstances in which no sort of activity but merely massive power is required—very smooth flat land and perfect roads and the slowest draught.

The Scotch horses, the Clydesdales, of different colors, are for us, I am satisfied, the best horses of the British Islands in the class of *exclusively walking draught*. It is a significant fact that the distinguished President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, Mr. Pusey, employs them, and that General de Lamoricière* states that, from experiments made in France, they dispatched their work much more quickly than either the Suffolks or the indigenous races of France. They are handsomer and more active than the Suffolks, with longer limbs and longer bodies. This conformation gives them a greater stride by which they make more rapid progress, but it may augment the expensiveness of their keep. Tradition refers the origin of this breed to an importation, by one of the Dukes of Hamilton, of Flanders stallions which were crossed

*Rapport au conseil des Haras.

on the native mares of the county of Lanark, in the vale of the Clyde.

Though the French have occasionally imported British horses, which are larger than their own, for agricultural purposes, I found the universal opinion in France to be that they had nothing to envy the British in the way of horses for slow draught, (*gros trait*), and that they prided themselves very much on a valuable, hardy and energetic race, mostly of a gray color, properly called Percheron, from their native district Le Perche, but which our American writers have vaguely styled Norman, (as the synonyme of French, perhaps,) from the fact of having first seen them in the diligences in Normandy on the way to Paris. While many of the larger animals of this breed, which pass by insensible gradations into the Boulonnais, (the biggest and coarsest horse of France,) are used for the heaviest draught, the smaller and more agile are employed throughout the Empire in the diligences—an intermediate draught (*trait intermédiaire—trait moyen*) which does not exist either in England or in the United States—for the simultaneous transportation of passengers (with their luggage) and merchandise, at a pace between that of the English stage coach and the heavily laden wagon. To secure the requisite energy and quickness for this special and severe labor, it is necessary to employ stallions; and I do not believe that geldings—from the peculiarity of the race in losing much of their power, spirit and endurance on castration—would answer in our country except for slow work. Indeed, I never saw or heard of French gentlemen riding or driving Percherons; and I mention them only, because they may be deemed the archetypes of the French horses and are the dominant race employed in the public vehicles and in rural labor. The French prefer their horses for all private rapid uses (*chevaux de luxe*) to be of the blood of the *racés distingués*, which they are compelled to seek either across the channel or the Mediterranean.* Crosses with Percherons vulgarize for many generations the English stock for quick draught (*trait léger*, by which is meant every draught from that of the coach or carriage inclusive to that of the lightest vehicle) and for the saddle, by shortening their necks, (which is fatal to a saddle horse and to the style of a harness horse,) by enlarging their heads, clodding their shoulders, drooping their rumps, cleaving their quarters, putting hair on their legs, or otherwise marring their symmetry, beauty or activity.

*It is true that France, of necessity, imports a good many horses from Germany, not for the purpose of reproduction, however. They are not ill looking except that they frequently have the Roman nose, (*Tête busquée*), but it is said they soon sink under fatigue.

[To be continued.]

NUTRITIVE QUALITIES OF THE ONION.—It is worthy of notice as an extensive article of consumption in this country. It is largely cultivated at home, and is imported, to the extent of 700 or 800 tons a year, from Spain and Portugal. But it rises in importance, when we consider that in these latter countries it forms one of the common and universal supports of life. It is interesting, therefore, to know that in addition to the peculiar flavor which first recommends it, the onion is remarkably nutritious. According to my analysis, the dried onion root contains from twenty-five to thirty per cent of gluten. It ranks, in this respect, with the nutritious pea and the *gram* of the East. It is not merely as a relish, therefore, that the wayfaring Spaniard eats his onion with his humble crust of bread, as he sits by the refreshing spring; it is because experience has long proved that, like the cheese of the English laborer, it helps to sustain his strength also,

and adds—beyond what its bulk would suggest—to the amount of nourishment which his simple meal supplies.—*Professor Johnston's Chemistry of Common Life.*

GOLDEN-SPANGLED HAMBURGS.

I am a lover and a breeder of the Golden-Spangled Hamburgs, and have observed with some interest the various opinions that have been expressed in your pages upon this valuable class of birds. The hen-tailed cocks and the sickle-tailed have each their admirers. I can not say that I admire the square-tail, but we must have well-spangled cocks. The question is, can not we have cocks hen-feathered, with the exception of the tail? I answer, certainly. It has been my fortune to breed and to have seen many such. And these birds produce chickens infinitely superior to cock-feathered birds. I have tried both. Neither have I ever been disappointed by barrenness in any of these cocks. The thing to aim at then seems to me to be a cock well-spangled all over him, with a nice flowing tail. There is another point to which I would refer. A good deal has been said by some of your correspondents about this class of birds not being winter layers. There must be bad management somewhere when this is the case. During the whole of this winter, and previous winters, I have always had a good supply of eggs from my favorites. I will not yield even to Shanghais in this respect. My next door neighbor keeps the latter sort, and I have had to supply him with eggs constantly from my yard. Hamburg pullets hatched in March or April begin to lay in October, and continue laying until the moulting season. The older birds when well kept will commence laying very soon after moulting, and continue until moulting again; and you would be surprised at the number of fine large eggs which I get, even this very severe weather. I am afraid I have trespassed to long upon your time already. I will conclude by recommending to the notice of your correspondent "T. W." a little handbook published by Orr & Co., price one shilling, "On the Cow," by the late lamented M. M. Milburn, Esq. I am, Sir, yours gratefully,

W. R. H.

Poultry Chronicle.

EXEMPLARY MOTHERS.

I beg to send a description of the most exemplary mothers I ever met with in a poultry yard. As mine consists of Spanish, I require a few hens which will incubate frequently, and remain long with their chickens. First, I tried Dorkings, but they were not to be depended on, as they sometimes continued laying till the summer. Cochins came next, but they are often clumsy in hatching, and desert their chickens too soon. My *ne plus ultra* is between Cochin and Spanish, they are ugly, excellent creatures, lay nearly as well as the Cochins during winter, sit almost as frequently, are more active, and I think more sensible, with much of the placid disposition of the Cochin, and remain double the length of time with their chickens. One of these hens hatched a brood in April, and in two months exactly began to lay, when they parted by mutual consent. Her sister reared her brood in June—eleven, from twelve eggs—remained with them precisely the same time, and seemed to leave them with regret. There was no cross peck to give notice of a dissolution of partnership, a hint which the ci-devant darlings of a Cochin hen sometimes receive to their excessive astonishment.—A. in *Poultry Chronicle.*

Take good care of the young chickens if you want to make money.

ON BEES.

The proportion of wax contained in honey or sugar being small, it will be evident that a considerable quantity of these substances is requisite to enable the bees to construct combs. In order to ascertain whether the saccharine principle was the source of wax, Huber confined three swarms in glass hives, and fed them respectively with honey, refined sugar, and dark brown sugar; the result of the experiment proved that honey produced the least wax. A pound of refined sugar produced ten drachms fifty-two grains of wax, while an equal weight of dark sugar produced twenty-two drachms, or nearly one sixth of the weight. Honey was also analyzed for the same purpose by Liebig, who found that one pound of honey yields one-twentieth of its weight of wax, and that one ounce of wax builds the number of cells required to contain one pound of honey.

From these experiments the proportion of wax can not be *definitely* stated, as it appears to vary according to the quality of the honey or sugar, but they are sufficient for the purpose of impressing upon my readers that a very large drain on the supplies takes place when the combs have to be formed; such a drain as in no case can be made during the early part of the season, when the collectors are few, and all the honey which is gathered for some time, is required for the sustenance of the daily augmenting brood, over which a considerable number of workers too must cluster in order to maintain a hatching temperature, and consequently can not be spared to construct comb. Bees can not exist in a hive destitute of comb, for they would be deprived of all their resources, the warehouses of the honey and pollen, and the cells for rearing the young. Hence experienced bee-keepers seldom take second swarms, and never retain a hive as a winter stock which is not well furnished with combs. I have heard of aparian novices, who, in ignorance of the habits of bees, have proposed placing a family in an empty hive early in spring, imagining they might prosper in such a situation. Little do they know the trouble and attention such an attempt would entail. I speak from experience, having once raised a houseless family (and it was a desperate case, caused by accident), in the beginning of March, to a state of great prosperity. At this season, however, my motto is, *Nil desperandum* (never despair); I would make the best of everything, with a resolution to surmount all obstacles.

The spring work of the bee-keeper is now close at hand, although while I write, a frost holds the earth in an iron grasp, more rigid than has often been experienced in England; with the uncertainty of the length of its duration, and with the difference of temperature in various counties, the aparian must rather be guided by circumstances, than regulated by time in his proceedings. As long as the frost and snow continues the hives should be left in perfect repose, protected well by outer coverings; they will consume little food; though in hives in which breeding have commenced, I fear some bees *must* die, yet to assist them by feeding, would only tend to increase the evil. I make a rule, not to interfere until I see pollen carried, and always find a few warm days the beginning of March, when this occurs. Then on a calm morning, with the thermometer at about 50° in the shade, I gently break up the hives from their adhesion to the floor-boards, and turning them up, make a thorough examination of their condition. The bees will be found very peaceable, and an idea may be formed of their numbers, by gently passing a feather through the clusters. The quantity of honey will be judged of by the weight. Young bees may also be observed.

The floor-board should be thoroughly cleaned, and rubbed with a dry cloth, as also the inner edges of the hive, where the larvæ and spawnings of a small moth will generally be found located. Those hives which are low in provisions should at once be fed, giving the syrup warm, and in small quantities for a few days, and then bestowing it liberally; for as Mr. Golding judiciously observes, feeding by dribblers is never to be recommended. However, I give all my hives, rich as well as poor, a taste; it stimulates the queens, and renews our friendship.

At this time, especial observation ought to be made of any peculiarity in the hive, such as—

- The appearance of drones;
- The condition of the queens;
- And of the brood.

Such statements will be gladly received as an aid in forming a course of observation. I, for one, hope to gather useful information from the communications which will appear in the *Poultry Chronicle* during the approaching season.—A. in *Poultry Chronicle.*

FISH AS FOOD.—There is much nourishment in fish, little less than in butcher's meat, weight for weight; and in effect it may be more nourishing, considering how, from its softer fiber, fish is more easily digested. Moreover, there is, I find, in fish—in sea-fish—a substance which does not exist in the flesh of land-animals, viz., iodine—a substance which may have a beneficial effect on the health, and tend to prevent the production of scrofulous and tubercular diseases, the latter in the form of pulmonary consumption, one of the most cruel and fatal with which civilized society, and the highly educated and refined, are afflicted. Comparative trials prove that in the majority of fish the proportion of solid matter—that is, the matter which remains after perfect desiccation, or the expulsion of the aqueous part—is little inferior to that of the several kinds of butcher's meat, game or poultry. And, if we give our attention to classes of people—classed as to quality of food they principally subsist on—we find that the ichthyophagous class are especially strong, healthy and prolific. In no class than that of fishers do we see larger families, handsomer women, or more robust and active men, or a greater exemption from the maladies just alluded to.—*Dr. Davy's Angler and his Friend.*

CULTIVATION OF SHALLOTS.—The usual method of cultivating these is to plant the roots in drills, and to earth them up as the plants advance in height; but the late Mr. Knight suggested a mode of surface-planting by which he states he succeeded in growing very fine bulbs. It is thus described: He placed a rich soil beneath the bulbs, and raised the mold on each side, to support them till they became firmly rooted. This mold is then removed by the hoe, and watered from the rose of a watering-pot; and the bulbs in consequence were placed wholly out of the ground. "The growth of these plants," he added, "now so closely resembled that of the common onion as not to be readily distinguished from it till the irregularity of form resulting from the numerous germs within each bulb became conspicuous. The forms of the bulbs, however, remained permanently different from any ever seen of the same species, being much more broad and less long, and the crop was so much better in quality, as well as much more abundant, that the mode of culture adopted is confidently recommended to every cultivator.—*Gardener's Chronicle.*

You must think, as well as work, to prosper.

Horticultural Department.

CULTIVATE THE SOCIETY OF BIRDS.

The song of the robin under our window, that hails the approach of the sun at earliest dawn, and watches his receding rays at faintest twilight, reminds us of a promise long since made, to speak a good word for birds. They are man's natural companions, the guardians of his fruits, the graceful denizens of his trees, the minstrel choir whose tuneful notes wake him from slumber and whose vesper songs soothe him to repose. What can be sweeter than that first trill of the red-breast at dawn? The first note is scarce audible, as if the poor bird were afraid of the lingering shadows, and were asking leave of his slumbering lord to sing. The dawn increases, and with it the boldness of his song. The sun himself at length comes forth like a bridegroom, and the robin pours forth his whole soul in tumultuous joy. We pity the poor souls that live in a wilderness of brick and mortar, and have no tree orchestra in the shadow of their dwellings on these bright May mornings.

But those who live in the country, often have no music in their souls, and have no eye to see what labor-saving machines the birds are—saying nothing of their capacities as artists. So the sportsman is suffered to prowl about the orchard and fruit-yard, and the red-breast, oriole, bluebird, sparrow and wren become food for powder. When the robin claims his tribute of currants and cherries for the insects he has devoured, he is mercilessly shot, as if he were a vagabond and a thief. Whether such a merciless, unmusical soul be “fit for treason, stratagems and spoils” or not, it is pretty certain that his trees will fall into that category, and will soon be despoiled of fruit and foliage.

A single bird's nest in your orchard is worth dollars. What a multitude of grubs and worms a single pair of robins and their young will destroy in a season! Watch their busy flight by day, and every visit to their birdlings bringing destruction to a number of grubs. It has been estimated by a cautious observer of the habits of birds, that a single pair of jays with their young will devour two hundred insects in a day. This, in a season of three months, amounts to twenty thousand. It has been estimated that a single purple martin will destroy nearly five thousand moths and butterflies in a week. The moth, that does so much mischief in our wardrobes, is a small insect that might escape the sight of most other birds. A little hive of swallows close by one's dwelling-house, would probably be an effectual exterminator of these insects, which would be seized and devoured before they entered our windows. If we take into account the innumerable caterpillars, and grubs that would spring from the eggs of all these different insects, we can but regard the martin as one of the most serviceable of all creatures. The lively twittering of these birds is one of the most agreeable accompaniments of the rural melodies of morn, and is associated with many delightful incidents in

English poetry. Whoever has visited Burlington, Vt., has noticed in their fruit gardens a long, substantial pole, mounted with a martin-box. Their labors are highly appreciated by the fruit-growers there, and their example is worthy of imitation.

It is but little trouble to any one of common ingenuity to build a few bird-houses, and put them in various parts of the premises. Small boxes may be put in the cherry trees and upon the fence near the currants and raspberries, for the wrens. They will almost certainly be occupied, and this little bird lives upon the insects that crawl upon the fences, and lurk in the bark of trees, and in the crevices of buildings. On account of its fondness for spiders the wren has in some places received the appellation of spider-bird. The immense number of insects which he removes from our gardens and dwellings ought to endear him to every cultivator, even if he had nothing else to recommend him. He is the appropriate guardian of our small fruits, and no robin or fruit-eating bird will venture near the home of this pugnacious little bird. It is amusing to see the reckless desperation with which they will pitch into a bird many times their size, driving all before them.

Cultivate, then, the society of birds. The robin needs no box, but if you let him alone he will put up his dwelling in the apple tree, or in a corner of the fence, and be much obliged to you for the privilege of killing caterpillars for you all summer long. The boy that comes nigh with gun, warn off from your premises; and if he does not heed the warning, put the law in force; and if there be no law, call in the aid of Judge Lynch. The birds must be saved if you would save your fruit. Your tenderness and care for the birds will not be without its moral impressions upon the hearts of your children. It will teach them many a humane lesson as they grow up, and save them from habits of cruelty, which often begin in destroying the eggs and young of birds. Smooth-barked trees, unscathed with the wounds of insects, and smooth-skinned fruits, will keep company with children of fair characters, unspotted with vice.

LIME FOR THE CURCULIO.

The plum trees will soon be in blossom, and this is the time to begin the work of dusting slaked lime upon the trees to save them from the attacks of the curculio and other insects. A simple dredging box, with a handle at the side for the insertion of a pole, may be easily made by a tin-worker, and the work of dredging the trees is easily accomplished. It can be done with the hand, but not so readily or so perfectly. It should be done in the morning while the dew is on, and should be followed up at intervals until the fruit is out of the way of the curculio. The lime should be applied after every rain, and, if the interval between the rains is long, oftener. We have more faith in the lime than in any other remedy, except the jarring of the trees and catching the insects on sheets. The remedy of Mr. Mathews on this subject is not yet public,

and until he speaks, it will be safe to apply lime.

MOTH AND BEETLE HUNTING.

With the first swelling of the buds upon your fruit trees, these enemies of your garden pets make their appearance, to follow up their work of destruction, until the frosts of Autumn cut off the leaves and end their labors. The practised fruit grower is already upon their track. Here among the dwarf pears you can reach them with thumb and finger, and crush a world of insect life in a single moth. There is now in the last half of April, and early May, a beetle of blackish color, with a square upon his back at the insertion of his wings, made up of four little squares, two of jet, and two of dull yellow, that calls for your attention. You will find her at the end of the blossom buds, doubtless laying her vampire brood among the young fruit. She is about five-eighths of an inch long, and will fall to the ground or fly off unless you approach her cautiously. Take a turn among all your young trees every morning, and see that they are cleared of these depredators. Occasionally, you will find a cluster of eggs glued to a limb that you overlooked in the fall. See that they are removed and burned. Do not think that the young dwarf pears set out last fall will take care of themselves. The moths and beetles have a lein upon them, and if you do not improve the property you invested in them, the natural proprietors will resume their inheritance, and save you the trouble. Follow up your attacks upon these insects with vigor, remembering that every moth mother slain is a colony of insects exterminated.

Soon the large tribe of the *Melolonthians* will make their appearance and they may be caught in multitudes. The May-beetles can be exterminated by shaking them from the trees they infest upon a cloth, either at evening or early in the morning, while the dew is on, when they do not fly much. Empty your cloth into the fire.

Another method of destroying these insects in the winged state is by drowning. This is best adapted to those whose habits are nocturnal. We place a half hogshead, or other large open vessel, in the fruit garden, half full of water. Place a narrow strip of board across the top, and at night put a lighted lanthorn upon it. The insects will be attracted by the light, and in attempting to alight, “blind as a beetle” they will meet a watery grave.

Another good trap for them is glass bottles partly filled with sweetened vinegar and water, and hung up in the fruit trees. Multitudes will be tempted to their final undoing by these bottled sweets. These insects are legitimate game, and fruit growers will find much more satisfaction in killing them than in shooting the birds, who are their fellow helpers in moth hunting.

TO DESTROY GRASSHOPPERS.—Those who wish for a mode to prevent grasshoppers destroying the foliage of young fruit trees, vines, &c., may find an easy, safe and sure, and at the same time profitable one, by just

putting two or three old hen turkeys with their broods of young in the infested inclosure. The young turkeys are very fond of grasshoppers, and soon become dexterous in capturing them, upon which they grow and fatten rapidly. I have known an old hen with thirteen young ones, the past season, when grasshoppers were unusually numerous, that kept a five acre lot well cleared of them.—A. C. J. in *Poultry Chronicle*.

THE BLACK RASPBERRY.

I have often wondered why farmers do not cultivate a greater variety of fruits in their gardens. In addition to what is generally cultivated, I would mention the black raspberry—a small fruit, well known in most parts of the United States. It grows wild by the sides of fences, edges of forests, &c., but common as it is, and delicious as is the fruit, but few think of cultivating it. H. Perry, of Porter, has a fine lot of twenty-five or thirty bushes, which for the past three seasons have yielded a good supply for his own table, some for his friends and neighbors, and also to dry for future use, and richly paying for the little trouble they cost. He took them from the forest and other places, in the fall of the year, and planted them in his garden. This, any one will see, is attended with no expense, and very little trouble. It may be done in the spring. They may be set along the sides of fences, as this situation appears to be the most natural for them. Give the black raspberry a trial, and you will not regret it.—J. SIBLEY, Wilson, N. Y., March, 1855.—*Rural New-Yorker*.

To the above we can add that we have cultivated the wild black, or, more properly, deep purple raspberry, these twenty years or more. To our taste it is superior to the Antwerp, Fastolf, or any other foreign variety, being more juicy and spicy. It has the further advantage of being more hardy, it endures the drouth better, and is a more certain yielder. Added to this the size of the berry increases with cultivation. The only objection we have to it is, that it throws up more suckers than the foreign kinds; but this may be guarded against, perhaps, by planting canes with all the eyes cut off below the ground.

We have often noticed in the fields a larger kind of red raspberry—nearly as large as the Antwerp and of higher flavor. These are well worthy of being transplanted to the garden; and might, like the New-Rochelle blackberry, become highly popular. We have seen thousands of these scattered among the smaller red raspberries in our wanderings among the hilly parts of Herkimer, Otsego, and other southern counties of this State.

RESTORATION TO HEALTH OF A DECAYED HOLLY.—Some years ago a beautiful, old, spreading holly tree showed signs of decay. It grew in a cultivated field; the roots of the couch-grass, which were in the field, were collected, and instead of carting them to an out-of-the-way corner, they were spread in large quantities under the holly tree; the fresh soil attached to the roots of the grass, and the decomposition of the roots themselves have greatly benefited the holly, which is now in a healthy condition. It will thus be seen that the years of many a favorite tree may often be prolonged by very simple means.
P. M.

AN APRIL VIOLET.

Pale Flower that by this stone
Sweetenest the air alone;
While round thee falls the snow
And the rude wind doth blow;
What thought doth make thee pine?
Pale Flower, can I divine?

Say, does this trouble thee,
That all things fickle be?
The wind that buffets so
Was kind an hour ago;
The sun a cloud doth hide
Cheered thee at morning tide.

The busy pleasuring bee
Sought thee for company;
The little sparrows near,
Sang thee their ballads clear;
The maples, on thy head
Their fragrant blessing shed.

Because the storm made dumb
The wild bees' booming hum;
Because for shivering
The sparrows can not sing;
Is this the reason why
Thou look'st so wofully?

To-morrow's clear eyed sun
Will cheer thee, pallid one;
To-morrow will bring back
The wild bee on his track,
Bursting thy cloister dim
With his wild roystering.

Can'st thou not wait the morrow
That rids thee of thy sorrow;
Art thou too desolate
To smile at any fate?
Then there is naught for thee
But death's delivery. CLARENCE COOK.

THE BASIN OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.

The basin of the Atlantic Ocean is a long trough, separating the old world from the new, and extending probably from pole to pole. This ocean furrow was probably scored into the crust of our planet by the Almighty hand, that the waters which he called seas, might be gathered together so as to let the dry land appear and fit the earth for the habitation of man. From the top of Chimborazo to the bottom of the Atlantic, at the deepest place yet reached by the plummet in the Northern Atlantic, the distance in a vertical line is nine miles. Could the waters of the Atlantic be drawn off so as to expose this great sea-gash, which separates continents, and extends from the Arctic to the Antarctic, it would present a scene the most rugged, grand and imposing.

The very ribs of the solid earth, with the foundations of the sea, would be brought to light, and we should have presented to us, at one view, in the empty cradle of the ocean, a thousand fearful wrecks, with that dreadful array of dead men's skulls, great anchors, heaps of pearl and inestimable stones, which, in the poets eye, lie scattered in the bottom of the sea, making it hideous with sights of ugly death. The deepest part of the Atlantic is probably somewhere between the Bermudas and the Grand Banks. The waters of the Gulf of Mexico are held in a basin about a mile deep in the deepest part. There is at the bottom of the sea, between Cape May and Newfoundland and Cape Clear in Ireland, a remarkable steppe, which is already known as telegraphic plateau. A company is now engaged in the project of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic. It is proposed to carry the wire across this plateau from the eastern shores of Newfoundland to the western shores of Ireland. The great circle distance between these two shore lines is 1,600 miles, and the sea along this route is probably nowhere more than 10,000 feet deep.—*Prof. Maury*.

THE VALUE OF A GARDEN.

But I hold that any farmer, who is worthy of the name, will prepare a small plot of ground for wife and daughters, and that he will, out of love to them, make it all they can wish or desire. It is these little things that make home pleasant and happy; and it has been the lack of these that has driven many a loving heart out into the world and away from a sterile, barren home. Give the wife and daughters a place to plant, tend, and rear their flowers; help them, if needs be, although it may take an hour sometimes that it is hard to spare, and you will a thousand times bless God for so ordering your mind that you did it. What husband or father, rugged though his nature may be, does not fondly linger around a home made so bright and cheerful by the fairy hands of his wife or daughters, scattering, as it were, in his way, the beauties of their little plot?

What son or brother ever forgets his home who has found his room daily perfumed with the flowers which have been raised by the hand of a fond mother or gentle loving sisters, and placed there through the promptings of their own dear affectionate heart? What daughter ever forgets the home where she has cultivated her little garden, and year after year been so happy in the blossoms which have been borne upon the plants she has watered and tended with such patient care? Parents, brothers, sisters, the dear old home, all—all come back to her, though years may have passed away, in the scent or bloom of every flower. The family is seldom unhappy, whose dwelling is surrounded with shade trees, and whose garden is gay with cultivated plants. Do not, then, I beseech you, forget the little flower garden.—*Mr. Peters's Address*.

WATER MELON JUICE.—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 close 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 into a cullender, and strain the water into vessels. We boil it in an iron vessel into syrup, 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 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 the best sugar-house molasses. We have made of a fall as much as ten gallons of the apple butter, if I may so call it, and molasses, which has kept in a fine condition until May.

ORIGIN OF POTATO OATS.—We have to record the death of Mr. Daniel Jackson, of Greenhill, Arkleby, Cumberland, at the advanced age of 94. He was a considerable landed proprietor in the county, and upwards of half a century since purchased some potatoes which were supposed to have come from abroad. When they came up, among them a few heads of corn appeared, resembling the common oats, then generally grown in this county, but larger and differing in appearance from the common sorts. The seed was carefully preserved, and in a few years sufficient was produced to offer it for sale. From the circumstance of its having been found originally among these potatoes, it was called potato-oats.—*Mark-Lane Ex*.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, May 3.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

WHEAT CROPS, &C.

Editorial Correspondence.

LOCKPORT, Niagara Co., N. Y., May 1, 1855.

THE spring in this section, as elsewhere, has opened somewhat later than usual, but with a very good prospect, especially for wheat. We have very closely watched the fields of wheat along the route between this and Syracuse, and have also examined many fields hereabouts, and our own observations fully agree with the general report of the farmers themselves, that the present prospect of this important crop, in what is known as the "Genesee Country," has seldom, if ever, been better than now, at this season of the year. The high prices induced farmers to sow a large breadth, and the deep mantle of snow upon the ground during the entire winter, has been almost a perfect protection against "winter kill."

Snow has been called "the poor man's manure"; and whether on account of its protection, or from the ammonia it has furnished, or from both causes combined, the wheat crops of both poor and rich bear evident marks of having been greatly aided by the unusual snows of the past winter. In many instances the snow fell before the ground had frozen, and the plants appear to have grown during the entire winter season.

We have seen a few fields which were covered with water, and the ground being unfrozen, the plants have literally rotted out. This is also the case along the fences in many other fields, where the large drifts of snow accumulated. These patches are generally being plowed up for other crops, or have been sown with spring wheat. The chief apprehension of wheat-growers here is, now, from a fear of the insects, which made considerable ravages upon the last crop. Should they fortunately escape any great degree of loss from this source, they can scarcely fail to gather a yield of wheat at the incoming harvest almost unprecedented.

In this County (Niagara) the generality of farms consist of a heavy soil, lying comparatively level, and the most important object to be secured is a system of thorough drainage. Many farmers have become aware of

this, and have commenced draining on a scale as yet limited, but with the happiest results. The universal desire to maintain "respectability" by the breadth of acres owned, instead of by the profitableness of their labor, is the chief obstacle to successful farming. We hope soon to see farmers convinced of the advantages of reducing the amount of surface gone over, and increasing the product per acre by a more thorough system of cultivation. If every farmer having 100 acres of these heavy, but most valuable soils, would sell off 25 acres, and expend the entire proceeds in draining, subsoiling, deep plowing, &c., upon the remaining 75 acres, he would, in nearly every instance, find that the smaller farm, with less plowing, seed, and harvesting, and with less fencing, taxes, &c., would give a larger aggregate yield of produce. A field now held at \$50 per acre, and yielding an uncertain crop of 12 to 15 bushels of wheat, would, by an expenditure of \$20 to \$30 per acre in draining, etc., produce an almost certain crop of 25 to 35 bushels. Why not then, if necessary, dispose of one-fourth, or one-third of it, and make the necessary improvements upon the remainder? J.

FROM VIRGINIA.—A correspondent writing to us from the Old Dominion, says: "We have an excellent show for fruit of all kinds. At present wheat is looking remarkably well—very strong, and promises a fine yield. Vegetables are still rather scarce, owing principally to the severe drouth of last summer. Potatoes are expensive—so much so that many prefer going without to buying seed to plant. It is a treat to see fresh butter in market, which, like other things commands a high price. This is chiefly owing to the scarcity of feed, in consequence of which cows are cheap; but we look for brighter prospects the ensuing year."

DOGMATICAL.

Reader, should it ever be your misfortune to come in contact with a person who is disposed to enforce his peculiar views on any and all subjects—one who esteems himself as infallible—set it down as a safe inference that he is dogmatical. To simply declare that you *are right*, when there is a possibility of your being wrong, is *prima facie* evidence that you do not know all the mysteries of the world; and to say that another man is wrong, merely because what he advances is contrary to your own experience or conception, is equally foolish and absurd. No two minds are exactly alike, and hence no two can interiorly (or imaginatively) view things in the same forms, positions, or colors.

Let two men pass what is termed a *vacant* lot, in a town or city. One sees nothing but vacancy; while the other, being an architect, with vivid imagination, sees a structure, beautiful in all its proportions, towering aloft; doors, windows, arches, domes—all the exterior of a splendid palace. The architect might call the attention of his companion to the fact of what he saw, and although known to be a truthful man, his protestations would be looked upon by his

companion, in this instance at least, as an evidence of insanity or mental hallucination. Nevertheless, let twelve months elapse, and then both could see what but the one could see before. One would see a combination of marble, brick, mortar, wood and glass—merely the solids or *material* substances—representing what his mind had constructed a year previous without them. The other, being a *material* man, or incapable of seeing anything except that visible to the organs of sight of any beast, could now see the house, exactly as described to him by the architect on their previous walk over the same ground.

The winds blow, and their wild music echoes through the silvan arcades; and when the storm gathers, the tall masts and the giant oaks quiver like the strings of a delicate lyre. Tax the eyes to their utmost powers; use microscopes and magnifiers, and yet you can not see them. And shall we dispute the fact of their existence because of their invisibility? The magnet attracts the steel, but it will not attract a cork. Shall the cork therefore declare disbelief in magnetism? Electricity—a subtle fluid—descends in concentrated shafts from the ethereal depths and circulates through the solid globe, causing the metallic nerves of the mountains to vibrate, the earth to quake, and cities to tumble into ruins—but shall the insulator or nonconductor set up the hypothesis that these effects are all "illusion"?

Look at the dress of the thousands who throng a city; scarcely two exactly alike—unless from necessity. Their fancies all have certain peculiarities. Their minds are still more diverse, for there is a broader, deeper, higher scope on things contemplative than material. How full of theories and speculations are the whole human race, on all questions where there is a possibility of difference! Notwithstanding an individual will give a general assent to a particular doctrine, there are many points upon which his mind is unreconciled, and unreconcilable.

As every head is as different in structure as the physiognomy of the race of man, it is little wonder that one should hold to this particular creed, and another to that. It is little wonder that one should prefer the color of blue, another green, and another red. But to say that *your* particular fancy of color, *your* peculiar party predilections or *your* especial religious tenets are alone correct and right, is essentially dogmatical. To say that one is a fool for thinking what he does—what perhaps he can not help—is dogmatical. To aver that a man is insane because he can not see as you see, and feel as you feel, is decidedly dogmatical—and before giving public utterance to that which *you* think right, rather than that you bring yourself into contempt as being a narrow-minded bigot, it would be well to couch your ideas in language inoffensive to those who may be privileged to differ in opinion. †.

ARTESIAN WELLS.—Inquiry is made whether any one in this vicinity bores Artesian

wells, and information respecting the cost of such wells.

SPRING WHEAT.—It is not too late still to sow spring wheat. Mr. George Sheffer, of Scottsville, in the Rural New-Yorker, says he has sowed as late as the 15th of May and obtained first-rate crops. Great care should be taken to cover it well. One and a half bushels of seed per acre will do for the best soil, but for any other, two bushels are requisite.

STOCK FOR SALE.—We call attention to Mr. Morris's sale of stock advertised in this number of our paper; also to his catalogue, which can be had by addressing him on the subject. This catalogue comprises 97 pages, and is beautifully got up, and illustrated with portraits of his Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Swine, together with a brief history and pedigrees of the same. It is well worthy the attention of breeders.

BOOK NOTICES.

PRACTICAL LANDSCAPE GARDENING, with reference to the improvement of Rural Residences, &c. By G. M. Kern, Cincinnati. For sale by C. M. Saxton & Co., New-York.

Here is a handsome book, beautifully printed, on good paper, containing 328 pages—illustrated with designs and engravings. Originating at Cincinnati; in the midst of a territory no where excelled east of the Rocky mountains by the grandeur and variety of its vegetation, and with an amenity of surface giving the fullest play to art and skill in adorning it with the happiest illustrations of luxuriant landscape; this work is a welcome contribution to the growing taste and study of our people in that delightful department of rural life. America has been sadly deficient in national treatises of the kind.—Downing gave us an elaborate work some years ago of much value. He was perhaps too refined and ornate for the mass of improvers, and studied chiefly the ambitious and expensive styles of decoration. Two years since, appeared a reprint of an excellent work on "Landscape Gardening," by a Scotchman, named Smith—the most direct and sensible thing of the kind we have seen—published by C. M. Saxton, of this city, with notes and additions adapting it to American use, by Lewis F. Allen; a much cheaper work than Downing's, and better calculated for the mass of men who desire to fit up their places in a not expensive yet agreeable way, than the other. This book of Mr. Kern's is the third of the kind introduced to our notice.

Mr. Kern, if not a foreigner himself, is a student of foreign authors and professors, and gives us, in his piquant quotations and allusions, parts of their principles and practice. But he has, sensibly, avoided many of their absurdities in making the "art" of landscape gardening so "artistic" as to drive the honest improver out of all heart in his comparatively humble efforts to beautify and adorn his grounds, by the intricacy and experience which *their* practice would have involved in it. With a true love to nature, and an experience in an American climate,

the suggestions which may be derived from this book, can not but be important to the mass of improvers:

Every man of elevated mind who dwells in the country, whether he be born and has spent his life there or has but newly retired into country life, wishes to beautify his residence by drawing about him the most desirable natural productions which his position, soil and climate will admit. If he possess good natural taste, the study of nature itself will suggest the main points for his procedure, in which a study of appropriate authors will greatly assist him. Without some natural taste, or, in the absence of acquired taste in the right line, he is open to the charlatanry of sundry "professors" of landscape gardening; who clean out his purse and leave but a tissue of absurdities behind them, over which he can mourn at his leisure, while those who really know better can but commiserate his folly. Hence, it is of the highest consequence that our teachers, in whatever appertains to rural embellishment, should not only be well versed in their subjects, but honest in their application.

In the brief perusal which we have been able to give of the work before us, although we see nothing strikingly *original*, good sense and truthful feeling predominates. As our author has diversified his work with landscape gardening, orchards, the cultivation of pleasure-grounds in flowers, the farm, the vegetable garden, &c., each one of his subjects is necessarily condensed into brief compass, suggestive rather than descriptive, yet sufficiently so to induct the learner into a sound direction of his most important labors.

After all, nature must be the chief author which they who aspire to the full knowledge of landscape gardening should study. The hand of the Almighty, in the various parts of our broad country, had planted its trees, spread out its plains, opened its prairies, and lighted up its waters; erected its mountains, molded its hills, and depressed its vallies, with a grace, a beauty, a grandeur, and a softness, which only to see and properly appreciate, is to admire, and to love. None but one who sees them in the spirit of their perfection can induct another into the art of applying their treasures to his own immediate use. To do this rightly is an art achieved by but few, and to every one who contributes in even the humblest way to such a result, is a benefactor. Such, beyond doubt, is the aim of Mr. Kern in the work which he has so attractively put forth, and we welcome his book in the liberal spirit that we meet those who make the beautifying of the earth, and the happiness of mankind, the object of their labors and regard.

DECIDEDLY A FACT.—One of our New-York exchanges has the following:

"It is a singular fact that it takes more time to write a letter of one page than an epistle of three or four; but it is nevertheless true. It is no paradox, but an established fact, that it is easier to write an article half a column in length, than a well digested paragraph of a dozen lines. The reason some ministers are so long-winded is because they lack concentrativeness, and are compelled

to make verbosity atone for the paucity of idea. The same rule applies to books. It is more labor to condense one book than to write a dozen. Any one disposed to doubt this may satisfy himself by a very little observation."

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.

LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE—No. II.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April, 1855.

The Society of Believers commonly called Shakers, at Union Village, have in their estate about 3,000 acres of choice land, well calculated either for grain or stock. They are divided, for convenience, into four families. I called first upon Peter Boyd, at the Village, and with him looked over their stock. The Society last season imported five or six cows and heifers and four bulls. I was much pleased with a three-year old heifer, white, named Marchioness; and also a roan, whose name I do not remember. Two of these cows have produced calves, got in England, which are very promising. One of these—a white bull got by Capt. Balco, a son of Balco (9918)—was very even in his points generally, with an extra flank. I also saw fifteen or twenty calves of their own breeding which look well—not fat—but in first-rate growing condition. They have a good flock of coarse-wool sheep; no swine; but all the different varieties of Asiatic fowls, good specimens of their sort, all with legs long enough and big enough to support—all their weight. I never knew but one Shanghai man that took the right ground as to the merits of this breed—he brags on a cock that stands *seventeen inches* from the floor to his body.

At the north family I saw some choice specimens of what the Ohio breeders term "full bloods"; that is, thoroughbred cattle of which no record has been kept. Here I saw a very fine, large imported cow, Margaret, much too fat to breed well. She was the first breeding cow on which I ever put my hand, that had lost her ribs—they were not to be found.

So far as I could see or learn, the Society are genuine democrats; every man has his calling—every one waits on himself. They are carrying on many kinds of manufactures in addition to farming; also, raise seeds, herbs, &c. Indeed they are a world by themselves. They raise calves—eat their heef—tan their hides, and then wear out the boots made from the leather. Sheep also, on their farm, go through all the processes to which they and their produce are liable.

Somewhat particular are these folks in many things—as, for instance, they don't allow "outsiders" to come to their common table; so Mr. Corwin and the writer dined by ourselves. This is a great country for good dinners, yet it is not often that you will have better opportunities for comforting the inner man, than in the hall of the United Society of Believers.

The south family had their cow-stables burned last winter. They lost their entire herd, save the imported bull Crusader, owned in partnership with Mr. R. G. Corwin. This is a very stylish bull, white, good size, carries his head high, and is a good walker;

his get will probably make good working oxen.

By the way, I forgot to mention, in my account of Dr. Watts's stock, his roan twin oxen, five years old, thoroughbred, and good workers. The Doctor thinks them equal to any yoke in the country for work. Better cattle in points can hardly be found. The demand for breeders is so great now-a-days, that the thoroughbred bulls are too valuable to be castrated. When the time comes that we can afford to make steers of all save the very best, what cattle we shall see! for good breeding shows as strongly in oxen as in cows or bulls.

At the west family, I saw the imported bull Duke of Southwick, and a fine lot of cows, many of which show deep milking. I learned no names or particulars, as the herdsman was absent. All of their lands are in a fine state, well cultivated, good high fences, good dwelling-houses, and barns both for grain and cattle. In some rich neighborhoods in this State, stables, either for horses or cows, are not fashionable, save a kind made of heavy rails or poles, without any roof. A stranger might, perhaps, call them ten-acre fields—and nothing else.

For the American Agriculturist.

THE PRACTICAL EDUCATIONN OF BOYS.

All teachers know that boys, brought up in cities and large villages, are much more difficult to control, more artful, idle and vicious than those whose home is in the country. It has ever been admitted, that an agricultural community, *caeteris paribus*, (other things being equal,) will have a higher standard of morals than those who live in the densely populated city or in large manufacturing towns. The reason of this is obvious. Where there is a sparse population, devoted to daily toil, there is neither time nor occasion to learn or practice the ways of the world. Men seldom meet in the country, and do not, therefore, learn to ape the vices of the rich or the frauds of the unprincipled. Boys, in a city, at the age of ten years, know more of the world, more of its worst aspects, than young men in the country at their majority. The chief reason of this precocity of mischief in the spruce lads of the town is, that they have so little to do.

Labor is the ordination of heaven. Neither an idle man nor an idle boy can retain his integrity. Indolence and virtue have no affinity for each other. The superabundant energy of the city boy is expended in tricks, in fun, frolic, and play. He soon learns his trade and loves it. Books can not draw him from his games and idle amusements. The same impulses, in the farmer's boy, are directed to some useful end. His warm blood and high passions are subdued by labor. He has little time for mischief. School is to him a relief, a recreation; to the city boy it is a confinement, an irksome restraint upon his pleasures. He goes to school, because he must; he leaves it when he can. I have often known a young man, from the plow or shop, to enter an academy to fit for college; and in one year, overtake or excel the village boys who had been wasting their

time for years upon the same studies. I have often had more annoyance from a single city boy than from forty farmers' sons in the same institution. All teachers are familiar with these facts. A common school, in a large village, is usually far more difficult to be governed than schools in the rural districts with the same number of pupils. Such a state of things need not exist, if parents would find employment for their children when out of school.

In many villages, fathers, who can ill afford the expense, hire men to bring in wood, build fires, and harness a horse, while their own sons are with the crowd upon the play ground, learning, besides the game, the profane and vulgar dialect of every rowdy in town. Why should not the beloved son, who is preparing for college, be required to strengthen his muscles and acquire physical strength by the use of the spade and hoe in the garden, as well as to soil and tear his clothes, and become rude and vicious in the crowd? If a gentleman keeps a horse, why should not his son learn to harness him, and, if necessary, groom him? "But," says the fond mother, "his clothes will smell of the barn." Better so than have his soul tainted with vice. But let him have shoes and dress, fitted for his work, which may be exchanged for others when his work is done. I have seen a young *gentleman*, already in college, attempt to harness a horse when no gentleman was at hand to aid him; and he buckled both the hold-back straps around the thills of the chaise, instead of putting them into their proper place. Thus the lives of the parties, taking the airing, were perilled.

Many fathers, in country villages, build costly houses with no barn or out house. They keep neither horse, nor cow, nor hen. They have active and sprightly boys who, like the lilies, "toil not," but *grow* both in years and in vice. They exercisedaily with the multitude; and, they soon become more shrewd than their sires. How much better would it be for the whole country, if every young man were required to perform some useful service every day. No boy ought to be too good or too knowing to work. Labor promotes the moral health of his soul. The Jews were wise in requiring every young man to be master of some trade. It would be well for us if every boy were required to learn some handicraft which would, if necessary, afford a livelihood. E. D. S.

A BIG HORSE.

We saw a curiosity yesterday in the shape of a horse, passing through here on its way to Louisville, Ky., in charge of the American Express Co. He was a fine, powerful specimen of the Norman draught-horse, upwards of seventeen hands high—broad-backed, deep-chested, and strong-limbed—and looked as if he was capable of doing the work of four ordinary horses with ease. He is valued at three thousand dollars, and comes of a breed unequalled for strength and power of endurance. He was imported by a gentleman in Louisville, expressly with a view to the crossing of his Norman blood with that of the faster but less powerful breed of racers now so common in the southwest, by which means he hopes to combine the two qualities of strength and

speed in an eminent degree. The express agent here informs us that the order for the purchase was sent out to France by express, the European agents attending to the buying and shipping for New-York, where he was taken charge of by the American Express Co., who will convey him to Louisville. An instance like this affords a striking example of the facilities furnished by the Express companies for the transaction of business at a distance. Here is a valuable horse purchased in Normandy, and transported a distance of not far from five thousand miles, by ship, steamboat and railroad, and delivered to his owner in Kentucky, without the least risk or trouble to the latter, the whole responsibility being assumed by the company. The expense of transportation alone, by any other mode, would exceed the original cost, while at the same time the owner would run great risk of losing him through the inattention or mismanagement of those to whose care he was committed. We can only wonder how we used to get along a few years ago, before expresses were established.—*Schenectady Star*.

If the person who has imported the above horse will breed him to the large common mares of the country, he will produce a valuable race of draught horses. But if he crosses him on to racing blood, as suggested above, he will have as miserable and worthless a progeny as can be well conceived. Such a cross is too *violent*; and instead of combining the two qualities of strength and speed in their offspring, he will only get what is most worthless in both parents. If the writer of the above paragraph were not utterly ignorant of the principles of breeding, he would not suggest such an absurdity. The sixty-fourth part of Norman blood in the veins of a racer would ruin his speed and endurance, and rather detract than add to his strength. When one knows nothing of a subject he should be more careful in writing about it.

PANAMA RAILROAD.—The correspondent of the New-York Times, who attended the opening of the Panama Railroad, gives the following description of the obstacles its builders had to contend against:

"This fifty miles of railway crosses more than one hundred and thirty bridges from six feet in length to six hundred, and wherever there is possibility of a swellable stream, there is a culvert; and all those bridges are, or are to be, of iron. It was cut through swamps, full of the tangled roots of water lilies, wild plantains, bamboos, covered with four inch thorns, six inches in diameter, and thirty, forty, fifty feet in height; through cedar trees, each trunk of which makes a canoe to hold from two to thirty people, through all sorts of palm, cocoanuts, milk, oil-nut, thatching palm, cabbage palm, palama real, the kingly. Through twisted mangrove clusters; through groves of poisonous manzanilla, to sleep beneath which is death; the smoke of its burning wood destroying the eye-sight. Through more than five thousand varieties of noticeable plants, the patient engineer cut his way, knowing as he knows to-day, that if the track were left unwatched one year, it would be utterly covered up and hidden by vegetation twenty, thirty feet in height."

"Timothy, what are you doing there with your feet dangling in the water?"

"Trying to catch cold, ma, so that I can have some of those cough lozenges, you gave me yesterday."

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

JACK RINK AND THE YANKEE.

Few communities are more strongly imbued with a passion for horse racing than the good people of Natchez. In New-York, folks talk "soger" and "engine;" in Paris, they talk opera; in Natchez, they talk horse. They believe in quadrupeds and nothing else. To own the fastest horse in Natchez, is to enjoy the fee simple of an honor in comparison with which a member of Congress sinks into nothingness.

In October last, the "fall meeting" took place, and led to more than the usual quantity of excitement and brandy cock-tails. The last race of the last day was a sort of a "free fight," open to every horse that had never won a race; purse, \$500, Entrance, \$25.

Among those who proposed to go in was a Yankee peddler, with a sorrel colt of rather promising proportions. He thus addressed one of the Judges:

"I say, captain, I should like to go in for that puss."

"What with?"

"That sorrel colt."

"Is he speedy?"

"I calculate he is, or I would not wish to risk a load of tin ware on the result."

"Do you know the terms?"

"Like a book—puss \$500, and entrance fee \$25—and there's the dimes."

Here Yankee drew out a last century wallet, and brought up two X's and a V. Among those who witnessed the operation was Jack Rink of the Belvue House. Jack saw his customer, and immediately measured him for an entertainment. After the usual fuss and palaver, the horses were brought out, saddled, and prepared for a single heat of two miles. There were eight competitors beside the Yankee. The latter was a smart sorrel colt, with a fine eye, and a lift of the leg that indicated speed and bottom.

"Bring up the horses," said the Judge.

The horses were brought up—the Yankee gathered up his reins and adjusted his stirrups. While doing this, Mr. Rink went to the rear of the sorrel colt and placed a chestnut burr under his tail. The next moment the order to "go" was given, and away went nine horses of all possible ages and conditions. The Yankee's was ahead and kept there. "Tin Ware" was evidently pleased with the way things were working, and smiled a smile that seemed to say, "that puss will be mine, in less time than it would take a greased nigger to slide down a soaped liberty pole." Poor fellow! he hadn't reckoned on that chestnut burr. The "irritant" that Jack Rink had administered not only increased the animal's velocity, but his ugliness. He not only run like a deer, but he refused to do anything else. As the Yankee approached the Judge's stand, he undertook to pull up, but it was no go. He might as well have tried to stop a thunder-bolt with a yard of fog. The Yankee reached the stand—the Yankee passed the stand—the Yankee went down the road. When last seen, the Yankee was passing through the "adjoining county" at a speed that made the people look at him as "that comet," that was to make its appearance in "the fall of 1854." Where the sorrel colt "gin out" is impossible to say. All we know is, that the Yankee has never been heard of from that day to this, while his "wagon load of tin ware" still makes one of the leading attractions in the museum of Natchez.

TOM MOORE.

Those persons who are wont to look on Tom Moore as a sort of *improvisatore*, whose melodies came forth somehow spontaneously like the carols of a spring bird, will do well to read the following, and then consider whether they have reason to despair of any thing:

Alluding to Tom Moore, Mr. Irving said that he took extraordinary pains with all he wrote. He used to compose his poetry walking up and down a gravel-walk in his garden, and when he had a line, a couplet, or a stanza polished to his mind, he would go to a summer-house near by and write it down. He used to think ten lines a good day's work, and would keep the little poem by him for weeks, waiting for a single word. On one occasion he was riding with Moore in a cab, in Paris, and the driver carelessly drove into a hole in the pavement, which gave the vehicle a tremendous jolt. Moore was tossed aloft, and on regaining his seat, exclaimed, "By Jove! I've got it." "Got what?" said his companion in alarm. "My word," was the reply. "I have been trying for it these six weeks, and now that rascal has jolted it out of me."

On reaching his room, Moore inserted the word, and immediately dispatched the finished song to the publishers in London.

"Moore," added Mr. Irving, was a most captivating companion, and the sweetest ballad singer I ever heard. No one could forget him that heard him sing."

AN HONORABLE HITCHING-POST.—"Hallo, you fellow with the pail and frock," hollowed an aristocratic British officer, as he brought his fiery steed to a stand in front of Governor Chittenden's dwelling—"can you inform me whether his Honor the Governor of Vermont lives here?"

"He does," replied the man, still wending his way to the pig-sty.

"Is his Honor at home?" continued the man of spurs.

"Most certainly," replied the man of the frock.

"Here, take my horse by the bit, then," said the officer; I have some business to transact with your *master*."

Without a second bidding, the man did as requested, and the officer alighted and made his way up to the door and gave the pannel several hearty taps with his whip—for be it known, that in those days of republican simplicity, knockers, like servants, were hardly in use.

The good dame of the house answered the summons in person; and having seated the officer and ascertained his desire to see the Governor, departed to inform her husband of the guest's arrival; but on ascertaining that the officer had made a *hitching-post* of her husband, she immediately returned and informed him that the Governor was engaged in the yard, and could not well wait upon his Honor and his horse at the same time.

The predicament of the officer can better be imagined than described.

THE INTENSITY OF LOVE COMPUTED BY MATHEMATICS.—Mademoiselle de Launay, a French authoress of the eighteenth century, whose writings were distinguished by their piquant delicacy and correctness of judgment, thus writes concerning one who had formed an early attachment for her:—Monsieur de Rey always showed me great attachment. I discovered by slight indications, some diminution in his passion. I often went to Mademoiselle d'Epinar, at whose house he almost always was. As she lived very near my convent, I generally

returned on foot, and he never failed to offer me his arm to conduct me home. We had to pass through a large square, and at the beginning of our acquaintance he took the road by the side of the square. Then I saw that he crossed it in the middle, whence I concluded that his love had, at least, diminished by the difference between the diagonal and the two sides of the square.

A CHASED MAN.—A fastidious M. C. tells the following as a "bon mot," picked up at a late dinner party in Washington. It appears that Mr. H. was at a table in the vicinity of Sam Houston, and also a distinguished authoress. During the conversation, Mr. H. asked the General if they had any Know-Nothings down in Texas. "No, sir, replied the General, "not at present; we never had but one, and soon got rid of him." "How did you do that?" asked our member. "Why, sir," said the General, "we chased him out of town, and then chased him out of the country, and finally he was chased into a high tree, and lodged himself there." "What became of him then, sir?" asked the lady. "Why, madam," said the General, who prides himself upon what he calls wit, and likes to make a point, "he drew the tree up, roots and all, and took it off with him!" Rather a loud smile was the consequence, as the General thought to his credit and the lady's expense, till the lady quietly observed:—"Well, General, I am happy to know you have had one *chased* man in your State!" The General was floored, and with the greatest gravity, and a most deferential bow replied, "Madam, I am indebted to you—one!"

A YOUNG HERO.

A sergeant-major, now in Washington barracks, who has recently returned from the Crimea, has sent us the following enthusiastic account of the conduct of a young soldier, only ten years old, named Thomas Keep, of the third battalion Grenadier Guards, under the command of Colonel Thomas Wood. The writer states that this boy accompanied the army to the heights of the Alma, preserving the most undaunted demeanor throughout the battle. At one time a twenty-four-pounder passed on each side of him, and shot and shell fell about him like hail, but notwithstanding the weariness of the day, present dangers, or the horrid sight, the poor boy's heart beat with tenderness towards the poor wounded. Instead of going into a tent to take care of himself after the battle was over, he refused to take rest, but was seen venturing his life for the good of his comrades in the battle field.

This boy was seen carefully stepping over one dead body after another, collecting all the broken muskets he could find, and making a fire, in the night to procure hot water. He made tea for the poor sufferers, and saved the life of Sergeant Russel, and some of the soldiers who were nearly exhausted for want. Thus did this youth spend the night. At the battle of Balaklava, he again assisted the wounded. The boy did his duty, by day and worked in the trenches by night. He received one shot, which went through his coat and out at the leg of his trowsers, but Providence again preserved him unhurt. He helped with all the bravery of a man to get in the wounded, and rested not until the poor sufferers were made as comfortable as he could make them. He waited on the Doctor while extracting the shot from the men, and waited on the men before and after. "Thus did this youth," says the writer, "do any thing to any one who needed help. Some of the wounded say that they should not have been alive now, had it not been for this unwearied watchfulness in their hours of helplessness. This boy has

been recommended by Colonel Robinson, and Colonel Wood, and others in her Majesty's service."—*London News, Feb. 26.*

MAN AND IMMORTALITY.

Man is a *seed*, and birth is *planting*. He is in life for cultivation, not exhibition; he is here chiefly to be *acted on*, not to be characteristically an agent. For though man is also an actor, he is yet more a recipient. Though he produces effects, he receives a thousand fold more than he produces. And he is to be estimated by his capacity of receiving, not of doing. *He has his least value in what he can do; it all lies in what he is capable of having done to him.* The eye, the ear, the tongue, the nerve of touch, are all simple receivers. The understanding, the affections, the moral sentiments, all, are, primarily and characteristically, recipients of influence, and only secondarily agents. Now how different is the value of one, dead in its silent waiting places, from the wrought blade, the all but living engine, and the carved and curious utensil!

Of how little value is a ship standing helpless on the stocks—but half built, and yet building—to one who has no knowledge of the ocean, or of what that helpless hulk will become the moment she slides into her element, and rises and falls upon the flood with joyous greeting!

The value of an acorn is not what it is, but what it shall be when nature has brooded it, and brought it up, and a hundred years have sung through its branches and left their strength there!

He, then, that judges man by what he can do, judges him in the seed. We must see him through some lenses—we must prefigure his *immortality*. While, then, his *industrial* value in life must depend on what he can do, we have here the beginning of a *moral* value which bears no relation to his power, but to his future destiny.—*Henry W. Beecher.*

COLD WATER AND PROSPERITY.—We had the pleasure of hearing James Buchanan deliver an address before the Howard Society, on which occasion he related the following circumstances:

Several years ago, a gentleman dined with him who had risen by his own industry and integrity alone, from humble life to a proud position in society. On being invited to take a glass of wine, the following conversation ensued:

"Do you allow persons at your table to drink what they please?" asked the guest.

"Certainly," replied Mr. Buchanan.

"Then I'll take a glass of water."

"Ah indeed! And how long have you drank cold water?"

"Ever since I was eleven years old."

"Is it possible! And pray, what induced you to adopt the principle of total abstinence?"

"Seeing a person intoxicated."

"Well," continued Mr. Buchanan, "if you have had the firmness of purpose to continue up to this time without taking intoxicating drinks, I do not wonder that you have reached your present position."

Mr. Buchanan afterwards learned that the person he saw intoxicated was his *father*.—*Southern Organ.*

INTERESTING TO FATHERS.—The editor of the Buffalo Republic has made himself immortal by the publication of an infallible means of keeping babies perfectly quiet, the *modus operandi* of which is as follows: As soon as the child wakes and begins to squall, prop it up with pillows and smear its fingers with thick molasses, sticking feathers into the hands and thus afford the youngste.

the employment of picking the feathers from one hand and the other, which will keep him still till he drops asleep again.

THE VERDANT GROOMSMAN.—On no occasion, (says the Springfield Republican) do people seem more prone to commit blunders than at a wedding. The following actually occurred in a neighboring town:

In the midst of a crowd of witnesses, the clergyman had just completed that interesting ceremony which binds in the silver bonds of wedlock two willing hearts, and stretched forth his hands to implore the blessings of heaven on the union. At this point, the groomsmen seeing the open hands reached out, supposing it was the signal for him to surrender the wedding fee, which was burning in his pocket. Accordingly, just as the clergyman closed his eyes in prayer, he felt the pressure of two sweaty half-dollars on his palms.

The good man hesitated a moment, appalled at the ludicrousness of his situation, but coolly deposited the money in his pocket, and proceeded with his devotions.

THE MASTIFF.

The Mastiff is familiar and widely celebrated as the popular watch-dog. He was known in England in the earliest times, and attracted the attention of her Roman conquerors, who selected the most powerful, and sent them to the "Eternal City;" they enacted prominent and bloody parts in the Amphitheater, in tearing down wild beasts, and human victims sacrificed for the amusement of the population. The mastiff is deeply attached to his master, but implacable to strangers. His hearing must be very fine, for he instantly distinguishes between the tread of the inmates of the household which he guards and intruders, and will announce by his sharp bark the arrival of the burglar or thief, the instant they touch the premises, however cautious they may be. The mastiff, when treated with kindness, becomes affectionate and intelligent, without losing any of its qualities as a valuable guardian of property.

THE TERRIER

Is a small, delicate dog, some of them being of exquisite symmetry. They are famous for their courage, and also for their intelligence. Almost equal to the spaniel in attachment, they are great pets with young people, and join in the sports of the juveniles with a glee that is quite inspiring. Terriers seem to have been designed especially to kill rats, for they are indefatigable in their pursuit, and will do an incredible amount of hard labor to unearth the vermin. Their courage is wonderful; they attack the fox and the otter in their holes, and generally come off victors. On one occasion we were engaged in a bear hunt, and among the pack of stout hounds was a little terrier, that ran off from the plantation, and, apparently out of pure mischief, kept up with the running dogs. Bruin was finally brought to bay, and when the hunters came up they found him on his hind-legs, the hounds forming a circle at a respectful distance from him, while the ridiculous little terrier was inside of the ring, snarling and growling, and occasionally rendering the bear perfectly insane with fury, by attempting to seize his legs.

The dexterity of the terrier in destroying rats is illustrated by exhibitions, where a dog is matched to kill a certain number of rats in a given time. A ring is prepared, the vermin are brought in bags, and, to the amount of a hundred, put into it. The dog is then set over the railing. The rats—most ferocious animals when cornered—finding escape impossible, will turn *en masse* on the dog, and seize hold of him, and hang on, un-

til the terrier's head and shoulders are absolutely concealed from view. Meanwhile the courageous little creature, with immense rapidity and certainty, selects his victims, and, giving them a single bite in the loins, continues his work until all the rats are dead, finishing the hundred in seven or eight minutes.

The Scotch terrier is similar in habits to the one already noticed, but very different in personal appearance. His hair is long and wiry, concealing his eyes and symmetry of form. The principal beauty of some of these coarse-haired terriers consists in their ugliness. They are all faithful, and can appeal to every one for sympathy, on the poetical principle, that "handsome is who handsome does."

WINE-GROWING COUNTRIES.

Unhappily, there is an agent far more direct and active in the degradation of France, than either taxation or extravagance. No one who has made a tour of curiosity around the "octroi" walls of Paris, can have failed to make the discovery. Here, for at least three days in the week, he will find from 20,000 to 30,000 of the most dissolute of both sexes occupied in drinking and debauchery of the worst kind, in temporary liquor shops.

There are upwards of 350,000 licensed retailers of wines and spirits in France, being an increase of 100,000 in twenty years. Were Beelzebub permitted to select an agent for the demoralization of humanity, he could not find one better adapted to his purposes than that which is sanctioned by the government of France.

M. Villerme, speaking of the cabarets of the quarter Etaques at Lille, says: I saw in them crowds agitated like the inhabitants of an ant hill. All drank the detestable corn-brandy or beer. I can affirm that I have never seen at once so much pollution, misery and vice, and nowhere under an aspect more hideous and revolting. In Paris it is estimated there are 17,000 habitual drunkards of the most brutal character.

The Mayor of Paimpol says: I affirm that the greater part of the paupers of this town owe their misery to the excess of drinks, particularly brandy. Such evidences should destroy the common delusion, that because light wines are cheap in France, intoxication is rare. Brandies of the most deleterious nature are equally cheap, and more generally used. In the department of the north, there is a dramshop for every sixty-four inhabitants.

The above is from "Parisian Sights," published by the Harpers, pages 206-8.

It appears from this, that while there is a vast amount of intoxication in France, much of it is upon other liquors than wines; but is it not probable that the use of the wines induces appetites and habits which pave the way for the excessive use of stronger and more deleterious beverages? W. P. B.

New-York Observer.

IN DEBT AND OUT OF DEBT.

Of what a hideous progeny of ill is debt the father! What meannesses, what invasions on self-respect, what cares, what double dealing! How, in due season, it will carve the frank open face into wrinkles; how like a knife, 'twill stab the honest heart. And then its transformations! How it has been known to change a goodly face into a mask of brass; how, with the "damned custom of debt, has the true man become a callous trickster! A freedom from debt, and what nourishing sweetness may be found in cold water; what toothsome in a dry crust; what ambrosial nourishment in a

hard egg! Be sure of it, he who dines out of debt, tho' his meal be biscuit and an onion, dines in "The Apollo." And then for raiment; what warmth in a threadbare coat, if the tailor's receipt be in your pocket, what Tyrian purple in the faded waistcoat, the vest not owed for; how glossy the well-worn hat if it cover not the aching head of a debtor! Next the home-sweets, the out door recreation of the free man. The street-door falls not a knell on his heart; the foot on the staircase, though he lives on the third pair, sends no spasm through his anatomy; at the rap of his door he can crow forth "come in," and his pulse still beat healthfully, his heart sink not in his bowels. See him abroad. How confidently, yet how pleasantly he takes the street; how he returns look for look with any passenger; how he saunters; how, meeting an acquaintance, he stands and gossips! But, then, this man knows no debt; debt, that casts a drug into the richest wine; that makes the food of the gods unwholesome, indigestible; that sprinkles the banquet of a Lucullus with ashes, and drops soot in the soup of an emperor; debt, that like the moth, makes valueless furs and velvets, inclosing the wearer in a festering prison, (the shirt of Nessus was a shirt not paid for;) debt, that writes upon frescoed walls the hand writing of the attorney; that puts a voice of terror in the knocker; that makes the heart quake at the hunted fire-side; debt, the invisible demon that walks abroad with a man, now quickening his steps, now making him look on all sides like a hunted beast, and now bringing to his face the ashy hue of death, as the unconscious passenger looks glancingly upon him! Poverty is a bitter draught, yet may, and sometimes with advantage, be gulped down. Though the drinker make wry faces, there may after all be a wholesome goodness in the cup. But debt, however covertly it be offered, is the cup of a Syren, and the wine, spicy and delicious though it be, as poison. The man out of debt, though with a flaw in his jerkin, a crack in his shoe-leather, and a hole in his hat, is still the son of liberty, free as the singing lark above him; but the debtor, though clothed in the utmost bravery, what is he but a serf out upon a holiday—a slave to be reclaimed at any instant by his owner, the creditor? My son, if poor, see wine in the running spring; let thy mouth water at last week's roll; think a threadbare coat the "only wear;" and acknowledge a white-washed garget the fittest housing-place for a gentleman; do this, and flee debt. So shall thy heart be at peace; and the sheriff be confounded.—*Douglas Jerrold, in "Heads of the People."*

THE BOSTON CORN EXCHANGE.

The opening of the new Corn Exchange, a few weeks since, was duly announced by the press, and the favorable auguries of the enterprise duly given. We are pleased to learn that the new association has more than realized the expectations of its founders, by the facility it affords for trade in the mere item of concentration of business and in the matter of regulation of prices by a uniform standard.

The flour and corn business had become a most important feature in Boston commerce, about one million barrels of flour being sold here per year, and about three million bushels of grain, with large quantities of seeds. All this business was in the hands of some two hundred receivers or jobbers, scattered through the whole extent of the city, to find whom dealers were put to a considerable inconvenience. The receivers themselves had no place for consultation, to compare samples and average prices, and the necessity for a place of meeting

became very evident. The mere broaching of the thing to the trade was at once hailed with favor, and the Boston Corn Exchange was the result, the benefit of which has been most happily illustrated.

The rooms of the Exchange are located in the now granite block at the corner of Commercial-street and City wharf. They are exceedingly pleasant, and so central as to admit of the readiest access. These rooms are open one hour daily—from ten till eleven—and here are brought such samples of flour or grain as the receivers may have to sell, which wholesale buyers can examine at their leisure. A vote of the exchange, in order to facilitate the operations between buyers and sellers, has decided that flour shall not be sold at the rooms in quantities less than fifty barrels, nor grain in quantities less than five hundred bushels, except in such cases where the balance of a lot shall be offered.

The rooms are provided with long black walnut tables, running their entire length, with sufficient space on either side for the movements of those doing business. Each table is provided with drawers, to one of which every member of the association is entitled, in which he keeps his samples in small boxes, each box marked with particular brand and the particular quality. These boxes are spread upon the tables, and it is a matter of interest to note the various descriptions and their differences, more marked when seen together. It is a busy scene in the Corn Exchange during the allotted hour. The dealers know that the clock is looking at them, that its inexorable fingers will bid them stop at the limited moment, and all the energy and tact of trade are exerted to clinch their bargains before they are shut off.

It will be seen how great the advantage of such a place must be to those engaged in the flour and grain trade and to their customers, and aside from its business importance, the benefits of which, in this as in all other departments of life, can not be too highly esteemed. The advantage of the Corn Exchange is a fixed fact and its complete success undoubted.—*Boston Post.*

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has fallen from 31 to 50 cents per bbl.; Corn 3 to 4 cents per bushel.

Cotton has advanced ½ of a cent per lb., Sugar the same.

The Weather the past week has been cold with some rain. Planting is going on rapidly.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY May 2, 1855.

The chief feature in the market to-day is a short supply of cattle, and enormously high prices. Last week there was 1750; while to-day there are only 1371, being a falling off of 379. Seeing the few animals offered, the brokers thought this morning to rule the market; but the cattle were held so high that butchers preferred not to buy at all, rather than pay such enormous prices. Consequently the market was dull in spite of the limited supply, and later in the day, the butchers saw fit to ease off a little. A few of the cattle sold to-day as high as 13c., though this was the top of the market. Very few, we think, sold less than 10c. This great advance is chiefly owing to the short supply, and is, doubtless, merely temporary.

Below we give some of the lots offered:

Franklin Ford was on hand with 100 fine cattle, from Paris, Ky., which sold by Wm. Belden from 11. to 12½c. The cost of bringing was nearly \$20 per head. He also had another lot of 105 inferior cattle, sold by David Belden from 11c. to 12½c. The difference between good and poor cattle, when there is a scarcity, is much less than one would suppose. This gentleman said he lost last week \$1,800 on two droves.

Geo. Ayrault sold 95 good cattle from Seneca Falls, N.

Y., owned by Van Duser & Mumford. They would average about 600 lbs., and sold for about 12c.

Chas. Teed sold a fair lot of 117 Indiana cattle, owned by Roward & Creamer for about 12c.

Mr. M. Rombach had 6 very choice 5-year-old full-blood Durhams, from Clinton Co., Ohio, which would weigh 2,200 lbs. each at home. One pair was as fat and fine built as need be. Such cattle bring no more than many others in the yards, nor pay for feeding; however, there is some pleasure in bringing them to market as well as looking at them. They were held at \$1,100.

Ulery & McConnell, had 67 fine Ohio cattle, which brought from 11c. to 12½c. and a few 13c.

Barney Bartam, had the best drove in the yards, from Pratt Co., Illinois. There was 84 in all, fed by Calf & Jacoby, and owned by Cochran & Claypole. These cattle cost \$125 per head, in Illinois, and brought here from \$120 to \$160, or from 12½c. to 13c.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices: Extra quality at 12½@13c. Good retailing quality beef is selling at... 11½@12c. Inferior do. do. 10½@11½c. Cows and Calves..... \$30@\$75. Veals..... 4c.@7c. Sheep, poor..... \$4@4 50. do good..... \$5 50@6. do extra..... \$7@9. Swine, alive..... 5½c.@5¾c. " dead..... 7½@8c

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves,..... 1478	1371
Cows,..... 14	—
Veals,..... 1051	—
Sheep and lambs,..... 77	—
Swine,..... 1492	—

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves... 550 Swine..... 1492

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves..... 8 Cows..... 14 Veals..... 1051 Sheep and Lambs..... 77

By the Hudson River Railroad..... 300 Sheep and Lambs..... — Swine..... —

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves..... 425 Sheep..... — Swine..... —

New-York State furnished—beeves..... 238 Ohio, "..... 537

Indiana, "..... 117 Illinois, "..... 363

Virginia, "..... 48 Kentucky, "..... —

Connecticut, "..... — Pennsylvania "..... 53

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs..... 843 Beeves..... 220

Veals..... 36 Cows and Calves..... 20

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's: 230 Beef Cattle..... 9@12c.

76 Cows and Calves..... \$30@\$60 2,754 Sheep..... \$4@\$10.

Sheep are very scarce, and command almost any price. There are none in the market to-day at all. Good lambs sell from \$4 to \$6.

The following are the sales of Jas. McCarty:

64 Sheep..... \$272 00 50 Sheep..... 150 00

32 Sheep..... 120 00 25 Sheep..... 75 00

126 Sheep..... \$283 50 154 Sheep..... 827 75

41 Sheep..... 209 29 7 do..... 25 00

42 do..... 88 50 541

Average..... \$3 95.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, May 1, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The market still continues dull, as usually happens at the first of May. Poor potatoes are more plentiful and a little lower. Nova Scotias are very abundant. There are 50,000 bushels afloat in the docks.

Apples remain nearly the same in price, but are rather

scarce. Wholesale quantities, including all kinds except Russets, were sold for \$4 1/2 bbl. Russets bring about \$3 50.

Butter is lower. New butter begins to come in. Eggs are quite low.

VEGETABLES.

Table listing various vegetables and their prices, including Potatoes, Turnips, Onions, Cabbages, Beets, Carrots, Apples, Butter, Eggs, etc.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Ashes, Beeswax, Bristles, Coal, Cotton, Coffee, Flax, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, and Lime.

Lumber—

Table listing lumber products and prices, including Timber, White Pine, Oak, Grand Island, W. O., and Geo. Yel. Pine.

Molasses—

Table listing molasses products and prices, including New-Orleans, Porto Rico, Cuba Muscovado, Trinidad Cuba, and Cardenas, &c.

Oil Cake—

Table listing oil cake products and prices, including Thin Oblong, City, and Thick, Round, Country.

Provisions—

Table listing various provisions and prices, including Beef, Mess, Country, Beef, Mess, City, Beef, Prime, Country, etc.

Rice—

Table listing rice products and prices, including Ordinary to fair and Good to prime.

Salt—

Table listing salt products and prices, including Turk's Island, St. Martin's, Liverpool, Ground, Liverpool, Fine, and Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.

Sugar—

Table listing sugar products and prices, including St. Croix, New-Orleans, Cuba Muscovado, Porto Rico, Havana, White, and Havana, Brown and Yellow.

Tallow—

Table listing tallow products and prices, including American, Prime.

Tobacco—

Table listing tobacco products and prices, including Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, St. Domingo, Cuba, Yara, Havana, Fillers and Wrappers, Florida Wrappers, Connecticut, Seed Leaf, and Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf.

Wool—

Table listing wool products and prices, including American, Saxony Fleece, American, Full Blood Merino, American, 1/2 and 3/4 Merino, American, Native and 1/2 Merino, Superfine, Pulled, Country, and No. 1, Pulled, Country.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86-6m

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., April 24, 1855. 86-4m1193

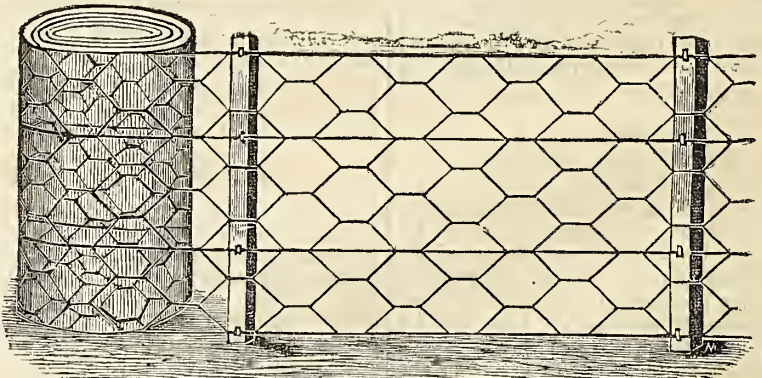
DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or A. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86-4m1194

FARMER'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HERSEY'S POWER, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS. Single Horse Power \$83 00 Double do. do. 116 00 Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator, 160 00 Single do. do. do. 128 00 Belts \$5 and \$10 each. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

HOME ON A FARM WANTED.—A Young Man who has been obliged in consequence of ill health to discontinue a regular course of study, wishes to engage in the lighter services of a farm. Proximity to New York city is desirable. He will assist in the instruction of those members of the family who may desire it, in the English branches, in Latin and Greek preparatory to a collegiate course, and in plain and short-hand writing. No compensation will be expected. Communications descriptive of the farm addressed to FARMER, Office of American Agriculturist, will be immediately noticed. References exchanged. 85m1192

BLACK HAWK HORSE RAVEN.—This Horse will stand at the farm of the subscriber, in NORFOLK, Conn., called the Robbins Farm, the coming season, at ten and fifteen dollars. The oldest colts of this Horse are three years old. The stock is of extraordinary promise. RAVEN is by Vermont Black Hawk—dam has the blood of Gifford Morgan and of Cock of the Rock. 53-30m1191 ROBBINS BATELL.

FARMERS ATTENTION.—Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied. The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention. WHY NOT TRY IT? Cuttings can be had in any quantity upon early application to the subscriber, and instructions for planting &c. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. Hitherto the labor of peeling willows by hand has been the great objection to their cultivation, but now a machine has been perfected, capable of doing the work of twenty men, and doing it well. 79-4f



IMPROVED WIRE FENCE.

THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens, Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens. It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years. Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the subeam, while it does not confine heat, and is withal ornamental.

This superior FENCE can be supplied at the following prices:

Table listing different types of wire fencing and their prices per rod, including A-16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, B-15, C-45, D-33, E-45, and G-45.

Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot.

The rod measures 16 1/2 feet. Each coil contains about 25 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the **IMPROVED POUURETTE** made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1.50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3.50; 3 barrels, \$5.00; 5 barrels, \$8.00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the **LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY**, No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of **POURETTE** per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure. (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN DANA.

70-121n1152]

SUPERIOR SEED WHEAT.—A LARGE assortment of the best varieties of improved Seed Wheat; among which are the Red Mediterranean, White Mediterranean, Soule's and Blue stem. For sale by
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on **WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE** next, my entire **HERD of Short-Horned Cattle**—consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals. Nearly the whole of them are **IMPORTED**, and their direct descendants.

Also, about seventy-five (75) **SOUTHDOWN SHEEP**. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few **SUFFOLK HOGS**, bred from the importation of J. C. Jackson, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agriculture Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

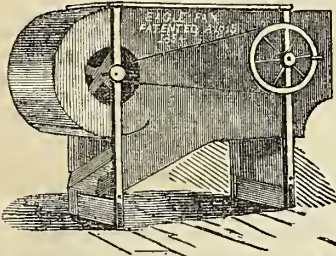
TERMS OF SALE.

For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.

J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y.
March 20th, 1855. 81-92n1185

FERTILIZERS.—PERUVIAN GUANO, with Government brand on each bag, of best quality, and not **DAMPENED** to make it **WEIGH HEAVIER**. Improved Super Phosphate, Bone-dust, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, &c.
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists

First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of what which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seedling, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of **WM LAWTON**, 83-108n1188 No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

ATKIN'S SELF-RAKING REAPER and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth. **THREE HUNDRED**, scattered into 19 different States the past season, mostly in inexperienced hands, and nearly all giving good satisfaction, cutting from 50 to 600 acres, proves it not only strong and serviceable, but also simple and easily managed. It saves not only the hard work of raking, but lays the grain in such good order as to save at least another hand in binding.

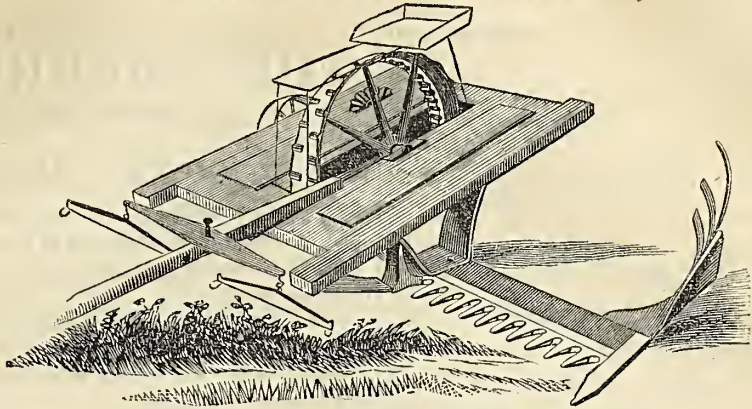
IT IS WARRANTED TO BE A GOOD, DURABLE, SELF-RAKING REAPER, and I have also succeeded in attaching a mowing bar, so that I also WARRANT IT AS A MOWER.

Price at Chicago, of Reapers, \$170; of Mowing Bar, \$30. Discount on the Reaper, \$15, and on Mowing Bar, \$5, for cash in advance, or on delivery. Price of Mower, \$120.

Pamphlets giving all the objections and difficulties, as well as commendations, sent free, on post-paid applications. AGENTS, suitably qualified, wanted in all sections where there are none.
J. S. WRIGHT.

"Prairie Farmer" Warehouse, Chicago, Dec. 1854. [67-88]

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

- 1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.
- 2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.
- 3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.
- 4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.
- 5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.
- 6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
- 7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which evenry large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

WATER RAMS, SUCTION, FORCE and Endless-chain Pumps; Leather, Gutta Percha, India Rubber Hose, Lead Pipe, &c.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Scurry.

Red and White Clover
Lucerne.
Saintfoin.

Alyske Clover.
Sweet-scented Clover.
Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties. Winter Rye.

Barley.
Buckwheat.
Oats of several choice kinds.

Corn, of great variety.
Spring and Winter Fetches.
PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Orange, Locust, Buckthorn, Tobacco, Common and Italian Millet, Broom Corn, Cotton, Flax, Canary, Hemp, Rape and Rice.

FRUIT TREES.—Choice sorts, including the Apple, Pear, Quince, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, &c., &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated.
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

DRAINING TILES OF ALL FORMS and sizes.

THRESHERS AND FANNING-MILLS combined, of three sizes and prices, requiring from two to eight horses to drive them, with corresponding horse powers. These are the latest improved patterns in the United States.

SOUTHERN PLOWS—Nos. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 14, 15, 18, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$, 19, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$, 20, A 1, A 2, Nos. 50, 60, and all other sizes.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coultter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS and WAGGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a **PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN**. I would call attention to a few of many others offered for sale:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.
BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Spades, Cultivators, Seed and Grain Drills, Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden Engines, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Shingle Machines, Apple Parees, Hay and Manure Forks, Saw Machines, Scales, Rakes, Belting for Machinery, &c.

Cotton Gins, Gin Gear, Wire Cloth, Belting for Machinery, &c.
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

SHORT HORN BULLS.—I have for sale three young, thoroughbred **SHORT HORN BULLS**; ages—four months, seven months, eighteen months; colors—roan, red, chiefly red; the get of **SPLENDOR**, a son of Vane Teni pest and imported Wolviston,
JOHN R. PAGE,
Sennett, Cayuga Co. N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents.
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

FINE ANGERS QUINCE CUTTINGS, from one to two feet in length, for **SEVEN DOLLARS PER THOUSAND** READY PACKED,
At the South Norwalk Nurseries.
Address, **GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.,**
76-88n1163 South Norwalk, Conn.

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

WHEN sending a subscription always state what number it shall commence with. The back numbers of this volume can still be supplied to new subscribers. Back volumes neatly bound can now be furnished from the commencement. Price of the first ten volumes \$1 25 each, or \$10 for the entire set of ten volumes. Vols. XI, XII, and XII, \$1 50 each. Price of the thirteen volumes, \$14 00.

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THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,
 THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

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The Publishers confidently believe that the *Agriculturists* of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow *monthly* issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and *reliable* character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

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The *American Agriculturist* stands upon *its own merits*; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is *untrammelled* by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the *organ of any clique*, or the *puffing machine* of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

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The *American Agriculturist* is under the control and management of Mr. ORANGE JUDD, A. M., an experienced farmer, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness* and *reliability* of every department of this Journal.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
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VOL. XIV.—NO. 9.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 87.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

CULTIVATION OF BEANS.

Having in previous numbers given our readers full directions for the cultivation in the best manner of the most important grain and root crops, we propose, in this and subsequent numbers, to treat of others not so generally cultivated, but yet of high value.

We commence with beans, which, according to our table at page 88 of this volume, rank third in value as muscle-producing food, at present prices of grain and pulse. In ancient days, beans were more eaten and more highly prized than they now are. It would be well for us to go back to the tastes and habits of our forefathers, and make them a more common dish at our tables; for, with the exception of peas, they are unquestionably the cheapest food we eat; and nothing scarcely is healthier, or gives greater strength and endurance to the animal frame.

It has often been a matter of regret with us that the white field bean was not more cultivated, especially in the eastern States. It produces well, and pays better for the labor bestowed upon it, in light, poor soils, than any other crop. There are thousands of acres in our country now running to waste, on which beans might be grown very profitably at present prices; and if we can in this short article be the means of extending their cultivation, we shall feel abundantly remunerated for the trouble of writing it.

Soil.—The bean will grow well in any soil, from the stiffest clay to the loosest sand; but in our experience of its cultivation we have found that of a light gravel, abounding somewhat with stone, suit it best. In a clay soil the bean does not ripen so well or show so pure a white, and it is somewhat subject to mold and rot; in rich loams it runs too much to vine; and in light shift-

ing sands its growth is small and somewhat parched.

Preparation.—We are supposing the soil a hard, poor gravel. In this case it is customary to plow about three inches deep; but as the bean sends out innumerable fine roots from its main stem, it is important to have the ground loose and mellow to a greater depth, and yet keep the most fertile part of it on the top. If, then, the labor can be spared, and it be not too expensive, we would recommend that the surface-plow be followed by the smaller kind of subsoil-plow, stirring the ground six inches deeper, thus making the two plowings at least nine inches in depth.

Manures.—A very favorite manure for a bean crop in some places is chip-dung; but composts of almost any kind answer well, especially those in which muck predominates. Guano may be used at the rate of 100 to 300 lbs. per acre, according to soil. Poudrette is a good manure, but should be used sparingly. Bone dust and dissolved bones are useful to a certain extent. Lime, ashes, charcoal, and plaster, are more or less beneficial as a top-dressing. Long manure fresh from the barnyard is rather too rank, and is apt to make the beans run too much to vine; but this depends something upon the soil to which it is applied. Whatever fertilizing materials, however, are made use of, if the land be very poor and rough, and it is not particularly wished to improve it for a succeeding crop, we would recommend that they should be used for manuring by the side or in the hill or drill; otherwise be spread broadcast directly after plowing, then well incorporated with the soil by harrowing. Thus prepared, the ground should be planted as soon as possible.

Seed.—The best kind of field-bean, is of small size, plump, round, and slightly oblong in shape and of a white color.

Planting.—For this purpose, some prefer throwing the field into ridges; but this should only be resorted to when the soil is stiff, or possesses a superabundant moisture; in every other case, planting on a level surface is best. Drills $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet apart is the favorite method of planting with those who are desirous of making the most of their ground; hills $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet distant each way answer nearly as well; some sow broadcast, but when this is done, no after-culture can follow, and the crop is liable to be lessened by the growth of weeds, and the land is left in a foul state. Beans are frequently grown among corn, being planted between each hill

at the second time of hoeing. The crop under these circumstances is small; it takes also from that of the corn, and it may be considered upon the whole, as scarcely paying for the extra trouble of cultivation. It is customary to plant beans after corn and potatoes are got in. The first week in June is quite early enough in this climate, farther north the last of May is perhaps better; they grow quick, and we have seen first rate crops gathered from plantings as late as the 15th of June, in the latitude of 42° . The quantity of seed usually allowed per acre, in hills, is one peck; in drills, it would require a little more; broadcast, one to two bushels. Yet this will depend something upon the size of the bean used, and the economy in dropping the seed. Six to seven beans should be dropped in each hill, and four or five stocks be left to bear; in drills drop the seed every two or three inches, and leave a plant every four to six inches. When planted in hills, the field may be checked out by a light one-horse plow as for corn, then drop the seed by hand, and cover with a hoe or shovel-plow; for drills use the hand or horse seed-sower, or run the plow about two inches deep, then drop as above, or from a long-necked bottle, or a tin cup with a hole in the bottom and a handle attached to it, slightly shaking the cup or bottle as the person dropping walks along. Children are best for this kind of work, as they are not obliged to stoop as much as men, and they will do it quite as rapidly and well. After dropping cover about two inches deep with the hoe, or turn back the furrow with the plow. When this is finished, it is best to pass a light roller over the ground. For drill-planting, there are various machines which answer as well for beans as for corn, but in stony ground, or a stiff soil, they do not cover well.

After-Culture.—This is very simple, and only requires the cultivator to be passed up and down the rows at two or three different times during the season, for the purpose of keeping the weeds down and stirring the earth, followed by a slight hilling with the hoc or a light plow, throwing the dirt to the plants.

Harvesting.—This should be done in dry weather as soon as the bean is well formed, and there is no danger of its molding or shrinking; if left till touched by a hard frost, the pods are liable to crack open, and much waste ensues from their shelling. When sown broadcast on smooth land, the most rapid way of harvesting is by mowing; when

in hills or drills, especially in rough ground, it is customary to pull the vines by hand, which being light work, and demanding a good deal of stooping, may also, like the dropping of the seed, be performed by children. As the bean-vines are pulled they are thrown into small heaps, and sunned daily like hay. As soon as sufficiently dry, they should be taken to the barn, threshed, and the straw stacked. We have never found it answer to stack beans before being threshed; they have invariably become dark-colored or spotted, and in addition to this, we lost more or less by rot and mold. Another good method of curing beans is, to take poles or stakes (common fence-stakes) into your bean-field, and set them stiffly in the ground, at convenient distances apart, which experience will soon show you, and put a few sticks or stones around for a bottom, and then, as you pull an arm-full, take them to the stakes, and lay them around, the roots always to the stake, as high as you can reach, and tie the top course with a string, or a little straw, to prevent them from being blown off. Where there are no stones at hand, use small chunks of wood in their place. In the more stony and silicious soils of the eastern States, the stakes are unnecessary, beans will cure well enough on the bare ground. After being threshed, the beans should be cleaned in the same manner that grain is, and then put into barrels or sacks and sent to market. The whiter they are in color, and the neater they appear, the quicker they sell, and the higher price they bring.

Product.—This varies greatly according to soil and cultivation. When planted with corn, 7 to 12 bushels is a fair yield per acre; when planted alone, 20 to 25 bushels. We are persuaded that, by subsoiling even the poorest gravel land, and lightly top-dressing it with the proper kind of manure, from 30 to 35 bushels per acre may be counted upon as an average; and if so, beans would be a much more profitable crop than any thing else which could be produced from it. The highest product which we have known taken from a single acre was 53 bushels, but we have heard of 60 bushels being raised.

Value.—White beans of a good quality, well cleaned, and neatly put up, usually bring from \$1 to \$1 75 per bushel in this market; and occasionally they are worth from \$2 to \$2 50. At the moment of writing this article, the better qualities of white beans are selling at \$2 75 to \$3 per bushel. We do not recollect of their being less than \$1 for years. The straw is valuable as food for sheep, and when properly cured they eat it with avidity. In a chemical analysis of beans, it is found they abound with a *greater quantity of the elements of wool* than any other grain or vegetable; to make sheep produce heavy fleeces, they are therefore particularly desirable as food, and such is their natural fondness for them, that they will eat them with avidity, whole or ground, even in a damaged state. To our store-flocks during the winter season we generally gave a pint of beans per head per day, and when we had not these, we fed peas,

oats, and potatoes. Corn is good for *fattening* sheep, but not so valuable as beans, peas, oats, and most other kinds of grain, for the production of wool.

For the American Agriculturist.

TURTLE-SOUP BEAN.

I take the liberty of calling the attention of your readers to the subject of cultivating this very superior bean, which, I believe, is very little known or properly appreciated in this section.

As early as 1846, while I occupied "Three Hills Farm," I was presented with about two quarts of black beans, by my friend and neighbor, Mr. Wm. Cooper, who brought them from the south. They are of rather small size, kidney-shaped, of a jet black color, and highly polished skin.

They proved to be an early dwarf variety, and remarkably prolific—far more so than any other variety I ever cultivated. They proved also to be decidedly the best *snap* or *string bean*, that has ever fallen under my notice, as a general crop for family use. Its superiority over the ordinary bush beans consists in the tenderness and excellent flavor of its pods, and the long time which they continue fit for use—certainly three times as long as the common dwarf bean. And when only one variety of dwarf bean is cultivated, I would most assuredly recommend this variety as decidedly preferable to the old sorts; and it bears abundant crops on dry soils, where several others fail.

It is said to have taken its name from the superior flavor of the ripened beans in soup, which has very much the flavor and color of mock-turtle soup, without the trouble of browning.

From the two quarts I planted, I obtained on harvesting, after using them very freely when green, three and a half bushels.

While I kept the American Hotel in Albany, I frequently had soup made from them, in the same way that mock-turtle soup is, with force-meat balls of veal, and seasoned highly, and not one at table but supposed the soup was made of a calf's head. We afterwards had a soup made without the force-meat balls, and the flavor was equally good; and it has been pronounced fully equal, if not superior, to that usually made from a calf's head.

They are cultivated the same as any other dwarf or field bean.

Having given the history and method of cultivating this bean, it is, perhaps, no more than right that I should give a recipe for cooking the same.

Mock-Turtle Bean Soup.—Take one quart of turtle-soup beans, wash and put them to soak the night before you wish to make the soup. In the morning put them on the fire in eight quarts of water, with a knuckle of veal, and boil until soft—which will take about four hours; after which, strain them through a coarse sieve, and put it on the fire, with three onions chopped fine, one table-spoonful of whole cloves, one table-spoonful of summer savory, half a tea-spoonful of cayenne and one tea-spoonful of black pepper, and boil the whole another hour.

For force-meat balls, take one and a half pounds of veal, half a pound of grated bread, one quarter of a pound of fat salt pork, and chop fine together; season with summer savory, red and black pepper; make it into small balls and fry them in butter. When ready to dish up, put the balls into a tureen, and pour on the soup. This will make about six quarts of soup.

Some cooks add a lemon cut into thin slices, and half a pint of Madeira, Teneriffe, or Port wine, and the yolks of six eggs boiled hard.

C. N. BEMENT.

New-Brighton, May 1, 1855.

THE CULTURE OF MUSTARD.

BY A PRACTICAL FARMER.

There are two varieties of Mustard commonly cultivated, both of them for a seed crop, and one of them occasionally for a forage and as a green manure crop. As this is about the time for putting them in, we will give a short account of them, and their cultivation, management, and produce. The two varieties are known as the "Brown Mustard," and the "White Mustard."

The Brown Mustard is that variety which produces the seed from which that well-known yellow powder is manufactured, and used as a condiment at every table. It is esteemed for its pungency of taste, and when mixed with water for service, it passes under the distinctive appellation of "mustard," and is served at the table in "the mustard pot." From the seed of this variety is also obtained a considerable produce of oil, of good quality, used for burning in lamps: but in this respect it is inferior to the white variety. The plant of the brown mustard grows very luxuriantly, and to a great height. The little deep-red grain or seed, as the Scripture hath it, "indeed is the least of all seeds; but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof." This is a true and beautiful description of the growth of the plant. Its stem and leaves are rough and prickly, and pods smooth, in most respects similar to that pest of all lands, garlic, charlock, wild mustard, or by whatever name it is known, except in its highly cultivated gigantic growth, and productive qualities.

The White Mustard.—This is by no means of such prodigious growth; it is very similar to the common radish plant; when left to produce seed, it grows rapidly, however, and yields a large produce of both forage and seed. The forage, or full-grown green crop, is often plowed in as green manure. The seed is a round, yellow grain, like to coriander seed, and produces a good yield of oil of excellent quality for burning in lamps; and, when distilled with water, both varieties furnish a volatile oil of great pungency, which is frequently used to raise blisters and for purposes medicinal.

Cultivation.—The brown mustard requires land of rich quality. It is usually sown as a first crop in breaking up loams, and soils of somewhat above medium quality; in such cases the land should be plowed early in March, at a moderate depth, and should lie sufficiently long to allow the decomposition of the grass sods or sward; this will generally take place in three or four weeks, and, as the surface will in that time become loose and moldy, sowing may commence, and be continued up to the middle of April. This should be done broadcast, and the quantity of seed need not be more than one

fourth of a peck per acre, to be harrowed in lightly, or just so much as to cover the seed. As the plant is weak in its first stages of growth, it will need every encouragement; the grower, therefore, may wait a favorable opportunity to sow. Allsods or clods should be raked into furrows or rows. One good hoeing and thinning should take place in May; the thinner the better, if the plants are strong and healthy. In sowing brown mustard on old cultivated lands, care should be taken to have them in a high state of fertility, and well replenished with manure; the course of culture the same, taking care not to disturb the growing plants too much.

The white mustard may be sown on all soils of moderate depth and fertility. For this crop the land requires more culture; it can not be got into too fine a state, nor can the land be too thoroughly pulverized, as in fallowing; and the plant is of such rapid growth and early maturity, that sowing may be deferred so late as the first of July; however, it is best to sow earlier. The best practice is to put in this crop with bone-dust, or superphosphate; about three-fourths of a peck of seed, and ten bushels of bone-dust, or its equivalent per acre, is sufficient, to be drilled in rows about one foot apart, and lightly harrowed in. Very little further notice is required till harvest day. In sowing this crop for green manure the same process should be pursued, as also for a forage crop. The lands, for the better turning in the green manure, should be set out before drilling, and a deep furrow left, in which to turn "the first plowing up" of the full grown crop. In plowing in, "a elog" of sufficient weight must be attached to the plow hake, with chain, to allow the elog to drag along the furrow, and fastened to the top of the coulter-shank, so dragging as to keep down every stem till covered by the passing furrow. Rolling should immediately follow; and when the plant is sufficiently decayed, the drilling of wheat may go forward without any other aid than a good harrowing.

The best state for feeding off this crop, or of plowing it in, is immediately before the podding takes place, or, at all events, is much advanced; otherwise it becomes too woody and coarse. It produces a large quantity of food; but to make the best of it, heavy stocking is desirable, lest it grow too strong and fibrous; it then becomes unhealthy for old sheep, and indigestible to young ones. It is said that the brown and white varieties are of great use in preventing the ravages of wire-worms. We know that little beetles have instinctive faculties, as well as that of larger growth; they will not deposit their eggs in unpalatable places. The land should be well worked and cleaned after each crop, and every seed made to vegetate, otherwise they become injurious to succeeding crops, particularly the brown variety. On good soils, several of these crops may be taken in succession, if required; or an intervening corn or potato crop may be advisable.

Management.—The great point to be aimed at by the grower is to produce his seed well grown, and of a reddish-brown color; bright and fresh, gray or discolored seed is of very inferior value; hence the necessity of giving his plants plenty of room to perfect their seed, to get it harvested without rain. The first thing to be attended to is the ripening. Experience has almost determined a rule or guide. When the pods to a deep brown approaching purple, and those low on the stem are turning to a light brown, it may be cut, and should be tied into sheaves, or laid in reaps if intended to be thrashed immediately: tying into sheaves, and "pieing," is the best practice. The pieing is one of the most difficult operations in stacking; every sheaf must be so laid that the lower ends of the

outer sheaves droop downwards, so as to shoot off the rains, and prevent damage from wet; the form is invariably round, and when a sufficient height is attained, it is finished with a high, conical, or "sugar-loaf" roof, topped by some long sedge or similar covering. Great care is requisite in leading to the pie or stack. In mustard-growing countries it is a kind of business to individuals who keep a stock of "mustard cloths," sleighs, sieves, &c., which they let out for stacking and threshing; but common farm-carts, fitted with cloths or coarse sheets, will do very well; all that is required is to prevent loss from the shelling seed while loading and teaming. It is usual to thresh with the flail in the field. The sheaves are generally very long and dry, and a stroke or two will beat out most of the seed. Dressing the seed is a peculiar task, and requires an experienced hand; the mustard sieve and a steady wind being essential to clean and correct dressing. Mustard seed will not keep well in granary; the best way to keep it is in the pie.

Produce.—The yield of straw or haulm is very great, and the common practice is to burn it. This is wrong; it makes good stables for corn-stacks, and good litter for the bottom of the fold-yard. The yield of seed is various; as much as 42 bushels of brown mustard have been obtained per acre, but the general average would be from 24 to 28 bushels per acre; of white mustard, the general average would be from 25 to 40 bushels per acre. The price is very fickle, the brown mustard varying from 7s. to 8s. per bushel; and of white mustard, from 2s. 6d. to 25s. per bushel. The present prices are, of red or brown mustard about 15s. per bushel; of white, about 9s. per bushel.—*Mark-Lane Express.*

THE HORSE.

[Continued from page 116.]

PART II.

Blood or Race Horses—Passion of the English for them—Their peculiar merits and defects—Evils arising from too large an admixture of their blood for the varieties of the useful horse, such as the saddle-horse, hunter, charger, coach-horse—Importance of size—The best system of breeding to supply that is a cross between the Cleveland Bay and the thorough-bred—Inferiority of the Arab to the English Race-horse—American Trotters—Morgans—Black Hawks—Union of qualities in the Cleveland Bay.

The English have an undiminished passion for the turf, and a consideration for the Blood-horse as a being of rank. They look upon him as the nobleman of the "population chevaline." They give him credit for a degree of spiritual courage; and Englishmen, even in the humblest ranks of life, will tell you there's nothing like blood—blood will tell—one can call upon blood. The Crown, even in the person of a Queen, has re-established the breeding stud at Hampton Court, and with such success that the Royal yearlings, at the last sale, averaged the extraordinary sum of four hundred and forty-one guineas apiece—the prices varying from twenty-five to a thousand guineas.* The principal breeding stallion at Hampton Court is the superb Orlando, whom I made it a point to visit. As a consequence of this taste for thoroughbred horses, pervading majesty, nobility, gentry, and commonalty, they have greatly multiplied. During the past season, eighteen hundred and forty-one race-horses started. The blood brood-mares are not more than five times as numerous as the breeding blood stallions. At New-Market alone, there were last month ninety-two yearlings in training. The entries for the

*The average price of all the blood yearlings sold in England, in 1854, was about one hundred and forty guineas; and of the brood mares about a hundred guineas apiece.

next Derby are a hundred and ninety-three, but forty of the colts and fillies entered are already *hors de combat*. The returns so far show, for 1854, nine hundred and seventy-three blood foals of high lineage; but out of that number not more than a dozen are likely to win places in the first and second ranks of fame. They will run in one year for an amount exceeding a million and a quarter of dollars, exclusive of "added money."

There are a few men in England who ride thoroughbred horses, as Hunters, Hacks, and Chargers, and drive them, and in short use them for all purposes, except those to which the horses in the class of walking draft, before mentioned, and the dwarf races are exclusively adapted; but it is generally objected to them that they seldom have substance of body or bone enough to stand the protracted chase, or to endure steady work, if they have to carry or draw any considerable weight. They are usually too narrow, flat-sided, and low before, want suppleness in the knees, and carry their feet too near the ground, (as "daisy-cutters"—"*rasant le tapis*") to be pleasant under the saddle, particularly in a trot; and they have often too great a development of the propelling hind parts for beauty in proportion at least to the forehand, and an excessive length of trunk, which is much coveted for extent of stride as one of the elements of speed.* These objections apply the more strongly to horses for quick draft, where generally greater robustness, size, and show in action are required than under the saddle. Lord Westminster now keeps besides famous old Touchstone, a young stallion (formerly run by Lord Palmerston) called Buckthorn, with whom, the head groom told me, the racing men found fault on account of the shortness of his back, which, though a great source of strength and a favorite point in "useful" horses, does not meet the requirements of the turf.

Blood horses have had powerful and effective advocates in the modern writers Nimrod, Harry Hicover, and Cecil, who contend that they are the proper race to communicate the greater speed demanded at the present day, by the improved roads, the chase, the evolutions of armies, and the hurry of the world. This, with the importance attached to fixity of type, has produced a further increase of their number, and very generally caused them to be resorted to as the progenitors of Hacks (I mean gentlemen's saddle horses), Hunters, Chargers (first class horses for military officers and cavalry), and even carriage horses of the lighter class, by part bred mares. The aim of the breeders is to produce hunters, as being the highest priced animals, averaging at Melton Mowbray £200, and fetching occasionally £1,100; and if they fail in that, by reason of want of substance, to have a hack. Should the progeny be very strong, but destitute of the qualities of good hunters, they would probably answer in one of the other services mentioned. Between thoroughbreds the attempt is always to breed racers; but in the event of want of speed the colts become either hacks, or hunters in a light country if they have strength enough. About three out of every seven of the blood horses actually put in training as yearlings, in England, are permanently withdrawn from the turf, from want of merit and from constitutional inability to endure the severity of the probationary discipline at that tender age; and, at a later period, many of them, the males especially, are distributed among the various useful services to which they are respectively best adapted. In Yorkshire a farmer is, by an old proverb, commiserated if he has "a lot of ugly daughters and blood fillies," because they both are apt to remain on his hands a long

*The stride of the renowned Boston at his bruising pace was twenty-six feet.

time, sources of expense. The reason of this, in reference to the blood fillies, is that they are rarely resorted to breed to "useful" horses from, and can not earn their living by ordinary work; nor will they often command remunerative prices, unless got by "fashionable" horses as they are termed, standing at £30, £40, and £50, and unless they are in the possession of the rich, who can afford to force them by feeding and housing and encounter the great cares, uncertainties, and risks of rearing them properly, and can train them and enter them for great races, and run them successfully; for performance on the turf is almost the only received and acknowledged test of the merit of a blood horse.

With a continuation of the state of things in which the greater number of the useful and stylish horses having activity are reproduced by thoroughbred stallions, out of mares of higher and higher breeding, losing their stamina every successive generation, it is easy to perceive that the steady and progressive approximation to the characteristics of the race-horse (a perfect animal for its special purpose), is depriving those horses of England, intended for useful purposes, of their strength and size. The geometrical progression, obtained by crossing an ameliorating race on a common and wholly distinct one, always using pure-bred males of the ameliorating race with the female progeny of each successive cross, is such that an animal of the tenth generation would have of the blood of the common race but a remnant of one out of a thousand and twenty-four parts; and in the twentieth generation there would be very much less than one-millionth part of the common blood left. The fractional series is: $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{32}$ $\frac{1}{64}$ $\frac{1}{128}$ $\frac{1}{256}$ $\frac{1}{512}$ $\frac{1}{1024}$, &c.* An eminent member of the veterinarian faculty, an Englishman by birth, but now a resident of New-York, soon after his return from a late visit to his native country, observed to me that he thought there was a marked want of bone, however dense it might be, in the majority of the horses now seen in Hyde Park. This subject of the diminished power of the classes of useful horses has arrested the attention of Spooner, the author of several distinguished veterinarian works, and he boldly and stoutly recommends, as a remedy, recourse to "half-bred" stallions. I saw no part-bred stallions in England; some of the Cleveland Bays happily supplying the desideratum which Mr. Spooner would seek in half-bred stallions, with the additional advantage of fixity of type. These, Yorkshire is fortunate in possessing as a distinct breed, which is the reason, perhaps, why this county furnishes almost all the very strong horses in England with beauty and action. Hence it is that the British Government have to give to a Yorkshire man the contract for mounting the crack cavalry regiments; and the East India Company employ the same man, Jonathan Shaw, to supply their studs with Cleveland stallions, to strengthen and improve the indigenous races of Asia, and especially to qualify them for cavalry service.

Every now and then one sees a thoroughbred horse with a relatively high fore-hand, good crest, ample as well as deep chest, shortish legs, and a body well ribbed home and not too long, with general roundness of form and good action; but in that case he is not apt to be of great speed on the turf. Such a horse the English ladies prefer to ride. After a long protracted search among blood horses, who are by no means all beauties, Wyatt found in Recovery one he deemed a fit model for the Wellington equestrian statue. The Duke's favorite charger was a thoroughbred. A perfect Park Hack for a gentleman is usually of the same general style as a

lady's riding horse of modern days, Palfreys being extinct, but of a rather larger size, which is commonly attained by a slight admixture of races. A Hunter is a large Hack, with less symmetry than a Hack often, provided he has the qualities sought, and from his size and therefore strength is fully up to the weight he has to carry on a long as well as a fast run. A Charger, in reference to natural gifts, is in fact a hunter. I think carriage horses, certainly Lord Foley's dark bays, approaching light browns, (the most celebrated in England, for one of which I was told he had paid or refused £600) may well be defined to be large, or as Youatt says, "over-sized," Hunters. Most of these varieties of horses in England are by blood stallions, out of part bred mares, as I have before observed, except a majority of the horses for the larger carriages; and they are more generally new Clevelands on both sides, and, of course, have an infusion, more or less remote, of blood. This, with a view to uniformity of results in breeding, it is expedient should not be so recent in the stallions as materially to affect the fixity of their type—keeping in mind the theory of Malingié Nouel and Huzard fils,* that generally the parent of the longer established race, or of the purer descent, exercises a predominant influence on the character of the offspring.

Mr. Dickenson,† and Mr. Gray, the two great "job-masters"‡ of London, told me that they bought all their horses in Yorkshire, "raw," at two and three years old, at from £80 to £110, kept them on a farm until fit for use, and then brought them to London, and educated them in their brakes, for which they have accomplished drivers, with no other occupation. Mr. Gray spoke of William Burton's horses, and said "they are my sort."

The forty-five Hunters of Lord Fitzhardinge, at Berkeley Castle, are exceedingly strong and heavy-limbed horses, from fifteen hands three inches to sixteen hands high; and I understood from his huntsman that thoroughbred and very high bred horses could not live through a hard day's run, in that heavy country. Nevertheless all foals from his strongest Hunter mares, no longer used in the field, are by thoroughbred stallions. A lighter style of Hunter is preferred at Melton Mowbray—the metropolis of the fox-hunting world, as it is termed—in Leicestershire, where the lands are mostly in old grass. Some of the Hunters there, for light weights, are doubtless thoroughbred. In Hunters a fair stride, to gallop, to fence, and to leap well, is required, and for that it is obviously necessary to have tall and elongated, and not squat and punchy, horses. The strength and size of Hunters vary according to the nature of the country, and in proportion to the weight they are to carry; and hence the common phrase, "weight-carriers." The English believe that in well-formed animals, within reasonable limits, size stands to strength as cause and effect, and that if a heavy rider does not bear a just relation to the dimensions of his horse, he can never be well-mounted, and much less appear

"Incorp's'd and demi-natur'd
With the brave beast."

Nor do they ever deem a "vehicular establishment" well "got up" if the "cattle" are disproportionally small. In this country, and in the New-England states more especially, there is evidence of a growing appreciation of the importance of size in horses for all useful purposes. Even on the turf there is a maxim, as quoted by the ac-

*Des Haras Domestiques.

†Mentioned by Caird as a celebrated grower of Italian rye grass.

‡"Job-masters" let carriage horses to hire to persons who wish to avoid the risks and trouble incident to ownership. The Queen's mother "jobs" her horses.

complished President of the New-York Jockey Club, that "a good big horse always beats a good little one."

I expressed to you orally the opinion that the modern Hack—the saddle horse of the nobility and gentry—is fully as high bred as the Hunter, and often higher bred, from a general comparison of the two classes, and the fact that the male parentage of both is for the most part thoroughbred. Nimrod, as well as Harry Hieover, frequently speaks of "thoroughbred Hacks." The Hacks of the Queen for the use of her attendants are strong horses, and are certainly not thoroughbred. As throwing some light on this subject of the relative breeding of Hacks and Hunters, I shall be able to show you a fine portrait of a most celebrated hunting mare, and also an engraving of a Hack mare and foal from a picture by Herring—the equal in many respects of Landseer and M'ille Rosa Bonheur as a painter of animals—who had doubtless studied well all the points of a Hack. A very superior animal may sometimes unite good qualities so well that if trained he would serve admirably either as a Hack, a Hunter, a Charger, or even as a harness horse, for the lighter description of vehicles; but I do not mean to intimate that driving him much would not injure him for the saddle. To show you that a horse may be adapted to different uses, even in England where the division of brute labor, according to the qualities of animals, is pushed to such extremes, I send you one of Tattersall's catalogues of weekly sales, where you will find a horse is sometimes advertised as being Hunter, Hack, and harness horse—all in one.

While my Virginia blood does not allow me to feel with those who stigmatize thoroughbred horses as "mere gambling machines," or "grasshoppers" (*Sauterelles*, as your French friend called them), I can not run into the other extreme, and believe that they are the best even for the plow and every other service. As it appears to me clear that they do not unite in themselves all the qualities desired in useful horses for quick movement even, the important point is to know the best, if not the only other, race to be resorted to, in order to give them more size and weight; or to counteract their tendency to weediness, delicateness, and want of suitable action, without taking away too much their speed, their wind, their "bloody heads,"—as the common English people say, though all blood horses, have not blood-like heads—and their general gentlemanly appearance. It is not the easiest matter to maintain the size of the race of blood horses in their pure progeny, even with constant attention and a careful continuance of the best nourishment when young, perhaps from their inclination to revert to the normal proportions of their Asiatic and African ancestry, which are about a hand lower. As extreme crosses can not answer, and pains must be taken not to run into coarseness while adding strength, in breeding horses for quick and useful service, I see but one race and that most probably a kindred one in all cases—the Cleveland—with which to effect the desired end. To produce horses fit for all useful, and at the same time pleasurable purposes, requiring less power than that of a coach or carriage horse, and yet not the swiftness, on a burst, of a race horse, I think far more highly of the cross between Cleveland Bays, of the right sort (for that breed has its slugs as well as all others), and thoroughbreds, than of any other cross, apportioning the infusion of blood according to the nature of the service sought. The Cleveland bay seems to a certain extent to occupy the middle ground between the blood horse and the agricultural horses of England, having, with much of the strength of the latter, the long neck, the clean limbs,

*Zootéchnie Générale—M. Villeroy.

the spare and oblique shoulders, the finest color, the horizontal and uncloven croup, and the quick temperament of the former; and on that account to be alike well adapted to bring up the diminished substance, size and power of our Virginia part bred horses, and to impart more action and muscularity, without too much diminution of weight, to the soft and lymphatic Conestogas, for service in trucks, drays, and heavy wagons. In this country we have comparatively but little division of labor among men, and so it is with our horses, although we have at least three times as many of the latter as Great Britain, and a million more than France. The national interest and chief demand are for a horse of general utility, a horse that can move with activity and some quickness, as well as walk with a good load, or be serviceable in the plow. I do not think that I have seen twenty horses in Virginia and New-York, that would be deemed large enough to pass muster at a show in England of agricultural horses. The diffusion of blood through nearly the whole mass of our horses was, I remember, remarked by you in a walk in Broadway the day after your last return from France, and it has often been the subject of comment by intelligent Europeans. It would seem that we should aim to breed horses of such size that if they failed occasionally for pleasure vehicles or the saddle, they would be of use in humbler spheres.

[To be continued.]

TIME FOR ALTERING COLTS.—The month of May or June is the most seasonable period for performing the operation devised to prevent colts from propagating their species. There is a phenomenon attendant upon this, regarding the cause of which I never could obtain any satisfactory explanation; nevertheless, general observation confirms the fact that colts which have been castrated at a season of the year when their coats are long and rough, are never fine during the winter, whereas those which have been operated upon soon after they have shed their coats, almost invariably look well. This should not be delayed too late, from causes which it is not necessary to enumerate, and likewise that the patients may recover before the hot weather sets in.

WORMS IN COLTS.

Those foals which have been fed upon an abundance of grass, are very subject to be troubled with worms; and some pastures are very liable to produce them. Many remedies have been adopted for their expulsion, but I have never found anything so effectual as calomel or emetic tartar if properly administered; that not always being attended to, has led to the conclusion that the remedies are infallible. Neither calomel nor emetic tartar should ever be given if the expulsion of worms be intended, with the medicine administered to work it off; nor should soap, or any other alkali, form a portion of the ball, as those substances counteract the effect by decomposing both calomel and emetic tartar. The plan which I have always found successful to dislodge worms from horses, at any age, has been as follows, apportioning the quantity of medicine to the age and constitution of the subject: Keep the patient without any kind of food six or eight hours, when the appetites of the insects will become keen. A small quantity of bran mash is then offered to the animal, in which is mixed the calomel or emetic tartar: for a foal the proportion is from 12 to 15 grains, and for a yearling from fifteen to twenty. This dose is repeated after an interval of ten or twelve hours, during which period no other kind of food must be pre-

sented; otherwise the worms, seizing upon the nutriment which it affords, will not be destroyed. Six hours after the last dose has been given, it must be worked off with linseed oil or aloes. The quantity of the former is from four to six ounces; but if aloes be preferred, the dose will be from one drachm to one drachm and a half, which should be dissolved over the fire in a small quantity of oil or lard, and made into a ball with ginger and treacle. The quantity of calomel or emetic tartar for horses at a more advanced age may be augmented to the extent of sixty grains; but for two or three-year-olds, from twenty to thirty grains is sufficient, with the purgative remedy in proportion.—*CECIL, in Mark-Lane Express.*

WOOL CIRCULAR.

The following circular prepared for European dealers by a leading house in this city is interesting to wool growers in this country.

Our wool market has presented much activity for the last two months, (March and April) in all kinds of native wools, and a considerable advance in prices, say from 10 to 15 per cent in every description (but more particularly in the finer grades and better class of wools,) has occurred. This advance compared with the prices of last year, when at the lowest point, is attributed to the small stock in the various markets—an increased demand resulting from the reemployment of a large share of machinery which had been stopped during the winter; and easier money market and a reestablishing of credit. The present valuations will no doubt bring forward from the interior to our market, a large amount of wool now in the hands of growers, and become at the same time a wise balance at the approaching clip season. The wool-growers are now better convinced than they ever were before of the difficulties *our manufacturers* have had to contend with, not being favored, as the foreign manufacturers are (with whom they have to compete,) will, of course, consider the present prices all they can expect, and, therefore, feel disposed to meet the views of buyers.

Dealers may have found some of their last purchases not paying, and cause them to remain more quiet—leading, perhaps, to some depression; but as our markets are not overstocked with manufactured goods, and less goods than heretofore manufactured in this and foreign countries, we have good reason to anticipate a sound and safe business, if not interrupted by great political events, accompanied with difficulties in Europe, and their influences upon this country.

We can not report so much of an improvement in all the foreign *low* wools, which since December last, have experienced an advance of 5 to 10 per cent, and this surpassed only in a few instances. The sellers sustained by firmness, comparatively, higher prices than the domestic, and, therefore, present quotations may be considered as the proper ones. The transactions remain limited in consequence of the unprofitable business the manufacturers are doing and complaining of, but the holders of foreign *low* wools are looking for a better prospect.

Foreign wools, best suited for blankets and clothing for troops, have been in good request in Europe, and no importation of them can consequently be looked for here (at least of any importance) for some weeks to come. Carpet wools are, likewise, not over abundant abroad, and prices will not be lower than now. After a dullness of about six-months, Australia and Cape wools will necessarily attract our attention, having been sold at the last London auction sales, at about 10 per cent cheaper than in Novem-

ber last, and offering sufficient advantages. We have received by the last steamer, Australian, Cape and other samples, of about 1,200 bales, ready for examination and receiving orders. Of foreign *low* wools, our market is well assorted, but should any quantity be wanting, we can procure it from abroad, having many lots on hand. Domestic fleeces and pulled will soon be arriving more plentifully and offer good selections.

The system we shall base our business upon will, we sincerely hope, meet the approbation of our friends—prove our independence as brokers and agents, and gain for us a good amount of your confidence and esteem.

TELLKAMPF & KITCHING, Wool Brokers.
NEW-YORK, May 1, 1855.

POTATO ROT.

Below we give (from the Hannibal, Illinois Messenger,) a letter on the "potato rot," not to endorse it in the least, but to furnish as far as possible an outline of what is thought and written upon this subject in different parts of the country:

Messrs. Editors.—I noticed an article in your paper, of the 15th of February, stating that the Legislature of Massachusetts had offered a reward of ten thousand dollars for the discovery of the cause of the potato disease, known as the "potato rot." I claim the reward, gentlemen; for I can tell you the cause, and show you a remedy that, if you will please follow my directions, I am very certain will cure the rot, and enable you to raise potatoes that will have no blight in them. In the first place, plant early, and cultivate them well until the plant commences to blossom, at which time lay them by, etc. In the second, place, the rot is produced by a bug called "the potato bug," which bug is produced from the vines of the potato. These bugs never appear till the vines are shedding their blows. This is a happy thing for the farmer; for, if they came otherwise, there would be no preventive against their ravages. But the potato by this time has received its generative properties from the flower. The flower nor the vine is no longer necessary to the producing and enlargement of the roots; therefore I recommend as a remedy—to mow the vines all off, being careful to leave some three or four inches above the ground; there should be no leaves left on the stubs; and then keep the hills clean, and the bugs will soon leave you. I have tried this plan for the last two years with great success. The first year I cut my vines, it was done more through vexation at the bugs than anything else; but, to my great surprise, when the usual digging time arrived, I had as fine potatoes as I had ever raised.

Last year, while mowing off the vines, I left two rows unmowed for the bugs, as an experiment. Those two rows produced a few small potatoes, which were full of rot, while the others were perfectly sound. The same bugs fell to eating my tomatoes and beets. The beets stopped growing, and were of no use, and the tomatoes had a similar rot to that of the potatoes. This led me to believe that these bugs deposit a poison of a blighting nature in every vegetable they bite.

Please try my experiment, and I am very certain you will succeed. W. FUGATE.

KINDERHOOK, Ill., March 12, 1855.

FOREST TREES.—The Hon. John C. Gray, in a communication to the Board of Agriculture, states that there grow in the United States one hundred and fifty varieties of forest trees, which attain a greater height than thirty feet, while according to Michaux, the

empire of France can boast of but eighteen of the same description. It is this immense variety of species which gives to the American forests that constant diversity of foliage which so attracts the eye of every European traveler.

Horticultural Department.

VERBENAS.

Mr. Edmonds has long been a successful raiser of this interesting and useful tribe of plants. Princess Royal, Speciosissima, and Ormesby Beauty were among his first productions that attracted attention. These were succeeded by Bridesmaid, Rouge et Noir, Anne Laurie, Mrs. Gerard Leigh, President, &c. The great superiority of Mr. Edmonds's Verbenas over most other kinds is the large and distinctive white or yellow eye that they possess, almost resembling that of an Alpine Auricula. This most conspicuous in one of the varieties now figured, named Wonderful; and being of good habit, dwarf, and very free blooming, will make an interesting plant for pot culture, as well as a first-rate bedding variety. Blue Beard is also very novel and attractive, and, together with Wonderful and Lady Lacon, make a group of three excellent flowers—the two last named having been successfully exhibited at the National Floricultural Society.

Since January, 1849, there has not been any Verbenas figured in the Florist. Three varieties then appeared, which were considered great novelties at the time, only one of which is now retained in collections, namely, Princess Alice—so great and rapid has been the improvement in this flower. Messrs. A. Henderson & Co. have a fine large scarlet variety to send out this spring, raised by Mr. Woodroffe, named Mrs. Woodroffe; it is a bold, noble variety. Mr. Smith, of the Tollyington Nursery, Hornsey Road, is also offering some pretty additions this spring. Boule de Feu and Viola cea are among the best of them.

The following are the best older varieties that have come under our notice:

Annie Laurie (Edmonds), deep rosy lilac, with large white eye; distinct.

Bouquet Parfait (Chauviere), shaded rosy purple.

Brilliant, orange scarlet, yellow eye.

Brilliant de Vaise, shaded crimson, large truss.

Cardinal Wiseman, *new*, rose, large truss. Comtesse de Belleval (Chauviere), lilac blue, large truss.

Defiance (Robinson), deep bright scarlet.

Eblouisante (Chauviere), deep scarlet, large dark center.

Francisse Rousseau (Chauviere) blush, large deep pink center, *fine*.

Forget-me-not (Smith), large lilac, crimson eye.

Islington Rival (Smith), pale scarlet, good.

Jerome (Thompson), deep rosy purple, large truss.

King of Scarlets (Thompson), brilliant orange scarlet, creeping habit.

Mdlle. de Freleuse (Chauviere), pale blush, large pink center.

Mrs. F. Caley (Chauviere), white, small pink eye, fine truss.

Mrs. D. Tysson (Robinson), bush white, with large crimson center.

Orb of Day (Hovey), deep scarlet, dwarf erect habit, good truss.

President (Edmonds), deep plum purple, very dwarf habit.

Purple King (Reeves), dwarf erect habit, deep purple.

Rouge et Noir (Edmonds) dark crimson, large white center.

Rougieri (Chauviere), deep scarlet, with large dark center, very large truss.

White Perfection, white.

William Barnes (Chauviere), crimson, with large dark center.—*The Florist*.

For the American Agriculturist.

THE FORMATION OF A FLOWER GARDEN.

Among the accompaniments of flower gardens, though rarely seen, is the rock work. This consists of various masses of large stones, those of remarkable form being generally chosen, such as have a very rugged appearance, or contain petrifications or impressions. When put in position, the cavities must be filled with earth. Alpine or trailing plants may then be inserted. These are numerous, and look very pretty when planted with judgment. A separate compartment should be set apart for roses and dahlias. The latter, when grown between standard roses, have a pretty effect.

A variety of soils is required in the flower garden to suit the very different kinds of plants that need to be cultivated. Rhododendrons, and such plants as are generally termed American, delight in a sandy peat soil; but peat cut from its natural bed and partially decomposed, is of no value whatever; or, it is in some cases, really injurious to the plants.

For the general purposes of the flower garden a light loamy soil is best. If the ground requires raising, recourse should be had to old pastures—when the surface earth should be taken, if not wanted for immediate use. The turf and the surface earth adhering to it should be laid up in a rough state, in which way it is continually ameliorating by the decomposition of the vegetable matter, and the action of the air. After lying in this state 12 months it will be in fine order, and fit for any purpose. W. SUMMERSBEY.

Chesterfield, Va.

GLOXINIAS, GESNERAS, AND ACHIMENES.

These beautiful flowers have most frequently been treated as stove plants. In the observations I am desirous to make, I wish to show that they are better cultivated in a greenhouse. If the bulbs be placed in heat either in March or April, either in a melon frame or a dung or tan bed, until they have started, they may be brought into the greenhouse and will succeed the Geraniums. They will continue in flower during four or five months; this is the treatment recommended by the well-known horticulturist, Mr. Louis Van Houtte, of Ghent—and for the last ten years I have treated them thus. In the stove their beauty is soon over, in the greenhouse it continues for months.

Those who are desirous to hybridize these plants should sow their seed very early in the spring, and they will flower very freely in August. The winter care of the plant is this: allow them to die down, and never cut away leaves or stem until this be the case, and let the pots repose on their sides where no moisture can come near them, not too near the flues of your greenhouse, this would cause the bulbs to wither; and in the spring repot them, shaking carefully all mold from the Gloxinia, and separating the other bulbs if you possess any rare sorts—every scale of the Achimenes will grow. The best of the present Achimenes are these—Sir Trehern Thomas, Gigantea (Van Houtte), Cherita Mexicana, Gloxiniaeflora, and picturata mar-

ganita. Gigantea, which is most beautiful, produces bunches of flowers, and lasts in flower during five months; it was raised from seed by Mr. Van Houtte, and partakes partly of the character of the Gesnera. The Gloxinia may be seen in great beauty at the gardens of Messrs. Veitch, Henderson, and Turner, of Slough. Mr. Van Houtte, of Ghent, often raises twenty thousand seedlings.—E. T., in *Florist*.

For the American Agriculturist.

GARDENING IN VIRGINIA.

Agreeable to your wish I send you the following principal points in the gardening of this State, as far as I have at present seen. Probably no State in the Union possesses such facilities for the formation of beautiful gardens as this, since it is what may be technically termed, a rolling country, diversified by streams of the clearest water, with hills and dales that charm the eye, and, at this season of the year, perhaps the most beautiful sight that can be imagined.

Although fine gardens are few and far between, when met with they are such as to amply repay one for visiting, since they are laid out with that refined taste which characterize gentlemen of the south. The winding of the carriage roads beneath the hills gives opportunity of seeing objects of interest, by no means few, to the greatest advantage. The mansions are mostly built upon the highest point of the estate, and approached by winding roads, beside which the Magnolia Grandiflora revels in the greatest luxuriance. This splendid tree is the handsomest evergreen in cultivation. The azalea and many other plants that require artificial treatment do remarkably well here. In the north, I have seen some Magnolias 40 feet in height, showing abundant promise of a profusion of flowers, one of which is sufficient to fill a large house with its delightful fragrance. After catching a glimpse of the mansion about a fourth of a mile distant, nothing more is seen of it till, by a sudden turn, you find yourself in front of it, with a beautiful lawn, and an extensive view of the surrounding country before you.

I have seen one style of laying out flower gardens here which I have not seen elsewhere. As I consider it decidedly pretty, and economical, I send you the following description: Supposing the plot of ground already prepared, the figures or beds are marked out on the earth, and stones about ten inches in circumference or more, according to taste, are let in the ground, and pressed firmly, to keep them in their places, leaving two-thirds of the stone above the earth, which is painted white, when the figures are completed, the walks finely graveled and well rolled, they present a handsome flower garden, at a very trifling expense, looking cheerful and pretty in the depth of winter, when ordinary flower gardens have lost their charms. I need not say with what little trouble and expense these gardens are kept in admirable order.

Vegetables are grown in great abundance, and, in some instances, with less labor, and a more expeditious mode of culture, than in the north, though not differing widely from

the mode pursued near New-York. In this department of gardening, I believe Virginia to occupy one of the most favorable positions in the States. W. SUMMERSBEY.

Chesterfield County, Va.

For the American Agriculturist.

SOME VALUABLE BIRDS.

In looking over the second part of the Patent Office Report for 1853, I see that several correspondents advocate the importation of useful birds, such as the red-breast, black-cap, song-thrush, blackbird, skylark, quail, &c. There is no doubt that if an addition were made to our already beautiful varieties, posterity would reap some benefit; but to insure that benefit, a suitable protection should be given to them, as well as to those we now have. We have many birds that are beautiful, and of almost incalculable value to the farmer, to say nothing of their cheering songs and complete innocenc in every respect.

There are two varieties of sparrows that winter with us, and one other that spends his summer only with us. Then there is the bluebird, the first to greet us in the early spring, but soon followed by the robin. Next there is the red-winged blackbird, the wren, and several varieties of swallows, with some half dozen other kinds whose names I have not yet learned. These invariably live on insects, or the seed of plants, except the robin, who, by way of recompense for the thousands of insects he has destroyed, makes an occasional dessert on ripe cherries.

There is also another sweet, monotonous-toned little creature with black wings, called the yellow-bird, otherwise the flax-bird, because he likes flax seed, and because it is not an unusual occurrence to see them by hundreds in a field of flax when the seed begins to get ripe. When frightened off, they go twittering along at every bound on their wings, as they see-saw through the air. But they like the seeds of many plants quite as well, if not better, than flax-seed, among which are the seeds of the whole thistle family. And here he redeems himself, for he will not allow a single seed to escape, if he can get it.

Then there are a great many that are not so particular whether they get the insect or larvæ; and if neither is at hand, they can make a meal on many kinds of fruit. The much-admired oriole, sometimes called the fiery hang-bird, and goldfinch, is not at all fastidious in this respect, nor is he careful about the number destroyed for a single meal; for he will thrust his bill first into one nice plum, and then another, until he has spoiled scores at a time. But he seems to claim this as a right, for the caterpillars that he has destroyed might have levied a greater contribution.

There are three varieties of blackbirds common among us, which feed entirely on insects, though one of them will sometimes pull corn for the sake of the insects.

There is the little merry wren, too, that is much persecuted in some sections from a mistaken notion that they destroy the eggs of other birds. He is one of the most use-

ful birds to the horticulturist, as well as one of the most pleasant songsters that we have. His food consists mostly of that pest, the aphide; but when these are not to be found, he hunts every leaf and catches any stray fly that crosses his path. To have them come around your premises, you have only to put up convenient places for them to build in. A box four inches square, with a round hole of about one and a half inches in diameter will do, though the little fellows do not object to a neat cottage. Bluebirds may be invited around by houses, too, as well as the pewee and martin. But none must be killed, stoned or frightened, if one wishes to hear them sing their most lovely songs.

I have a number of miniature churehes, cottages, &c., for the bluebirds and wrens, and they are occupied every year, but less last season than formerly, owing to the fact that they returned too early last spring to find a supply of food. Very many died, but the survivors were industrious, and I hope to have their places well filled the coming year.

We have a statute to prevent the killing of many birds, but it is a dead letter, as it is seldom if ever enforced. Yet I could wish every offender summarily punished for each and every transgression of the law. We shall never have our forests, groves, fields and villages what they would be, unless parents and teachers instruct the children and youth against frightening or killing birds. Then, and not till then, will farmers and all others appreciate the true value and real pleasure that our beautiful birds afford.

ORNITHOL.

THERE is another valuable bird, not mentioned by our correspondent, which has fallen into great disrepute with many of our farmers. We speak of the common crow. Perhaps we are too partial to them. We once reared one of these birds, and a more curious or cunning creature we never saw. He became a most incorrigible thief, and was never so gay as when he could get hold of a silver spoon or some valuable article. We used to call him Jack, a name which he understood and responded to as quickly as any child. He had a high contempt of hawks, and when he saw one sailing along he would pursue him, and rising high in air, come down upon him with terrible vengeance. Sometimes in these excursions we would sing out Jack! and though high up, he would wheel around and come sailing down through the air in the most graceful manner, and alight upon our shoulder. In haying time he always accompanied us into the field, and amused himself in hunting grasshoppers; and the number he ate was surprising. Afterwards, he would go and sit on a haycock and allow them to "settle," when he again renewed the war upon this insect tribe. In a year or two Jack disappeared, having been killed, we suppose, through the enmity of some of our neighbors to the crow-kind.

The great objection to crows is, that they sometimes injure young corn; but this may be easily prevented at a trifling expense, and the good they do, is, in our opinion, infinitely greater than the injury.

NEW VINE DISEASE.—The Guienne, a Bordeaux journal, states that another malady has broken out in the vines. It consists of a sort of scab, and has received the name of iteh (*gale*). According to some persons, it is an old complaint which has afflicted the vines, though at very rare intervals; and, according to others, it is a modification of the existing malady; but whatever the malady may be, it appears that it has already done great injury. In the commune of Condate, near Libourne, not fewer than 10,000 plants have been killed on one single estate, and have had to be pulled up. A great number of others, less severely attacked, have been cut down, in order to shoot up again. At Pessac, the malady has also appeared, but has not done such great injury. The Guienne adds that in the districts of Entredeux-Mers and the Bas Medoe, a small number of vines has also been killed by a malady the precise nature of which has not yet been ascertained. It further states that at St. Macaire the vines have been similarly attacked.

COMMON THINGS.

In raising vines from cuttings, those which are furnished with two eyes each will be sufficiently long for the purpose; the lower part should be cut transversely, close to the bud. They should be planted singly in small pots filled with good mold, leaving the upper eye rather below the surface than above it. The pots should be placed either in a stove or in a hot-bed, allowing the plants room as they advance in height, and shifting them into larger sized pots when they have filled the first with roots. As the season advances they may be removed into the stove and other hothouse, and from thence to the greenhouse, keeping them neatly tied up to sticks, and allowing them plenty of air, to prevent them from being drawn up weakly. Vines raised from single eyes require the same management as those from cuttings, beginning only with a smaller sized pot, and removing them into others as they gain strength and require room. Those raised from cuttings, as well as these, should be kept under glass throughout the summer, and a judicious application of liquid manure during the growing months would considerably promote the growth of both.

CAULIFLOWERS.—The seed should be sown now for the autumnal crop upon a gentle hotbed. This sowing will come in during August, and for a later crop the seed should be sown the beginning or middle of May; this will furnish heads in October or November. If some of the plants of this last sowing be taken up and laid in like Broccoli they will be more secure in case of cold wet weather occurring at the end of the season.—*Gardeners' Chronicle*.

THE WHITE CLOVER.

BY A LADY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

There is a little perfum'd flower,
It well might grace the loveliest bower,
Yet poet never deign'd to sing,
Of such a humble, rustic thing.
Nor is it strange, for it can show
Scarcely one tint of Iris' bow;
Nature, perchance, in careless hour,
With pencil dry, might paint the flow'r;
Yet instant blush'd, her fault to see,
So gave a double fragraney;
Rich recompense for aught denied!
Who would not homely garb abide.
If gentlest soul were breathing there,
Blessings through all its little sphere?
Sweet flower! the lesson thou hast taught,
Shall check each proud, ambitious thought,
Teach me internal worth to prize,
Tho' found in lowliest, rudest guise.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, May 10.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

THE WEATHER—CROPS—PLANTING.

The Weather has been rather dry in this neighborhood throughout the spring and winter. On the 8th and 9th we had a copious rain, but it would require several days of such to fully saturate the ground, and fill up the springs. In portions of the west there has been abundance of rain a month past. At the south, rains set in last week, which it is hoped will be continued. It has been excessively dry there for the past nine months, and the streams and springs lower than for many years past.

The Crops.—Nothing begins to show in the northern latitudes except wheat, which generally throughout the country is highly promising. In some sections of the eastern States, where little snow fell, wheat suffered greatly in February, March, and April, owing to the soil being much blown away around the roots. In these sections the crop will be light in any event, and it is premature to pronounce on the rest, as the fly and rust may yet do considerable injury. The breadth of land sown in Wheat and Rye last fall, was greater in proportion to our population than for some years, in Spring Wheat it is probably 25 to 50 per cent greater. So far as we have heard extra large quantities of corn and potatoes have been planted, followed by a liberal supply of other grain and roots. But they will all be wanted at high or at least remunerative prices, and as much more as the farmers can possibly get into their grounds and cultivate. They need not fear a quick sale for all. *The granaries of the world are literally exhausted*; and it will take at least *two seasons of extensive planting and sowing followed by large yields* to replenish the world, and reduce prices within moderate limits; so that the farmers can go forth with confiding hearts and resolute industry, and accomplish all that it is possible for them to do. It will require full four years to replenish the Beef market, so scarce and high are cattle. They can not be brought to maturity in less than this time. Sheep, Swine, and Poultry mature quicker; yet of these we do not fear any superabundance short of three years bountiful production; and to

neutralize this, there are many causes constantly at work to prevent over-production.

At the South the sugar cane has been materially injured by late frosts, and more or less corn and cotton have been cut off by drouth and frosts, making a second planting necessary. Thus far the crops there show anything but a flattering prospect, which should stimulate the northern farmer to exert himself still more. We close this part of our remarks by exhorting him to do his utmost, and continue planting all sorts of crops for the purpose of supplying the certain demand. If the crops are materially injured the coming season as they were last, people as well as cattle in the United States may well dread starvation. Those residing in districts abounding with food may possibly deride the idea; but let us inform them that corn in isolated places at the south, distant from river or railroad transportation, is now worth \$2 50 per bushel; and some there have neither money nor credit to obtain it or other grain, or flour, meal, or meat at any price. This is a humiliating and deplorable fact for a country with the rich soil and varied climate of ours, but it need never happen again if proper attention be given to an improved cultivation of the earth.

PLANT CROPS EARLY.

Get in all crops early that will answer to be in early. If frost comes and destroys a part of the plants, it is no great affair to plant again; but if drouth comes before your crop has growth sufficient to cover the ground, there is only a partial remedy for it, and your crop may be inevitably gone for the season. The consequence of following out this direction has never been more manifest than during the last year. The early-planted fields having got sufficient growth to protect the soil in a measure from the scorching sun, kept on their course steadily, the rank crops condensing and depositing at their roots a constant and large supply of atmospheric moisture, which is never so abundant as during what is called the driest and hottest weather.

If a pitcher of ice-water, or any other equally cold body, could be placed near every hill of corn at such times, the condensation of water from the air would be equivalent to a certain extent, produced by a rich growth of corn and most other crops. The dark, rank stalks and leaves radiate heat rapidly, bringing their surfaces below the *dew point*, and thus become condensers of moisture from the surrounding air, even when the sun is fiercely blazing on the upper portions of the plants; and at night every part of the plant is similarly employed, and an incredible quantity of moisture is thus daily absorbed by the stalks and leaves, and sometimes the water will be found to have run off in puddles upon the ground.

Similar effects are produced by all luxuriant crops. Who has not often observed, in wading through a heavy growth of meadow grass, on a clear day in midsummer, and while the sun was still high up the heavens, the portion of grass nearest the ground was laden with moisture, when the upper leaves

and tops were dry with the parched atmosphere? This is one of the beneficial results of early and careful planting or sowing on a fertile soil.

LATENESS OF THE SEASON.—In 1853, the peach and cherry trees at our residence, 16 miles north of the Battery in this city, showed their first full blossoms on the 18th of April; in 1854 on the 28th of April; in 1855 on the 3d of May, a difference of more than a fortnight between this and 1853. It is one of the latest seasons within our recollection, and everything except wheat and grass is uncommonly backward.

We are in receipt of the Premiums and Regulations, with the names of Awarding Committees, of the Western Virginia Agricultural Society and Industrial Institute, for their Third Annual Show, to be held at Wheeling, Va., on Sept. 26th to 28th, 1855. The exhibitors will embrace many from southern Ohio, as well as from western Virginia, and include manufacturers as well as farmers. We shall doubtless hear good reports from this enterprising association.

WHITEWASHES.—We have seen a white-wash preparation recommended, to be made as follows: Pour boiling water upon unslaked lime and stir it until slaked. Dissolve in water, say two ounces of white vitriol (sulphate of zinc) to each gallon, and with this and the lime make a wash of the consistency of thin cream or rich milk. The sulphate of zinc is a cheap material, and can be procured at most druggists for a few cents per pound.

We have not tested this, but it is highly commended, and from the chemical affinities of the materials we think it may be a very good method.

Alum is also recommended, and it probably serves a similar purpose with the white vitriol. Common salt added to whitewash also improves its firmness.

SULPHUR AS A MEDICINE.

Farmers do not properly estimate the value of so simple a medicine as sulphur for their stock. Fed at the rate of one teaspoonful per week to sheep affected with the foot-rot, it will soon cure them, if removed to dry pasture. The way we give it is, to spread tar about half an inch thick over the bottom of a wide trough, mix one part of powdered alum with one part of fine salt, and two parts of sulphur, and scatter this over the tar, to which it adheres, and the sheep will then come and lick it as they desire.

We have known sulphur recommended as good to put into the food of any animal suckling young, to prevent their scouring; and also that young pigs are easily prevented scouring by feeding their dam a teaspoonful or so of sulphur every other day for a short time.

It is also said that sulphur will kill lice on cattle, by giving one to three teaspoonfuls per week in their food for a few weeks. It is supposed the sulphur impregnates the

blood, and makes it distasteful or poisonous to the lice, and thus they either drop off and die or are killed by it. Others contend that sulphur is of little or no value in killing lice. We have never tried sulphur for these purposes, and can not recommend it, but give these suggestions for what they are worth.

MOWING MATCH.—The Monroe County (N. Y.) Agricultural Society are preparing for a trial of mowers on a large scale, to take place near Rochester, on the 5th of July. This is a good arrangement if well carried out, as we doubt not it will be. We only regret that the exhibition was not appointed at an earlier date, so that farmers could be guided by the result in purchasing implements this year.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

For the American Agriculturist.

ALFALFA.

Lieut. Wm. Lewis Herndon of the U. S. Navy, in his "Exploration of the Valley of the Amazon," says the alfalfa is "a very green and pretty kind of lucern, universally used in this country (Peru) for pasturage." It is described as a very thrifty, nutritious, and palatable plant, eagerly sought for by all domestic animals.

The alfalfa is also very hardy. It grows luxuriantly at an elevation of 10,600 feet above the level of the ocean. Then why may it not be introduced, with almost a certainty of success—as a hardy and most valuable grass—into our northern and eastern States, and into Canada?

In my opinion the U. S. Government can not subserve the agricultural interests of this country better, than by procuring the alfalfa, and other valuable seeds from foreign countries, and distributing them among reliable farmers to be tested. It is true this course has been pursued to a considerable extent; but this should be made one of the principal objects of all exploring and other expeditions. Instead of enlisting the services of the army and navy and other departments of the general government, to advance the interests of commerce and manufactures exclusively, let their eldest sister, *agriculture*, come in for a share of the "aid and comfort."

But if either one of the trio is to receive the largest share of attention, give it to agriculture. Widen, deepen and enrich the agricultural resources of our country, and you make her at once rich, happy and independent.

E. S. HOLMES.

Lockport, N. Y., May 4, 1855.

SALES OF SHORT HORN CATTLE IN ENGLAND.—The sales of Short Horns next week will make it probably the most remarkable of the year in that respect. Mr. Wetherell of Durham has two sales and Mr. Stafford three. The Hendon sale on Tuesday, to which we referred last week will be followed on Wednesday by a sale of 40 pure bred Short Horns from Mr. Ambler's herd at Watkinson Hall farm, near Halifax, Yorkshire, and on Friday by the auction at Springfield Hall,

near Lancaster, when the whole of the herd of the late John Bolden, Esq., will be submitted without reserve to public competition. Mr. Bolden was a cotemporary of the Collings, and his cattle have been bred chiefly from the herds of Messrs. Bates and Booth. Mr. Ambler's stock is descended from the herds of the Earl of Carlisle, Earl Ducie, and Earl Spencer, and those of Messrs. Bates, Bolden, Booth, Fawkes, Maynard, Tanqueray, Townley, and others. And we may mention in reference to Mr. Tanqueray's herd, what was omitted last week, that a good portion of the young stock are by the best bulls in the country, namely: Duke of Gloster, and 5th Duke of York.—*Agricultural Gazette*, April 21.

HIGH PRICES AND WEATHER IN ENGLAND.

Judging from the following extracts from the Mark-Lane Express, the winter has been as severe, and the spring as late in Great Britain as here. Cattle, sheep, and stock of all kinds are scarce, and enormously high. Thousands have been prematurely sent to the shambles, and hundreds have died of starvation in the United States; and there seems to be a short supply in other countries. Hence the high price of beef, mutton, and other meats. All except the very rich will have to live mainly on fish, peas, beans, corn and rye for a few months to come, or else expend all their earning in butchers' meat, flour and potatoes. Fortunately the first five articles mentioned are quite as healthy and more lasting, and make as good muscle as the last three.

Stock—Cattle, Sheep.—The high price of every kind of food has most unquestionably had a very detrimental effect upon farm stock. Cake, corn, hay, as also every kind of succulent food, have throughout the winter been unusually scarce and dear; consequently, all has been dealt out with a parsimonious, if not stingy hand; no waste or superfluous feeding allowed. The result is, that this, in conjunction with one of the longest and severest winters ever known, has left ordinary grazing stock lower in condition, and of course less able to feed or graze satisfactorily, than I have ever known. This danger is, I think, much increased by the vicissitudes they have already undergone, and the trying ordeal through which they are now passing and have yet to pass. Throughout the whole of last summer they suffered great privations, both from a deficiency of food and water, the one indigestible, the other unwholesome. Fattening stock became lean, store stock distressingly reduced to "nothing but skin and bone," to the no small injury to health and future progress. This has to be dealt with. To this add the further privations of a most trying winter; and then every grazier must see the difficulties his live stock have to encounter and overcome before he must look for any return of profit.

Crops—Wheat.—This is the only crop of which I can at present take any notice, further than to say, that as every kind of spring corn has been put in after the best order, and the soil being in a highly satisfactory state to receive it, a good and abundant crop may be fairly anticipated. Not so with wheat. The long and severe winter, the continuous frosts without snow, or other remaining moisture (for the absence of rains during the summer and autumn left the soil dry, open, and light), has resulted in a very thin plant on all good soils, almost annihilation on elevated sands and gravels, and great injury to all light and thin soils. The whole crop throughout the kingdom has pre-

sented a dull, brown, deplorable appearance till within the past few weeks, and is but slowly recovering its growth and color at the present time (April 10th) on the best soils, while in very many cases on other soils the crop is plowed up and sown to barley, &c.

For the American Agriculturist.

VITALITY OF SPANISH MOSS.

In number 82 of the *American Agriculturist* you ask your Southern readers whether the long moss grows on trees after they are dead. Had I answered the question without a special examination after reading the article, I should have certainly said no—that it died with the tree. But I went out the next morning into my orchard, where I knew there was some upon a tree which has been dead six years. I procured some of the moss, and, to my surprise, found it not only alive but actually growing. The presumption with me had always been, that it died soon after the tree was killed; but that, from its wily tenacity, it would continue to hang on the tree for a considerable time. This instance shows that it is possible that it will live upon a tree as long as there is bark upon it. I find no moss where there is no bark.

B. F. ASHLEY.

Montgomery Co., Ala., April 18, 1855.

[We invite a further examination of this matter. Does the moss require sap or sustenance from the tree, whether alive or dead, or will it grow "hanging from a crowbar," as has been frequently asserted in our hearing?—Ed.]

OSAGE ORANGE HEDGES.

The following circular contains some useful information, and we give our readers, as well as Mr. Sleeper and Messrs. McGrew, Leas, & Co., the benefit of its insertion.

Farmers of the West:

Let me spring upon you this question? *Are you alive to the improvements of the times which most concern you?* This is truly the *fast age*. The age of lightning speed and wonderful labor-saving inventions. These are the times that are prophesied of—when "knowledge shall be increased." These are the *good times* long been coming, when there shall be more use for the "pruning hook" than for the sword.

Farmers of the West, what think you of the *living fence*? It can not be that you have an incurable fondness for mauling and hauling rails, or the toil of fitting and refitting common fences.

The general introduction of living fences shall be marked as an important epoch in the history of agriculture in America.

Let me invite you to turn a practical eye to *facts and figures* pertaining to the *Osage Orange hedge fence* in our country.

An extensive business is now carried on by several companies in the Western States in planting and training these hedges for a stipulated price per rod or mile, McGrew, Leas, & Co., of Ohio, have under contract with different farmers in that State 85 miles of hedge, now one and two years old. They have also contracts in Illinois for setting this spring 225 miles of hedge, the largest portion of which is to be planted along the line of the Illinois railroad. The prices paid for furnishing and setting the plants, and training the hedge to maturity, are from 75 cents to \$1 25 per rod, according to payment, or from 50 to 40 cents per rod for furnishing and setting the plants, the owner completing the cultivation and training.

These are *practical men*, most emphatically

cally so. I have been looking on for years with the deepest interest to see what should be the result of their experimenting. Their experiments have established beyond a doubt the perfect adaptation of this plant to the purpose of live fence in our climate. Owing to its peculiar growth, both in *root* and *branch*, it is not affected by the heat and drouth of our summers, as are the tap-rooted plants which form the beautiful hedges of England.

At a late meeting of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture, composed of some of the most intelligent farmers of the State, a committee was appointed to examine the hedges entered for premium, which resulted in the unanimous award to Mr. Jas. McGrew for the most perfect hedge in the State.

In regard to the relative *cost* of the living fence, one who had ample opportunity, and has a farm of a quarter section, and full four miles of hedge in different stages growing upon it in Ohio says:

"In balancing my estimates of cost between the hedge and rail fences on my place, I can not make it come out any other way than that I shall, on the whole be as well off at least, with the hedges, and a good man hired five months in the year to take care of them, as I should be with a wooden fence in point of *cash cost*. But, in point of security and beauty, there is of course no comparison. But it will not cost me a fifth part of that labor, on an average, to take sufficient care of the hedges, even with the imperfect tools now in common use.

Here then is a clear saving of \$30 per annum, at the end of ten, or at most fifteen, years, there will accrue another saving of at least the whole cost of the rail fence, which will be decayed and gone, while the hedge will be better than ever before. Here, then, is another saving of \$1,260 more, or \$100 per annum."

Let it be remembered that expenses can be lessened very considerably by farmers who live contiguously uniting and contracting for 8 or 10 miles per annum."

Having consented to act for McGrew, Leas, & Co., as *general agent* at St. Louis, and wishing to devote myself exclusively to growing hedges in this vicinity, any applications from either side of the river for *seed*, *plants* or *instructions* shall receive prompt attention.

LOGAN SLEEPER.

St. Louis, March 20th, 1855.

THE RACE HORSE LEXINGTON.

The New Orleans Picayune gives us the following description of this famous horse, that recently ran four miles in 7 minutes 19½ seconds:

A blood bay, about 15 hands 3 inches high, with fore and hind feet and pasterns and a small portion of his hind legs above the pastern joints white; his bones are not particularly large (except the back bone, which is unusually so); his muscle is abundant—clean, dry and sinewy, without any cumbersome flesh; his ears, which are handsome and wide apart, are beautifully placed; his head, though not small, is clean, bony and handsome—his nostrils being large, the jawbone uncommonly wide and the jaws wide apart, affording abundant room for a clear and well detached throttle; his left eye full and mild, though animated; his right eye has lost its convexity from disease; a noble countenance, indicating good temper and disposition, for which he is remarkable; his neck rises well from his shoulder and joins his head admirably. His shoulder has a very wide bone, very strong, well displayed, particularly oblique, and rises sufficiently high at the withers, without any of that superfluous neck so frequently seen to surmount the shoulders two or three inches, which can

not add to power or easy motion. His arms come out well from the body, are sufficiently wide apart for a good chest, and are long, muscular and strong. His back of medium length, coupling pretty well back; a loin wide, slightly arched and very powerful. His body will bear the most rigid scrutiny—it looks perfection, being ribbed in the best possible manner, and very deep throughout, which makes his legs appear short, while at the same time he has a great reach. His hips are not remarkably wide, though strong, and in the sweep down to, and embracing the hough, he really has no equal. His feet, though mostly white, are excellent, as are his legs, with good bone, and clean, strong, tendons and good proportions, uniting in their motion great ease and correctness. His action can not be surpassed; bold, free, elastic and full of power, and with his ease and elegance of action, and a remarkable running-like form throughout, he unites great beauty and grandeur.

THE DOG.

THE GREYHOUND

Is the fleetest of all dogs; his form indicates his power of speed, being more light and airy than the deer. He is principally used in "coursing," when he chases, by sight, the hare over the open country. The speed of the greyhound is very little inferior to the best horses, and in a broken country would probably outstrip the fleetest of them. Although this graceful animal hunts by sight only, his scent is very exquisite, as will be seen in the following anecdote: A hound, quite celebrated, was brought from Glasgow to Edinburgh in the boot of a coach, a distance of forty-two miles. A few days afterward she made her escape, and returned to her kennel. This hound must have followed the track she scented in the air in her journey to Edinburgh. The greyhound was the favorite of the ancient Greeks; his form frequently appears upon their best sculptures; he was the inmate of their homes, and fed from the family table. The beauty of the form of the greyhound is wonderfully harmonious with the delicate sentiment so peculiar to all Grecian art, and under the training of that wonderful people their qualities were more fully developed than in modern times.

THE SPANIELS.

The group of dogs claiming the most attention is the one known as Spaniels, including specimens of the race most remarkable for their docility and affectionate disposition. These good qualities are eminently combined with such unexceptionable beauty, that they are always favorites. Their fur is long and silky, sometimes curled or crisp; the ears are large and pendent, and the expression of the countenance pleasing and intelligent.

THE WATER SPANIEL

Belongs to this group, and is remarkable for his fondness for water. He is the able assistant of sportsmen in hunting the wild duck. It is supposed he was originally from Spain, and is probably descended from the large water-dog and English setter. From the moment he attaches himself to his owner, the intensity of his affection is scarcely conceivable; and he is apparently never happy unless near his master's person, resting his head upon his foot, lying upon some portion of his apparel, with his eye intently fixed upon his master, and even studying the slightest expression of his countenance.

THE SETTER

Is supposed to be the spaniel, improved in size and beauty, and by many is preferred to the pointer, in pursuit of small game. He is one of the most artificial of dogs, not enthusiastic in his disposition, and is somewhat forgetful of his training. Toussenel, who is very meritorious and very French,

speaking of the setter, has the following rhapsody, in which is concealed a great deal of truth: "The setter is a product of art, as much as the Queen Claude plum or double rose; he is a dumb dog, grafted on the running dog, and which returns to the wild stock, like the double rose, when the graft fails to take effect." The setter has in his favor elegance of form, vigor of muscle, and power of thought; but he is not faithful, as has been too often asserted. The setter allows himself to be loved by greenhorns, but he never loves any other than the accomplished hunter. We remember in our youth of having often suffered from the contempt of a setter named Ajax, whom we courted every day with wings of fowls and other delicate attentions, and who flattered us in return by every expression of good-will while *at the table*, but in the field he no longer knew us

Spirit of the Times.

SHEEP SHEARING.—A patent has been granted to Palmer Lancaster, of Burr Oak, Mich., for nothing less than the shearing of sheep by machinery, instead of a pair of sheep-shears—the common way. The machine, which is small and neat, is hung by a strap to the arm of the operator, and placed on the body of the sheep to be shorn. By simply turning a handle back and forth, and moving the machine over the body of the sheep, the wool is made to fly in double-quick time. It is well known that the most skillful hands at sheep-shearing do not cut the fleece even; and besides, the skin of the animal is invariably clipped out by the shears in many spots. This instrument cuts the fleece rapidly and evenly, never cutting any part of the wool twice; and it avoids cutting the skin of the animal; it is therefore a humane as well as a new contrivance.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF CHIMNEYS.

A recent number of the London Quarterly Review contains a readable and instructive article upon chimneys and their belongings. The writer is apparently a decided admirer of the open fire-place, as a genial enhancer of home joys, and while he admits its defects, and its annual chapter of accidents or annoyances, still thinks the enjoyment of the open fire to be too deeply seated (among Englishmen especially), to be greatly disturbed by these causes. But leaving this social aspect of the open fire-place, which the weather just now would rob of all its charms, the writer gives much that is new in relation to chimneys and the philosophy of their action, some portions of which we condense for our columns.

The chimney has been in use for four centuries. Existing remains prove that perpendicular flues were constructed in England as far back as in the twelfth century. In drawings of the time of Henry III., chimneys of a cylindrical form are represented as rising considerably higher than the roof, and orders to raise the chimneys of the king's houses were frequent in that reign. Nevertheless, it was still the general custom, even in the fourteenth century, to retain the hearth in the middle of the room. When the wood was fairly ignited the smoke would not be great, and the central position of the fire was favorable to the radiation of heat.

This method of warming the hall was continued long after the fire-places with chimneys had been erected in the smaller apartments. By the reign of Elizabeth the advantages of the new system were so well appreciated, that ladies in their visits to their friends, if they could not be accommodated with rooms with chimneys, were frequently sent out to other houses, where they could enjoy the luxury.

But notwithstanding the chimney is so venerable an institution, it has been employed with a very imperfect appreciation of physical laws upon which it depends. Probably, says the writer from whom we quote, even at the present day, few of those who erect chimneys would be able to explain the conditions of their successful action; while the learned chimney-doctor often fails in his diagnosis, and rashly prescribes for a malady from which the patient may be free, while neglecting that which would be evident to the eye of the man of science.

It is often supposed either that smoke ascends the chimney because it is lighter than the surrounding air, or that some mysterious power exists in the chimney by which the smoke is drawn up and discharged. That smoke is not lighter than air, the following experiment, devised by Dr. Franklin, will show. If a pipe of tobacco be lighted, the stem plunged to the bottom of a decanter half full of cold water, and the bowl covered with a piece of linen so that it may be blown through without burning the lips, the smoke will descend the stem of the pipe and bubble up through the liquid, and thus becoming cooled it will not rise out of the decanter, but will spread over the surface of the water. This shows that smoke is in reality heavier than air.

But the murky cloud, which consists of carbon, hydrogen, carbonic acid, carbonic oxide, vapor of water and other products, is mixed with a large proportion of the air which enters the fire. It is this invincible column of heated air that by its expansive force carries with it the visible and less heated smoke, until it emerges from the top of the chimney, where it encounters the cold of the external atmosphere, loses its ascensive power, and unless some kindly breeze convey it speedily away, hangs like a cloud over the crowded city, or falls in minute particles of carbon, begrimming everything below.

Air, then, being essential to the draught of chimneys, the quantity needed and the best mode of supplying it is an important inquiry in connection with the subject. Dr. Franklin's method of ascertaining in a rough way how much air is required to be admitted per minute, was to set the door ajar until the fire burnt properly, and gradually close it again until the smoke began to appear; he then opened it a little wider, and if the width of the crevice was half an inch in a door of 8 feet high, the room would need an aperture equal to 48 square inches, or a hole 6 inches by 8. Six inches square would probably be sufficient for the wants of most chimneys.

But where to form this aperture is a difficult question. If made in the door, it admits a cold current to the back and feet of persons sitting near the fire, and also interferes with the privacy of the room; if made in the window, it brings down a cataract of untempered air upon the head. The plan invented by Gauzier, a Frenchman, who, a century and a half ago, described it in a work entitled "La Mecanique du Feu," appears to have great merit, and is now very generally used in this country for the purpose of supplying hot air furnaces. He opened a hole in the hearth, communicating with a channel which passed under the floor, and finally through an aperture in the wall of the house reached the outside atmosphere.

The principal remedy for smoky chimneys being to keep up an ample supply of air, and no special provision being made by the house-builder for the purpose, the air finds its way through the cracks of windows and doors, or by the more easy passage of another chimney-shaft. In this way chimneys may often overpower each other. A

fire in a front or back drawing-room may burn very well by itself, but if an attempt be made to light both fires, the rooms are filled with smoke. The stronger burning fire draws upon the shaft of the weaker for a supply of air, and of course brings the smoke down with it. If the two rooms be separated by a wall, the same effect may be produced, for they still communicate atmospherically by the joints of the doors.

It is even possible, when the windows fit tightly, for a large kitchen fire to overpower all the other chimneys of the house. It was an old notion that chimneys ought not to be crooked, whereas a slight bend towards the top is beneficial, for this prevents the sudden descent of wind or rain. Nor is the form of chimney material; it may be tapering, or of equal bore; pyramidal or square; it is only necessary that it be constructed so as to offer no considerable resistance to the ascending current, for otherwise the hot air will be delayed in its ascent, and have time to cool.

A high chimney always makes the best draught, and hence well-built factories invariably have such chimneys. Dwelling houses do not require such enormously high chimneys, but they must be high enough not to be overtopped by contiguous buildings, else the wind, striking against the superincumbent wall, will be precipitated down the chimney, filling the room below with smoke or gas.

Much of what is here said about smoky chimneys applies also to ventilation. The combustion of a fire, or of gas lights, as well as our own breathing, vitiates the air, so that every apartment ought to have an outlet for carrying off the carbonized and deleterious atmosphere. A hole, opening into the chimney, just below the ceiling, is the best method of meeting this difficulty. Rooms, heated by properly constructed furnaces, which admit fresh air raised to a temperature of sixty-five degrees, and supplied with such an opening, are the healthiest that can be had, unless it is apartments warmed by grates, and fitted with such a ventilator, the grates and room being fed with cold air in such a way as to prevent draughts on the person.—*Baltimore American*.

CHLOROFORMING WEEVILS.—One of the editors of the Washington Union was present at the Patent Office a few days since, while experiments were made to destroy weevil in wheat by the use of chloroform. In two or three minutes, after a few drops of chloroform had been administered, the insects naturally enough began to exhibit unmistakable symptoms of uneasiness, which proved to be the certain precursors of a quiet, respectable death. It was the opinion of the experimenter that these destructive insects might be effectually exterminated through the agency of chloroform, and large quantities of fine wheat saved every year.—*Scientific American*.

ALUMINIUM.—The Emperor of the French has conferred the cross of officer of the Legion of Honor on M. Sainte-Claire Deville, and that of simple member on M. Vohler, for their discovery of the new metal, aluminium. This metal, it will be recollected, is extracted from clay, and its properties are described to be, "the lightness of glass, the whiteness and brilliancy of silver, the unchangeableness of gold, the tenacity of iron, the fusibility of copper, and the ductility of the precious metals." The means of extracting and working the metal have been made public, but thus far they are rather too expensive to enable the metal to be brought into use as a substitute for copper and tin. Specimens of the aluminium are to figure in the approaching Exhibition of Paris.

CORN.—**THE CUT AND WIRE WORMS.**—The white grub or cut worm has been very destructive in my cornfield, and also the wire worm. Year before last they came so thick that I could pick a handful from the furrow in going four rods. So, soon, after planting, and before the corn was up, I put on every hill about a gill of ashes, lime and salt, mixed together. The compost was in proportion a bushel of ashes, a peck of lime, and four quarts of salt. My corn came up looking fine, and at the first hoeing scarcely a hill was touched by the grub. They worked a little after, but did not destroy ten hills to the acre. If any are likely to be troubled the coming spring, I would advise them to try this.—D. L., in *Rural New-Yorker*.

HOW TO TURN A WHITE DAHLIA BLUE.—I have been told, but never have tried the experiment, by a celebrated cultivator of dahlias in Belgium, that he will be able, in the course of a year or two, to produce a blue dahlia, by keeping constantly watered the root of a white one with a solution of sulphate of iron. The sulphate of iron turns hydrangeas blue, and why not other white flowers as well? Of course the solution must be very weak when used.—*Gardeners' Chronicle*.

THE AMERICAN WOMEN.—The following is a forcible analysis of the difference between the French, English, Italian and American women, and will bear a close examination and repeated readings:

"The English woman is respectable and proud; the French gay and agreeable; the Italian woman is ardent and passionate; the American woman sincere and affectionate. With an English woman love is a principle; with a French woman it is a caprice; with an Italian it is a passion; with an American it is a sentiment. A man is married to an English lady; united to a French woman; cohabits with an Italian; and is wedded to an American. An English woman is anxious to secure a lord; a French woman a companion; an Italian a lover; an American a husband. The Englishman respects his lady; the Frenchman esteems his companion; the Italian adores his mistress; the American loves his wife. At night the Englishman returns to his establishment; the Italian to his retreat; the American to his home. When an Englishman is sick his lady visits him; when a Frenchman is sick his companion pities him; when an Italian is sick his mistress sighs over him; when an American is sick his wife nurses him. When an Englishman dies his lady is bereaved; when an Italian dies his mistress laments; when an American dies his wife mourns. An English woman instructs her offspring; a French woman teaches her progeny; an Italian rears her young; an American educates her child."

THE BRITISH CHARACTER.—"There are two kinds of boasting," said Sam, "active and passive. The former belongs exclusively to my countrymen, and the latter to the British. A Yankee openly asserts and loudly proclaims his superiority. John Bull feels and looks it. He don't give utterance to his conviction. He takes it for granted all the world knows and admits it, and he is so thoroughly persuaded of it himself, that, to use his own favorite phrase, he don't care a fig if folks don't admit it. His vanity, therefore has a sublimity in it. He thinks, as the Italians say, "that when nature formed him, she broke the mold." There never was, never can, and never will be, another like him. His boastin' therefore, is passive. He shows it and acts it; but he don't proclaim it. He condescends and is gracious, patronizes and talks down to you."—*Sam Slick's Nature and Human Nature*.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

A HUNGRY CARPET BAG.

The Buffalo Express relates an amusing incident which occurred at Erie a few days since. A gentleman left Cleveland for New York quite early in the morning, without his breakfast, and being very hungry upon the arrival of the train at Erie, entered the dining room, and placing his carpet bag upon a chair—the table was far from being crowded—sat down by the side of it and commenced a valorous attack upon the viands before him. By and by the proprietor of the establishment came around to collect fares, and upon reaching our friend, ejaculated, "Dollar, sir."

"A dollar!" responded the eating man, "a dollar!—thought you only charged fifty cents a meal for one—eh?"

"That's true," said Meanness, "but I count your carpet bag one, since it occupies a seat."

Our friend expostulated, but the landlord insisted, and the dollar was reluctantly brought forth. The landlord passed on. Our friend deliberately arose, and opening his carpet bag, full in its wide mouth, discoursed into it, saying:

"Carpet bag, it seems you're an individual—a human individual, since you eat"—upon which he seized everything eatable within his reach, nuts, raisins, apples, cakes, pies, and amid the roars of the by-standers, the delight of his brother passengers, and discomfiture of the landlord, phlegmatically went and took his seat in the cars. He said he had provisions enough to last him to New York, after a bountiful supply had been served out in the cars. There was at least \$8 worth in the bag—upon which the landlord realized nothing in the way of profit. So much for meanness.

We once had a little experience of a similar character. Traveling eastward over the Alleghenies by the old stage-route from Wheeling to Cumberland, we stopped for supper and a change of horses. As we were some two hours behind time, supper had been prepared and waiting for us a long time, but by an evident arrangement between the landlord and driver, we were not called into the dining-room to our prepaid (50 cents) repast, till the horses were changed and ready to start. Scarcely had the tea been poured before we were informed that the "stage was ready," and we must go *then* or be left, which would invalidate our tickets (\$9), as they were "good for that day only." With a long January night's ride in prospect and the thermometer far below zero, we were quite loth to leave behind us a sumptuous meal which had been paid for. So, being the stronger party, we gathered up the table-cloth by the corners, with all upon it, to be spread out again in the stage and eaten "at our leisure." There was considerable demurring on the part of the landlord and driver, but having justice and a few double-barreled dark-holed instruments on our side, we had our own way. According to promise, we sent back the table fixings by the polite and honest driver. The next time we pass that way we will inquire of the landlord what *profit* he made on that supper.

A RICH JOKE.

Not many days ago a certain gentleman arrived at one of the hotels of Greenfield, in the evening. Having registered his name, it was soon noised about that an Honorable "M. C." was in town, and his brother Know Nothings enjoying themselves at a feast in a neighboring hotel, invited him to join them. He sat late at the table, and on returning to his own hotel all was quiet. Silently feeling his way to his room, he found it locked, and an occupant inside.

"Hallo! there—what have you got my room for?"

"It's mine, sir," says inside.

"No, it is not, and you must give it up."

"Shan't do any such thing."

The Hon. M. C. started for the landlord—aroused him from his dreams—and related the story of his wrongs.

"Sir," says the landlord to Mr. Inside, "Mr. B—— took this room and you must give it up."

"Well, I am Mr. B——," says inside.

The "M. C." was astonished to find a namesake in his room. Both being strangers to the landlord, the latter was perfectly nonplussed, not knowing to whom belonged the room. Says "M. C." "I can convince you, and pulled from his pocket several letters addressed to "Hon. B——, M. C." Landlord says sternly to inside—

"You must give up the room, now."

"Shan't do it, for I am the B—— who took this room, and have a political speech for a New-Hampshire meeting to-morrow. Don't disturb me," was the reply.

"Well, I can convince you," said the "Hon." very much excited; and he commenced unbuttoning to disclose the name marked on his linen." "See there—read that."

The landlord on bended knee, the light in close proximity, read, to his and the "Hon." gentleman's great astonishment, "A Muzzy."

The outsider found lodgings elsewhere. He had roomed the night preceeding with another gentleman, and they had unwittingly, exchanged shirts.

A MOUSE STORY.

The following story is related in the May number of the Knickerbocker:

I was stopping last summer at Cape May. As usual I was at Harwood's, and of course my wife was with me.

About two o'clock one morning, I was awakened by a reveille-tap from my better half. "For gracious sake!" she whispered, "if you want to laugh, just listen to that gentleman and his wife hunting a mouse in the next room!"

"Ee-ee-aw!" I murmured, half-awake.

"Now, do just wake up! To-morrow, when I tell the story, you'll be sorry that you wasn't awake to the reality."

Thus adjured, I woke up in right earnest, too late to hear any of the mouse-hunt, but just in time to hear the next room-door opened, and a little quavering, dandy voice, (which I at once recognized as that of Prinkey,) call out to some distant night-walker:

"Wai-tah!—wai-tah!—wai-tah!!!"

(No answer.)

"Po-taw!—po-taw!!—po-tah!!!"

(No answer.)

"Watch-man!—*watch-man!!*—WATCH-MAN!!!"

"That's me, sir," growled a deep voice.

"Watch-man, come here diweckly! We are in gwater twubble! There's a mouse in this apawment, and it nibbles awound in the most distwackted manner. I spoke to Mr. Ha'wood about it, and he pwomised to have the mouse wemoved, but he hasn't done it. Aw think it vewy unhandosome conduct o

Mr. Ha'wood to allow the mouse to wemain, after pwomising that it should be wemoved. Watch-man, Mrs. Pwinkey is vewy appwewensive of mice. Can't you come in and catch the cweature?"

"'Fraid not, sir. It's too late, and I should be sure to wake up some boarders as might-n't like it."

"How widickulous! Well, (a long pause) watch-man, couldn't you just step down to the baw-woom, and get some cwackers and cheese, and entice the animal out into the entwy?"

A brief remark from the watchman that the bar was closed, sent Mr. Prinkey back into his mouse-haunted dormitory. Fortunately the "cweature" ceased its nibbling, and a dead calm soon reigned.

A manly "keind" of person that!

TO THE RAPPING SPIRITS.

If, in your new estate, you can not rest,
But must return, oh! grant us this request;
Come with a noble and celestial air,
And prove your titles to the names you bear;
Give some clear token of your heavenly birth,
Write as good English as you wrote on earth,
And what were once superfluous to advise,
Don't tell, I beg you, such egregious lies. [SAXE.]

THE SNOW OF AGE.

We have just stumbled upon the following pretty piece of mosaic, laying amid a multitude of those less attractive: "No snow falls lighter than the snow of age; but none is heavier, for it never melts."

The figure is by no means novel, but the closing part of the sentence is new as well as emphatic. The scripture represents age by the almond tree, which bears blossoms of the purest white.

"The almond tree shall flourish"—the head shall be hoary. Dickens says of one of his characters, whose hair is turning gray, that it looks as if Time had lightly splashed its snows upon it in passing.

"It never melts"—no, never. Age is inexorable; its wheel must move onward; they know not any retrograde movement. The old man may sit and sing, "I would I were a boy again," but he grows old as he sings. He may read of the elixir of youth, but he can not find it; he may sigh for the secret of the alchemy which is able to make him young again, but sighing brings it not. He may gaze backward with an eye longing upon the rosy schemes of early years, but as one who gazes on his home from the deck of a departing ship, every moment carrying him further and further away. Poor old man! he has little more to do than die.

"It never melts." The snow of winter comes and sheds its white blossoms upon the valley and mountain, but soon the sweet spring follows and smiles it all away. Not so with that upon the brow of the tottering veteran; there is no spring whose warmth can penetrate its eternal frost. It came to stay; its single flakes fell unnoticed, and now it is drilled there. We shall see it increase, until we lay the old man in his grave; there it shall be absorbed by the eternal darkness, for there is no age in heaven.

Yet why speak of age in a mournful strain? It is beautiful, honorable, and eloquent. Should we sigh at the proximity of death when life and the world are so full of emptiness? Let the old exult because they are old; if any must weep, let it be the young, at the long succession of cares that are before them.

IMPOSSIBLE.—Derncourt, in an essay on Death has the following passage in illustration of his views of the world:

"Shall I say that what is impossible with men is impossible with God? He had al-

ready created the world by his Word, and he is able to restore it again by the same. Art hath found out methods to make beautiful vessels of melted ashes; and shall not God's hand, unto which all the skill of art, and all the strength of nature are as naught be able to gather up the ashes of earth, and to make of it a body full of light and glory?

COLLISIONS AT SEA.

It is impossible to provide effectually against collisions at sea. Our blood runs cold to-day at the remembrance of a steamer crossing the bows of a sailing vessel that bore us to Liverpool, so near that three minutes later a collision would have been inevitable; and yet she passed like a grim phantom in a fog, a black hull and a red pipe faintly looming athwart our bows at a distance of only twice the ship's length, while in her watch our vessel was probably invisible. We heard her paddles, and the roar of the sea as it parted before her ponderous bulk; we heard the tolling of her bell as from a phantom ship; her direction and her progress could only be guessed by sound; but we felt that invisible power that might in an instant crush and overwhelm us, drawing nearer and nearer, while the tolling of the bell, scarcely audible above the noise of her motion, could hardly convey to her a warning of our presence. At length she passed in the fog—no longer a phantom—but a thing of life, urging her resistless way through the dense vapors with a fearful precision. We never knew her name or destiny. How easily might both ships, each to the other unknown, have sunk into the depths of the sea by unavoidable collision! But here we are, by God's mercy, to record our narrow escape from that which has befallen six hundred of our fellows. These possibilities are fearful to contemplate while sitting quietly in our own study; but how fearful while lying wakeful in one's berth at sea, or groping the deck in a dripping fog. And yet with all the possibilities of calamity by collision, by storm, by iceberg, or by fire, that are inseparable from the navigation of the ocean by steam, that navigation is safer than railroad travel in the United States.—Independent.

THE THREE DUTIES.—"Reading," says Lord Bacon, "maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man." A young man who neglects reading is generally very meager; one who does not see much of his fellows is seldom a man of affairs; and few who do not write much, ever attain that precision of thought which is essential to real power. Therefore, young man, read—confer—write! Not one of the three duties can you safely neglect—Pictorial Pages.

Markets.

REMARKS.—There has been some fluctuation in Flour the past week, but it is settled to-day precisely as at our last. Corn is 2c. to 3c. per bushel higher.

Cotton is unchanged. Sugar ¼c. to ½c. per lb. better. Rice the same.

The Weather.—It commenced raining rapidly on the 8th, and continued till late on the 9th, with a prospect of an abundant supply. We hope the storm has spread generally over the country, as rain has been much wanted for months past. For further remarks on the Weather, Crops, &c., see page 136.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, May 8, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The weather is most disagreeable to-day, and the market dull. There is an over-supply of Nova Scotia potatoes, and also 1,200 barrel Bermudas. These are in fine order, and, we believe, the first new potatoes of the season. The seed was Western Reds. The supply of Cabbages, Beets, Carrots, &c., is so small, that henceforth we shall omit their quotation.

Green vegetables begin to come in in large quantities, which tends to lessen the price of old potatoes. There is some Pie-plant in market, but the sale is slow. Cabbage sprouts have fallen \$1 ½ bbl. since last week.

Apples have risen 5c. ½ bbl.; the supply is not large. Butter has fallen off a little. Eggs and Cheese about the same.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas	½ bbl.	\$7 —@7 50
New-Jersey Mercers	do.	4 52@4 50
Western Mercers	do.	4 —@4 37
White Mercers	do.	3 62@3 87
Nova Scotia Mercers	½ bush.	1 10@1 20
New-Jersey Carters	½ bbl.	4 25@4 50
Washington County Carters	do.	4 —@4 25
Junes	do.	3 25@3 50
Western Reds	do.	2 75@3 —
Yellow Pink Eyes	do.	2 75@2 87
Long Reds	do.	2 50@2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes	do.	4 50@ —
Philadelphia sweet	do.	5 50@5 75
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do.	1 75@2 —
White	do.	1 25@1 50
Onions—White	do.	— @ —
Red	do.	3 75@4 —
Yellow	do.	— @5 —
Cabbage Sprouts	½ bbl.	— @1 75
Onions, green	½ doz. bunches.	— 75@ —
Asparagus	do.	2 —@ —
Spinach	½ bbl.	1 75@ —
Water Cresses	½ basket.	— 50@ —
Pie-plant	½ 100.	5 —@ —
Apples	½ bbl.	\$4 —@4 50
Butter—Orange County	½ lb.	22@23c.
Western	do.	— @—c.
Cheese	do.	11@12c.
Eggs	½ doz.	15@—c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY May 9, 1855.

The most noticeable feature around the yards to-day was a northeast storm, and a swamp of mud. This, it is said, had a tendency to depress the market, which, if true, was indeed most providential.

There are only 1,143 cattle in market, or about 200 less than last, which gives a less number and higher prices than we have scarcely ever known. Good cattle bring readily 14c. ½ lb, and some extra 15c.—prices which poor people hardly dare to think of. But such prices, we believe, are merely temporary. It is true beef cattle are very scarce all through the western country, and doubtless we shall have to give high prices throughout the summer, till grass cattle come in; but that they will hold these high figures, we have no reason to believe. Of late we learn many of the western dealers have been holding back for the Lakes to get clear of ice, since this will be a much more convenient route than the railroads, which, in some cases, have become unaccountably negligent.

Besides the burning of a bridge on the Erie Railroad, by which some 5 or 600 cattle were detained, gives an additional reason for the scarcity to-day. In consequence of this most of the cattle were in the hands of speculators, having been bought up in the western part of the State. Some droves, we learn, changed hands in Buffalo four times, and each time with profit.

This, then, is the true state of things; and, as yet, persons have no occasion to exult over former predictions of high prices, unless their prophetic ear extends to the burning of railroad bridges, and things of like occurrence. To-day's quotations will doubtless cause an over-supply and dull markets for a week or two to come, as usually happens after any unusual advance in the market.

We present a few specimens:

Geo. Toffey was selling a good lot from Seneca Falls, this State, owned by J. F. Hill, at an average price of about \$97 ½ head, or 13¼c. Six sold for \$127 ½ head.

Barney Bartam had an excellent lot of 90, Illinois cattle, owned by Cochran & Claypole. The whole lot would average 14c., and a few went as high as 15c. 8 were sold for 140 each.

Sohn Merritt was selling a good lot of 77, Ohio cattle,

owned by James Perrill of Chillicothe. These sold at an average of 14c.

Geo. Ayrault had 90 fair still-fed cattle from Seneca Falls, which were estimated to sell from 12c. to 14c.

Wm. H. Belden had 88 good cattle, owned by Mumford & Van Dusen, some of which he said went as high as 15c. and so down to 13c.

Thos. Whitc was selling 91 good Illinois cattle, owned by Mr. Prathier, which he said brought from 13c. to 15c.

Daniel Barnes was selling 70 rather poor Illinois cattle for about 12c.

David L. Belden was selling 94 good beeves from Chittenango, N. Y., belonging to Wells & Stewart. 6 were sold for \$130 per head, and the whole at an average of 13¼c.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality	14½@15c.
Good retailing quality	13½@14c.
Inferior do.	12@13c.
Cows and Calves	\$20@\$60.
Veals	4c.@7c.
Sheep, poor	\$4@4 25.
do good	\$7 50@8.
do extra	\$10@12.
Swine, alive	5¼c.@5½c.
" dead	7½@8c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves	1456 1143
Cows	20 —
Veals	300 —
Sheep and lambs	500 —
Swine	1588 —

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves 200 Swine 288 Sheep — Veals —

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves 10 Cows — Veals — Sheep and Lambs —

By the Hudson River Railroad—Beeves 355 Sheep and Lambs — Swine —

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves 456 Sheep 169 Swine 1360

New-York State furnished—beeves	538
Ohio	340
Indiana	—
Illinois	185
Iowa	70
Kentucky	—
Connecticut	—
Peensylvania	—

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs	2554
Beeves	190
Veals	66
Cows and Calves	44

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's: 211 Beef Cattle 10@13c. 63 Cows and Calves \$30@\$60 2,112 Sheep \$3@56.

The Sheep Market has been tip top since last week. There are scarcely any in market, and these, though poor, are readily taken up. Extra sheep sell by the gross for 8¼c. ½ lb, or 16c. dressed. Samuel McGraw sold 20 at 15c. ½ lb, and has on hand to-day 300.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

69 Sheep	\$310 50
166 Sheep	1015 25
277 Sheep	1363 75
2 Sheep	17 00
2 Sheep	18 50
62 Sheep	248 00
11 do	46 50
2 do	11 00

591 Average \$5 12.

The following are the sales for the week by James McCarty:

173 Sheep	\$1059 50
103 Sheep	523 00
152 Sheep	716 75
20 do	157 00
84 do	539 25
171 do	1153 75
29 do	258 19
45 do	450 00

777 Average \$6 24 ½ head. \$4,858 60

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table of prices for various commodities including Ashes, Beeswax, Bristles, Coal, Cotton, Cotton Bagging, Coffee, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, Lime, Lumber, Molasses, Oil Cake, Rice, Salt, Sugar, Tallow, and Tobacco.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

SUPERIOR THOROUGHbred DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS FOR SALE.

The subscriber having purchased from Mr. W. P. Wainwright his interest in the herd of Devon Cattle hitherto owned conjointly by them, will continue to give his strict attention to the breeding and raising of this increasingly popular breed.

SPRING WHEAT of the celebrated CLUB variety—will answer to sow till 20th May.

SEED OATS—Very choice Poland and Egyptian.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed.

BARLEY—California and Two-rowed variety.

RYE.

FALL OR WINTER WHEAT of the best kinds.

TURNPURP AND RUTA BAGA, of every choice variety.

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured.

HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain. ELLEN'S do. BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses. TRIMBLES' do. TAPLIN'S Circular do.

MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES:

- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine. ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do. KETCHUM'S Mowing Machine. HARVEY'S Reaping do. MCCORMICK'S do. ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES,

for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

THRESHERS—

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot. do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot. EMERY'S overshot. EDDY'S do.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$10.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86-6m

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86-tfn193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Hams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86-tfn194

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS. Single Horse Power \$85 00 Double do. do. 115 00 Do. do. do. with Thresher and Separator, 160 00 Do. do. do. do. 125 00 Belts \$5 and \$10 each. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

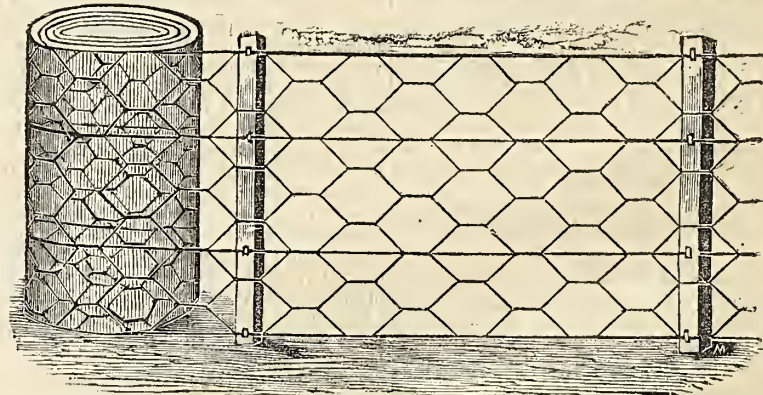
BLACK HAWK HORSE RAVEN.—

This Horse will stand at the farm of the subscriber, in NORFOLK, Conn., called the Robbins Farm, the coming season, at ten and fifteen dollars. The oldest colts of this Horse are three years old. The stock is of extraordinary promise. RAVEN is by Vermont Black Hawk—dam has the blood of Gifford Morgan and of Cock of the Rock. 85-30n191 ROBBINS BATTELL.

FARMERS ATTENTION.—Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied.

The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention. WHY NOT TRY IT? Cuttings can be had in any quantity upon early application to the subscriber, and instructions for planting &c. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

Hitherto the labor of peeling willows by hand has been the great objection to their cultivation, but now a machine has been perfected, capable of doing the work of twenty men, and doing it well. 79-tf



IMPROVED WIRE FENCE.

THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens, Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens.

It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years. Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the subcan, while it does not confine heat, and is without ornament.

Table showing prices for different types of wire fencing: A-16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, 2 longitudinal wires, \$0 95 per rod; B-15 " " 6-inch " 2 " " 1 25 " " C-15 " " 6-inch " 4 " " 1 50 " " D-33 " " 3-inch " 2 " " 1 63 " " E-33 " " 3-inch " 4 " " 1 75 " " F-45 " " 3-inch " 2 " " 2 00 " " G-45 " " 3-inch " 4 " " 2 25 " "

Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot. The rod measures 16 1/2 feet. Each coil contains about 25 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the IMPROVED POUURETTE made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY: Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUURETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, BENJAMIN DANA.

SUPERIOR SEED WHEAT.—A LARGE assortment of the best varieties of improved Seed Wheat; among which are the Red Mediterranean, White Mediterranean, Soule's and Blue stem. For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle—consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals. Nearly the whole of them are IMPORTED, and their direct descendants.

Also, about seventy-five (75) SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few SUFFOLK HOGS, bred from the importation of J. C. Jackson, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

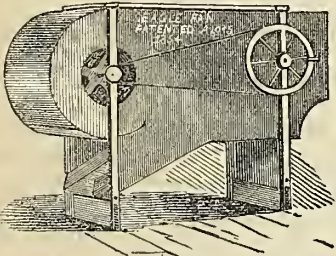
TERMS OF SALE.

For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.

J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y. March 20th, 1855. 81-32n1185

FERTILIZERS.—PERUVIAN GUANO, with Government brand on each bag, of best quality, and not DAMPENED to make it WEIGH HEAVIER. Improved Super Phosphate, Bone-dust, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, &c. 83-4f R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists

First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON, 83-102n1183 No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

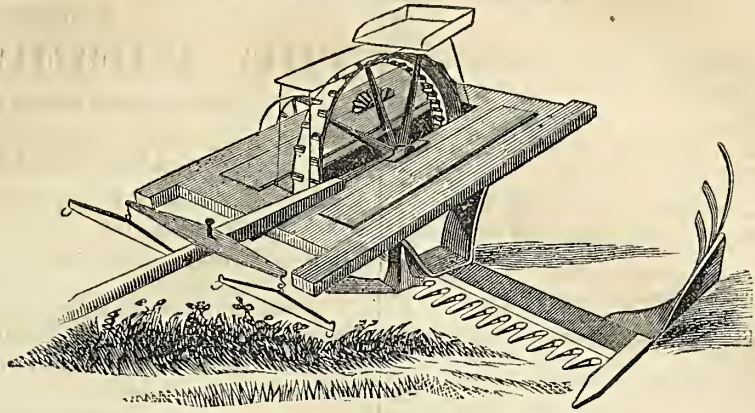
ATKIN'S SELF-RAKING REAPER and MOWER.—Three seasons' use of this ingenious, beautiful, and yet simple Machine, furnish convincing proof of practical worth. THREE HUNDRED, scattered into 19 different States the past season, mostly in inexperienced hands, and nearly all giving good satisfaction, cutting from 50 to 600 acres, proves it not only strong and serviceable, but also simple and easily managed. It saves not only the hard work of raking, but lays the grain in such good order as to save at least another hand in binding.

IT IS WARRANTED TO BE A GOOD, DURABLE, SELF-RAKING REAPER, and I have also succeeded in attaching a mowing bar, so that I also WARRANT IT AS A MOWER.

Price at Chicago, of Reapers, \$170; of Mowing Bar, \$30. Discount on the Reaper, \$15, and on Mowing Bar, \$5, for cash in advance, or on delivery. Price of Mower, \$120.

Pamphlets giving all the objections and difficulties, as well as commendations, sent free, on post-paid applications. AGENTS, suitably qualified, wanted in all sections where there are none. J. S. WRIGHT. "Prairie Farmer" Warehouse, Chicago, Dec. 1854. [67-88]

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.

2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.

3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.

4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.

5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.

6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.

7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which even a large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bulluck's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

WATER RAMS, SUCTION, FORCE and Endless-chain Pumps; Leather, Gutta Percha, India Rubber Hose, Lead Pipe, &c.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Fall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurry. Red and White Clover Lucerne, Saintfoin, Alyske Clover, Sweet-scented Clover, Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties, Winter Rye, Barley, Buckwheat.

Oats, of several choice kinds. Corn, of great variety. Spring and Winter Fetiches. PRAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Orange, Loenst, Buckthorn, Tobacco, Common and Italian Millet, Broom Corn, Cotton, Flax, Canary, Hemp, Rape and Rice.

FRUIT TREES.—Choice sorts, including the Apple, Pear, Quince, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, &c., &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBBERY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

DRAINING TILES OF ALL FORMS and sizes.

THRESHERS AND FANNING-MILLS combined, of three sizes and prices, requiring from two to eight horses to drive them, with corresponding horse powers. These are the latest improved patterns in the United States.

SOUTHERN PLOWS—Nos. 10½, 11½, 12½, 14, 15, 18, 18½, 19, 19½, 20, A 1, A 2, Nos. 50, 60, and all other sizes.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. I would call attention to a few of many others offered for sale:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock. BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Spades, Cultivators, Seed and Grain Drills, Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Shingle Machines, Apple Parers, Hay and Manure Forks, Saw Machines, Scales, Rakes, Belting for Machinery, &c. Cotton Gins, Gin Gear, Wire Cloth.

JOHN R. PAGE, Sennett, Cayuga Co. N. Y. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

SHORT HORN BULLS.—I have for sale three young, thoroughbred SHORT HORN BULLS; ages—four months, seven months, eight months; colors—roan, red, chiefly red; the get of SPLENDOR, a son of Vane Tempest and imported Wolviston, JOHN R. PAGE, Sennett, Cayuga Co. N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

FINE ANGERS QUINCE CUTTINGS, from one to two feet in length, for SEVEN DOLLARS PER THOUSAND READY PACKED At the South Norwalk Nurseries. GEO. SEYMOUR & CO., South Norwalk, Conn. Address, 76-38n1163

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

When sending a subscription always state what number it shall commence with. The back numbers of this volume can still be supplied to new subscribers. Back volumes neatly bound can now be furnished from the commencement. Price of the first ten volumes \$1 25 each, or \$10 for the entire set of ten volumes. Vols. XI, XII, and XIII, \$1 50 each. Price of the thirteen volumes, \$14 00.

We can generally furnish back numbers. Where only one or two may be wanting, no charge will be made to regular subscribers, and all numbers lost by mail we will cheerfully supply.

Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can begin with any number, but it is preferable to commence the 15th of March or the 15th of September, as a half yearly volume of 416 pages, with a complete index, begins on each of those dates.

ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT BACK NUMBERS, &c.—Back numbers from the beginning of the present volume can still be supplied at 4 cents per number.

Volumes XI, XII, and XIII can be supplied at \$1 per volume unbound; or \$1.50 per volume bound.

The first ten volumes (new edition) can be furnished bound at \$1 25 per volume, or the complete set of ten volumes for \$10. Price of the first thirteen volumes \$14 50.

No new edition of the volumes subsequent the tenth will be issued, as the work is too large to admit of stereotyping.

Clubs may add to their number at the same rate per copy as was paid by the original members.

Those wishing their papers changed from one office to another, should give the name, County, and State, of their old and new Post-office.

In sending money it is advisable to make a note of the name, number, letter and date of the bills sent, and then inclose them in presence of the Postmaster. Give the Post-office, and the County and State. Write these very plainly.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT!

FOURTEENTH VOLUME OF

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,

THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

A copious Index is weekly added, which will be fully amplified at the end of each half yearly volume, for the bound work.

COMPREHENSIVE IN ITS CHARACTER.

Each volume will contain all matter worth recording, which transpires either at home or abroad, and which can serve to instruct or interest the Farmer, the Planter, the Fruit-Grower, the Gardener, and the Stock-Breeder; thus making it the most complete and useful Agricultural Publication of the day.

CORRECT AND VALUABLE MARKET REPORTS.

The Markets will be carefully reported, giving the *actual transactions* which take place from week to week, in Grain, Provisions, Cattle, &c., thus keeping our readers *constantly and reliably* advised as to their interests. During the past year the knowledge obtained from these Market Reports alone, has saved our readers thousands of dollars, by informing them of the best time to sell or purchase.

SUCH A PAPER IS DEMANDED BY THE FARMING COMMUNITY.

The Publishers confidently believe that the Agriculturists of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow *monthly* issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and *reliable* character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

ESSENTIALLY AN AGRICULTURAL PAPER.

The *Agriculturist* will not depart from its legitimate sphere to catch popular favor, by lumbering up its pages with the silly, fictitious literature, and light, miscellaneous matter of the day; it has a higher aim; and a small part only of its space will be devoted to matters not immediately pertaining to the great business of Agriculture. The household as well as the out-door work of the farm will receive a due share of attention. The humbugs and nostrums afloat in the community will be tried by reliable scientific rules, and their worthlessness exposed. It is the aim of the publishers to keep this paper under the guidance of those who will make it a standard work, which shall communicate to its readers *only* that which is safe and reliable.

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

The *American Agriculturist* stands upon *its own merits*; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is *untrammelled* by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the *organ of any clique*, or the *puffing machine* of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

OHIO AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR 1854.

Through the kindness of Dr. G. Sprague, the Secretary of the Ohio Board of Agriculture, we are favored with its Report for the last year. Although less in volume than its previous reports, it gives a clear and encouraging account of the progressing husbandry of the State, which is soon to become, if not now, the first in agriculture of the Union. It gives an account of the last year's Cattle Show at Newark—equal in point of interest, and the numbers attending it, to any one of past years. The reports of the County Societies show increasing interest in those very useful institutions. Several valuable essays upon fruits, fine-wooled sheep, the renovation of exhausted soils, hedging, dairying, and other subjects, are added, of special interest to the Ohio farmers. On the whole an excellent report, and well got up—save some very poor engravings of sundry domestic animals.

We confess, however, to a little wear and tear of patience, in reading an otherwise quite sensible introductory article from the pen of the worthy Secretary, to find the following: "The present race of 'Short Horns' are believed to have been produced by a cross from a Teeswater bull (Hubbaek), owned by Mr. Charles Colling, and a polled Galloway cow. Whether this be the fact or not, all history goes to show that Mr. Colling produced the breed on the one side from 'Hubbaek,' and on the other from a cow, or cows, if not *hornless*, were certainly not in possession of the peculiarities of the present race of Short Horns. The 'Morgan' breed of horses, in our country, was produced by an accidental cross, and all the different varieties of improved farm stock in our own country, or in England, owe their origin to the crossing of dissimilar breeds."

We should like to be shown *any creditable* history that says the Short Horns were ever

so produced, or even improved—or if, by any process whatever, by intermixture with any or all the "dissimilar" breeds of cattle under heaven, you can produce at one, two, or three crosses, an animal that will show the full characteristics of a thoroughbred Short Horn, or Devon; or show us a man who can. To enlighten you on the subject, we beg you at once to procure the American edition of "Youatt on Cattle, edited by Ambrose Stephens," and read the history of the Short Horns in that; and if you do not rise from the reading with different notions than these, we are mistaken. As to the "Morgan" horses, we will show them "full blooded" to you, all over the country, from fourteen to sixteen and a half hands high, of all colors, shapes, and styles, sprung from scores of mares not at all alike in breed, or quality, and bred from horses in which not one one-hundred-and-twenty-eighth part of the blood of the original "Morgan" horse can be traced—for there never was a *mare* of the breed to start with.

It is better to say nothing, than to propagate such monstrous error as this, in a book where accuracy of statement is expected.

Every thing good in a "Morgan" horse, and indeed in most other breeds, is derived from *Arab blood*. The late Charles Henry Hall, of this city, has often told us he was personally knowing—with his father before him—to more Arabian horses imported into the New-England States for the last three-quarters of a century, than into all the others of our Union. These horses were used to a considerable extent, particularly by the farmers of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, and New-Hampshire; hence the superiority of their horses.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.
LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE—No. III.

Near South Charleston lives Mr. Alex. Waddle. *Near*, in southern Ohio and Kentucky, means any distance less than ten miles; so I took a pleasant walk of four miles. By the roadside, in a large, level pasture, I saw one hundred steers, belonging to Mr. W. They were making their living on last year's grass—and a good living, too. They had been foddered but once or twice the past winter. The practice on the large grazing farms in southern Ohio is, to shut up a field—perhaps of several hundred acres—about the first of July; keep every hoof out until the summer pastures fail; by this time the blue grass has grown, ripened, fallen down, and a new crop started, which

keeps green the most of the winter. In such feed in a mild season, cattle require no extra care whatever. I saw many which had been wintered thus that would make a butcher's "mouth water," so smooth and fat. Mr. Waddle's residence is near the center of his farm, one mile from the pike. I have before spoken of the good taste shown by Mr. W. and Dr. Watts in their selections from the English herds. We here saw three of the Ross Company's importation—a white bull, of good style generally, and very fine loin and hips for a two-year-old; a roan cow, Zealous, which could show points well up to the standard of the breed, her eyes in particular being fine—showing in this respect the cross which she has of the Princess tribe. Whatever may be the opinion on other points of Mr. Stephenson's cattle, in this they all agree—that, as a stock, they have the finest eyes of any Short Horns in existence. I also saw an imported two-year-old heifer, and a lot of home-bred cows, whose names I did not learn.

Mr. Waddle kindly furnished me with a saddle-horse, and showed me the path across his farm, to a cross-road which led to Mr. Wm. Pierce's.

This afternoon, the first time since I have been in the State, the sun came out warm, with a good breeze from the south. The air had that soft, delicious feel, which is so cheering to a farmer in early spring; starts the buds and grass, and brings out the frogs, which this afternoon were having a "regular blow out." It is to be hoped they didn't "hang out" late, for we had a sharp frost before morning. My ride across and by the side of the large pasture-fields was very pleasant; most of the land hereabouts is in grass; many oak openings, and most splendid fields they are, too. You see here and there a clump of low growing oaks, an occasional pond-hole grown up with flags and rushes, then a long, level view reaching off into the dim distance, with a sward of Kentucky blue grass, on which the foot will make no more noise than upon the softest carpet; looking now, probably, much the same as years and years ago, when the buffalo and the deer had possession. Now, these pastures fatten hundreds of Short Horn steers, most of which eventually find their way to the capacious maw of New-York city.

Mr. Pierce is a large breeder of Short Horns, asses, and mules. He has three of the Ross Company importation—the bull Alderman; a three-year-old heifer, and a two-

year-old, both good ones: the elder a little heavy about the throat, as is frequently the case with *beef* heifers before breeding. His other stock is chiefly descendants of the Whitaker importation, and the importation of '36. Of this sort, he had a large roan cow which looked more like a milker than most Ohio cows. She has a light head; neck slim and a little long; hind quarters long and relatively heavier than her fore end, with a well-developed udder. The most of Mr. P.'s cattle were very low in flesh. Here I saw a good arrangement for watering his large stock—a pump worked by a windmill. I wonder there are not more of them in this level country. It is very simple in its construction. I did not inquire the cost—which certainly was but little in comparison with the convenience. Of asses I saw five or six, male and female; good size, and without doubt *handsome*; but not being familiar with their good points or pedigree, you must excuse me from criticising. Mr. Pierce has on hand a hundred mules, which he was busy trimming up for the market; which is done by cutting off the hair of their tails square, and shaving the upper part close, looking much like a worn-out broom.

I did not get time to call upon several other large breeders of Short Horns in this neighborhood.

From South Charleston I went to Springfield, and called upon C. M. Clark, who has lately commenced breeding. He owns, in partnership with several others, the very fine young bull New-Year's-Day, bred in Ireland by ———. He is considered by most Ohio breeders as their "crack" bull. His color is roan, with a good head, neck and brisket; broad back, hips, rump, and the very best flank I ever saw. His owners have reason to value him highly. They paid \$3,500 for him. Indeed he seems to be very popular even in the city; for upon inquiring the way to Mr. Clark's, I was answered in Yankee style, "Are you going to see New-Year's-Day?" Mr. C. also has the second-prize yearling heifer of the National Show held at Springfield last October. She has a look of much good breeding about the head, an excellent neck, and brisket wide, but a little slack in the loin—that is, a depression which detracts from her otherwise fine outline; nevertheless, is a desirable animal.

I next called upon Mr. A. I. Paige, who has, beside other good ones, two of the Ross Company importation—a fine red cow, name not remembered, and Aylesbury Lady, a light roan, a large, good cow; very fat, but such a one as a breeder shows with commendable pride.

I have heretofore written of the increase in the price of lands within the last few years, in this State; to-day I saw a tract which had been recently sold for \$100 per acre, without buildings of any kind.

Near Dayton lives Wm. C. Davis, who has recently given up a business in the city of Cincinnati, and purchased one of the best farms in Montgomery County. This he is repairing and remodeling, straightening his fences, and substituting posts and boards for

rails. He has built stables to accommodate most of his stock. Mr. Davis has four good young heifers, bred by the Shakers of Union Village, and two imported bulls; one of which was badly used up on his voyage across the Atlantic, but with care will make a fine animal. The other bull had recently met with an accident to one of his fore legs, in consequence of which he could hardly stand, and of course could not show what he otherwise would have been. Mr. D. has a Spanish jack, said to be a good one; of good size, standing 15½ hands high. Of the power of his lungs I could not judge, as we were favored only with a few *falsetto notes*. Did you ever sleep, or rather try to sleep, with a couple of jacks running within a few rods of your room? If you have, you know all about it. I have heard and seen several locomotives in their agonies, but 'twas nothing to the braying of a jack in April.

The land in this part of the State is rolling, or perhaps hilly—much of the soil a gravelly loam. The farm buildings and fences have that look of neatness and thrift which is a favorable indication of a rich soil and good cultivation.

A GOOD AGRICULTURAL ADDRESS.

The "annual addresses" before agricultural societies, given, as they usually are, by some "titled" member of the other professions, generally abound in anything but practical instruction or hints to farmers. There are, however, exceptions to this general criticism, and among these we place the address of Mr. Venable before the Union Agricultural Society, of Virginia and North-Carolina, from which we make copious extracts: * * * * *

Before passing from the consideration of the accumulation and application of the manures made strictly from the materials on the farm, allow me to sum up in conclusion the great objects to be kept in view. First, the diligent collection of all the vegetable and other material on the farm for manures: Secondly, that this be the regular system on the farm—not a job to be done or neglected if anything should arise to make it inconvenient: And lastly, the early and prompt removal of the manure to the scene of cultivation, in order to its assimilation with the soil, and thus complying with the conditions of vegetation—remembering that the principal means of improvement must be produced upon every farm, and that foreign and expensive fertilizers are only justified inasmuch as they combine increased production of crop with a greater accumulation of the means for making putrescent manures.

The use of improved implements, especially the plow, has already done much for our agriculture. Indeed, most of the progress of the last twenty years is referable to this cause. With the exception of the coulter and the shovel plow, all of those kind formerly used have gone into disuse. We are occasionally reminded of them by the remains about old plantations, marking like fossils an age gone by. These, the coulter and shovel plow remain, because good tools themselves. They were the only implements which in former times prevented the entire destruction of all cultivated land. Much has been done by superior tools in all departments of agriculture. There is an ample assortment of the best plows and harrows, reapers and sowers, for selection,

in which the fancy as well as the judgment of all may find employment. But in order to do all for our agriculture that should be done, these facilities must be used, and used judiciously. The kind of plow to be employed, and the manner of using it, must be determined by the skill and judgment of him who directs the cultivation of the farm. A general dissertation with universal rules, as to the depth and manner of plowing, is only calculated to mislead, and create ultimate distrust in all treatises upon farming. It is thus that book farming has become a subject of ridicule with those who have seen in results a falsification of theory. Generally land should be broken deeply; but even to this some of the rich lands of Norfolk, England, are an exception—the united testimony in relation to them, being that the breaking of the pan or subsoil greatly impairs their value and productive qualities. This may be true of some lands in this region; but whether so or not, must be ascertained by experiments—I say by experiments, not a single trial; for sir, I concur fully with you, that experiments accurately and perseveringly made are the great hope of the agricultural art. *The general rule is that deep plowing as well as deep turning up, is best.* But this deep turning is also a relative term. A very shallow soil would be lost in the clay that would be superincumbent after such an operation. A plain but intelligent farmer, misled by the announcement of the general declaration that all lands ought to be broken and turned up deeply, practiced the rule upon some land with thin soil. He told me in his disgust at the failure to improve the land by this process, that the soil was so completely lost in the clay that a search warrant would not find it. Clay, by simple exposure to the air and other elements, does not become rich, or is not transformed into soil, or else the galled surfaces and sides of gullies so much and so long exposed to those agencies, would long since have been reclaimed. Intelligent observation must decide whether clay ought to be turned up to give consistency to soils naturally too light, or whether deep breaking without deep turning is the proper mode. Subsoiling would usually improve the production and increase the permanent fertility of land; but sometimes the subsoil gives the chief value to the soil, because beneath it is a porous formation, which would effectually dry up and render barren the soil. In such cases the tenacity of the subsoil prevents the drain beneath, and preserves the fertility of the surface. There are, however, some general rules usually applicable to the depth and manner of plowing—and a minute observation by intelligent planters and farmers, especially by those who do not form their conclusions from the result of a single experiment, must fix the practice in each individual case. The same system and the same rules would not suit any one farm, on account of the varieties of soil, upon such extended surfaces as many of our farms present.

To advance our agriculture, another error should be abandoned—I allude to the imperfect provision of teams upon our farms. No mistake is productive of greater mischief, both as regards production and improvement. On the score of economy alone, it would seem to be a blunder to employ a laborer worth one thousand dollars, in doing work which a mule, horse, or yoke of oxen, worth one hundred dollars, would do much better and in much larger quantities. In passing, I would here remark, that oxen are much underrated as to their real value, both for hauling and for the plow. They are usually slow, because at first broken to slow gaits; as well as from poor and insufficient feeding they are not capable of quick movements. The increase of the number of horses or

mules and oxen, until there was at least one horse, mule, or yoke of oxen to every laborer on the farm, would incalculably enlarge the means of production as of improvement. I speak not only of the ability to follow and seed the crops in good time, but their early and effectual cultivation, as well as their prompt delivery to market. Let it not be objected that this increased number of laboring animals will make too great a draught upon the provisions of the farm. This is not the fact. They will more than produce their food, and with the aid from meadows and artificial grass, there will be ample abundance for their support, as well as a great increase of market crops. And here I will impress upon my hearers the indispensable importance of meadows and grasses, such as supply the deficiency of those natural to our climate and soil. I speak to growers of tobacco, wheat, and corn—especially to those whose staples are wheat and tobacco.

Of corn, it has been properly said by the enlightened farmer who presides over this society, that none but rich alluvial soils should in this region be devoted to its culture as an article for market. There is nothing more true than that the omnivorous nature of that cereal qualifying it for sustaining itself upon almost every element in the earth, air and water, thereby enabling lands to produce it after exhaustion for every other crop, is the most efficient cause of the exhausted soil and worn out country, which abounds wherever corn is relied upon as a bread and money crop. And while this very property constitutes heaven's greatest, best vegetable gift to man, in those latitudes to which it is adapted, the ease of its production has caused prodigal and improvident draughts upon the resources furnished by nature. Every farmer cultivating uplands should be careful to prepare well, plant early and work quickly and thoroughly, and lay by his crop of corn by the last of June; and that crop should be planted on good land, not with a view to make it as a market crop, but just so much surface as promises an abundant supply. He should leave poor land to recuperate by the kindness of nature, and not plant corn, trusting to the rains to make his crop. Corn, it must be remembered, makes heavy draughts upon the soil, is bulky, and not usually of such value as to justify distant transportation. The policy of tobacco planter and wheat grower, owing alluvial soils, is to consume the corn and its offal upon his farm. But upon the growers of wheat and tobacco, as well as the corn planter, I urge the cultivation of grasses and the formation of permanent meadows as the great resource for sustaining teams and manuring land. No small grain ought to be sown, without at the same time a proper preparation for sowing grasses to succeed it. Clover and herds grass have been indicated by experience as those best suited to our climate and soil, and these, with the succedaneum of peas, either sown broadcast on fallows for wheat, or on corn land at its last plowing, when the crop was laid by, are the true *Rescue grasses* for us.

I would here remark, that the whole family of peas are decided improvers, as also all of the grasses which from time to time engage the public attention. But up to this date experience seems to have settled that our climate is too hot and dry for timothy, and that the red clover and herds grass, and the red and black stock peas stand in front of those plants which furnish food to animals and green manure to the field. Clover and herds grass may be sown with safety either in the fall or early spring. There was much difficulty in getting a good stand of either on oats, because of the frequent dry spells in the spring, when the young grasses were too

tender to withstand the sun. The introduction, however, of the winter oats, sown in autumn after the wheat seeding is over, and producing a grain greatly superior in weight and value, will remove that difficulty. All experiments with them have been satisfactory, and they promise to be a great acquisition to the farmer into whose calculations for the support of his teams, oats constitute so important an element. Ripening earlier, and having the strength of root which they acquire during the fall and winter, they are not so much dependent upon rains or so liable to failure. The importance of the pea crop, both as an improver of the land and a resource for pork, is but just in its commencement of realization among our farmers. There has not been a single article which has done so much for agriculture, both in present profit and future improvement of the soil. Sown broadcast from the middle or last of June on fallow land, and over the whole corn fields when laid by with the plow, they give a return in vegetation and crop which is unequalled when we consider that it is made in ninety days. The hardy varieties alluded to, especially if a dressing of plaster be applied, are the best bearers, lie on the ground all the winter without decay, and sown with either wheat or oats, come up about harvest and make a fine cover for the land, as well as a good crop of peas.

One of the greatest drawbacks to agricultural improvement exists in the continued cultivation of the same surface without manure—the interchange or alternation of crops being the only relief to the soil which the system proposes. Some, it is true, speak of a three shift system, which meant that the resting shift, as it is called, is condemned from the first appearance of a spire of grass in the spring to the frosts of autumn, to bear the treading and grazing of all the horses, mules, sheep, hogs, and cattle, preparatory to a fall fallow for that field in corn. This process is denominated rest, and some persons express surprise that lands deteriorate under such a system. Ultimate ruin under either system is sure; the consummation is only a question of time. Either process looks to complete exhaustion, and must sooner or later reach that end. A most important work remains to be done for our agriculture is a wise system of shifts—a system, securing all the benefit of the recuperative power of nature, and the amelioration resulting from good cultivation, which will reach the desirable end of increased fertility and increased production—which combined with the application of manures, will continually enlarge the area of improved surface, and thus annually increase the productive capital of the farmer. A neglect of this economy has been the chief cause of the discouragements in those attempts which have been made for the advancement of the agricultural interests of this portion of our country. Certain popular errors have prevailed, and left their impression upon the practice of those employed in cultivation—an impression which has perpetuated the influence of those errors greatly to the detriment of our farmers. It has been generally believed that mere rest is all that is necessary to continue the productive power of land—that it grows *tired*, to use a common phrase, and that the intermission of cultivation prepares it for future productiveness in a much higher degree. Now that nothing is more fallacious, every one will perceive who walks into his own garden, subjected to the closest tillage every year, and if annually manured, becoming more and more certain in the production of vegetables requiring the greatest amount of fertility. There is no rest here, only a rotation of crops and continued application of manure—the soil deepening and improving under the severest and most con-

stant tillage. So it would be on the farm, to the full extent of the arable land, but that there are other claims which must be met. Pasture for stock, food for working animals, and the comforts derived from range and surface, imperiously require another system there.

(To be continued.)

WHAT FOOD WILL PRODUCE THE MOST WOOL

Peas, beans, vetches, &c., are useful for the purpose of enriching the blood, by furnishing it with large supplies of albumen, which is its principal constituent. It will be remembered that in the analyses of flesh and blood the relative proportions of their constituents are nearly identical; consequently, whatever food contains nitrogen, and the greatest amount of albumen, is best adapted to the development of flesh or muscle, and is therefore the most nutritious. Wheat, rye, barley, and buckwheat, contain large quantities of albumen, especially the first two; while oats, it will have been seen, contains 10½ per cent, of its organic elements of albumen, and peas and beans no less than 29 per cent. What conclusion, then, is to be drawn from this? The chemical composition of horns, hoofs, hair, wool, and even feathers, is substantially the same; their organic elements are coagulated albumen and gelatin, and their inorganic, silica, carbonate, and phosphate of lime, and the oxides of iron and manganese. Hence it will readily appear that that food given to the sheep which will supply the greatest proportion of albumen, in the same ratio will increase the wool secretions, and consequently be productive of the most wool, provided, however, they also hold in suitable combination the inorganic substances of wool, without which they assimilate mostly for the formation of flesh or fat. This may be exemplified thus—a soil may be highly productive of corn, as well as a few of the cereal grains; yet for the production of wheat it may lack the proper proportion of the phosphate and carbonate of lime, and consequently the berry will not only be deficient in quantity but quality.

The following table exhibits the result of the experiments of the distinguished agriculturist De Raumer, on the effects produced by an equal quantity of several substances in increasing the flesh, tallow, and wool of sheep:

	Increase weight of living animal.	Produced	
		wool.	tallow.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1,000 lbs. potatoes, raw, with salt . . .	46½	6½	12½
do. " do. without salt . . .	44	6½	11½
do. " mangel wurzel, raw	38½	5½	6½
do. " wheat	155	14	59½
do. " oats	146	10	42½
do. " barley	136	11½	60
do. " peas	134	14½	41
do. " rye, with salt	133	14	35
do. " rye, without salt	90	12½	43
do. " meal, wet	129	13½	17½
do. " buckwheat	120	10	33

These results are said to agree with those of De Dombale, and with those of a number of other agriculturists.

It will be perceived by the above table, that *wheat* produces the greatest increase in the flesh of the sheep, though but little greater than *oats*; that *peas*, *wheat*, and *rye*, produce the greatest increase of wool; and that *barley* and *wheat* cause the greatest increase of tallow. That, as an average, grain generally gives about three times the increase in the flesh, that roots do when in equal weight; that grain produces about twice as much wool as is caused by an equal weight of roots, and several times the amount of tallow.

The legitimate conclusion from the foregoing is, that the flock-master, whose object is wool only, must rely on good hay and some straw, whose constituents are admirably adapted for the growth and perfection of

wool, with a moderate allowance daily of ground peas and oats, and some potatoes as green food, for the greatest amount of wool; and those gross substances, oil-cake, corn meal, ruta bagas, may be turned over to the producers of fat mutton. This will presently be adverted to again.—*Morrell's Shepherd.*

THE HORSE.

[Concluded from page 133.]

Messrs. Henry Hall and Cheslyn Hall at their stud at Dudding Hill, Willesden, about five miles from London, where they keep about a hundred and fifty horses, and in the number half a dozen most distinguished thorough bred stallions,* are breeding some of their thorough bred mares and part bred Hunter mares to their Cleveland stallion, Cleveland Shortlegs,† to get "weight carrying" Hunters for their own use. These gentlemen have but one Cleveland mare, valued at £200, who does the whole work of their establishment, in the way of drawing food, &c., with great dispatch. At one time they intended to breed Hunters from her by the thorough bred Lothario, but they finally concluded to rear Clevelands from her. Mr. E. Marjoribanks, the head of the house of Messrs. Coult & Co., has a capital foal, by Cleveland Shortlegs, out of a favorite high bred Hack mare of his daughter's, and Mr. Tanqueray, the celebrated short horn breeder showed me an excellent colt for slower work by the same horse out of a Suffolk mare of his. The practice of gentlemen of such knowledge and experience in breeding deserves the highest consideration. The qualities and points they most covet in large horses for service out of a walk, are action with spirit, short back, strong loins, shortish and dark legs, black feet and good eyes and heads. Having given you distinguished authorities for the breeding of thorough bred, Hunter, Hack and Suffolk mares to a Cleveland stallion, I must add that the horse whose portrait appears in Stephens "as the very perfection of what a farm horse should be," "was not a thorough bred *Clydesdale*, but had a dash of coaching [Cleveland] blood in him, a species of farm horse very much in use on the borders, and admired for their action and spirit."

From a recent comparison between English blood horses on the one hand, and the finest specimens of Arabian horses presented to the Queen of England by oriental sovereigns and African horses (Barbs) imported into France by military men on the other, it seemed to me that the former were immeasurably superior to their ancestral races in every respect. In England, of late the Arab and Barb crosses on blood mares have failed signally for the turf, and on the part bred mares have not proved valuable for useful purposes. Amusing pictures are drawn of some solid Anglo Saxon and Celtic troopers in the East now of necessity mounted on Turkish horses, commonly accepted as a sub-variety of the Arab. But for the combined activity, height and weight, without regard to condition, of the horses of the Scots Grays—*ces diables de chevana gris*, as they were called by the great Napoleon in his last battle field—that Regiment would never have earned its well-merited fame either at Waterloo or at Balaclava.

The American trotters, which are essentially a Northern creation, have obtained a just celebrity abroad. They can hardly yet

be called a type or pure race, and indeed they are for the most part of a very mixed lineage, and of an extraordinary diversity of sizes, shapes and colors; but the further breeding together of animals of similar qualities and conformation will in the end produce a definite breed. As a class they are certainly not saddle horses, according to either English or Virginia ideas; nor are they carriage horses, or horses of general utility, from defect of size. From the transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society, it appears that the Judges of that Society considered the Morgan family—which furnishes many fair and some quick trotters—as too small for "horses of all work."* They would in England be designated as "clever cobs." You will be able to form a clear opinion of them, from having seen lately one or two correct examples at the Agricultural Fair in Richmond. The common ancestor, from whom this family is derived, the original Morgan horse, so called from the name of his owner, was foaled in 1793. He was got by a blood stallion taken from M*****'s great uncle the loyal Col. DeLancy of this State, and out of a part bred mare. His four immediate descendants kept as stallions, in New-Hampshire and Vermont, were all out of mares of obscure or unknown origin, some of them, however, probably, having a dash of French blood as modified by the three-fold influences of climate, food and crosses, in the adjacent province of Canada. The admirers of the Morgans in the North, sensible of their deficiency in stature for most purposes, do not estimate them by height, the usual method, but by weight like butcher's meat. When in high order they tell comparatively in the scales, for they have surprising aptitude in taking on fat even to the extent of obesity. Weight of a certain sort, but not that derived from the adipose tissue, is certainly a very important element, for conjoined with muscular strength in due proportion it constitutes motive power, on which depends the sole value of the horse; and that motive power is efficient as the height and length and general shape of the animal enable him to apply it with facility and advantage to the work required of him.

You will, doubtless, remember that another distinguished family, the Vermont Black Hawks, as they appeared in procession at the New-York Society's show at Saratoga in 1853, were decidedly inferior to the blood horse in size. I think that the Vermont Black Hawk stallion Ticonderoga, shown at the fair at Richmond, was entirely too small for general utility; but he was symmetrical, and the natural attitude of his head and arched neck was admirable. His whole appearance was distinguished, showing a considerable infusion of blood;† and his trot, to my eye, was accurate, gentlemanly and graceful, though I do not know whether it was speedy. These families of horses unquestionably have their appropriate sphere, and that is singly, or, still better, in pairs in a light trotting wagon (as peculiar an American production as the trotters, for Carl Benson, Mr. Bristed, tells us that France neither possesses the wood nor the skill with which to construct one light enough) a vehicle that in the North has almost completely usurped the place of the saddle, and I regret to say it, for there is something peculiarly healthful, physically and even morally, in horseback exercise, which, I am persuaded, has contributed in no little degree to the forma-

tion of many of those sterling points of character, in which the English differ from their continental neighbors. For races in the North the blood horse has almost entirely given way to the trotter.

The most distinguished specimens of the trotters that I have seen are horses with no pretensions to elegance of shape. The other day a young Englishman, (whose noble father is the owner of the winner in the same year of two blue ribbons of the English turf) while expressing to me his surprise and delight with their performance in harness, observed that from their general appearance, and the dangerous looks of the position and nature of the shoulders of those he had seen, they would not fetch £10 in England. There is great diversity in the character of their gaits, some of the fastest having an ungainly and confused jumble of gallop before and trot behind, and others a "square" action; but the fast people do not care for the sort of gait on the road, or on the turf, so long as it is not ruled off, provided it is the fastest. These "fast crabs" are hardy, and much "fancy" work may be got out of them if used with care; but we must not suppose that we can take them potbellied with grass, or slaving from a clover field, and make them go, especially on our roads, as they do in the North. To perform well, they must be in condition and treated on the same general principles as the racers, whose management is admirably understood and whose successful cultivation has for a long time been pursued in Virginia with much talent and at great expense. I was gratified, at the late exhibition at Richmond, to perceive that we still retained splendid examples of the blood horse.

The last time I met poor Captain Arnold, one of the first victims of the Russian war, he expressed himself in warm terms of admiration of your Cleveland horse, as embodying the points of Hack, Hunter, Charger and harness horse. Another high compliment he received was from a distinguished owner of blood stock in Virginia, who observed that he did not discover from the conformation of your horse any reason, except his size, why he should not run. For my part, I will merely say at present that I do not see in him, after a close examination, and comparison with English models while they are fresh in my memory, any particular point to object to—reserving, however, a full and minute opinion until next spring as I am not willing to risk a criticism of a fine horse in very rough condition, more especially before the comparatively full development of his growth. Condition has immense influence with every body. One of the best judges of horses appointed by the Royal Agricultural Society of England candidly confessed to me—with much regret apparently at his "shocking mistake," as he called it—that Melbourne, now from his progeny, doubtless the most successful and renowned stallion in England, the sire of West Australian and many other winners, and at present distinguished for his powers and points in the eyes of all, came before him as a candidate for the prize offered to the best stallion for hunters, but in very bad order, with sprung knees, &c.; and that he, with all his associate judges, immediately discarded Melbourne as worthless and unfit to compete for any prize. Before his reputation was established, a celebrated judge of horse flesh had seen him in bad order and laughed at him as an "omnibus horse." The effect of condition is not at all unnatural. As a horse can not exhibit speed until, after great and long labor, he has been put in condition for racing, why should he show his symmetry, his beauty and his merits when nothing has been done to bring them out? The late Lord Ducie waged war on the obese condition in

*Among the blood stallions at Dudding Hill are Harkaway, the largest horse of the kind in England, The Libel, Epirus and Lothario. The last two only have "knee action."

†See a portrait of this horse in the British Farmer's Magazine for January, 1854. He stands sixteen hands and one inch high, and "possesses immense bone, good action and excellent temper." I heard his present owners paid five or six hundred guineas for him.

*It is much the fashion of the dealers in the North to call a horse of any size a Morgan. At the Springfield "National exhibition" fifty stallions passed under that name."

†The better opinion seems to be that the original Vermont Black Hawk horse was got by Sherman Morgan, (a son of the original Morgan) out of a "three parts blood" mare reared in the Province of New-Brunswick.

which the breeding animals, of the races cultivated for the secretion of fat, were exhibited at the meetings of the Royal Agricultural Society, but in the end without avail, for while it was admitted that such a condition injured the various animals themselves, and tended to render them permanently sterile, yet it was alleged that if they were in low or only tolerable order, persons could only vaguely conjecture, and not at all know, the degree of their aptitude to secrete fat evenly and deposit it on the most valuable parts.

I remain, my dear father, ever yours,
FRANCIS R. RIVES.

A STEAM LAND-RASPER.

The idea of a steam-rasp for grating down the soil into a fine seed-bed, first enunciated by Mr. Hoskyns in these columns, has been adopted by numerous inventors, so that something of the sort may be expected at Carlisle. Wishing to prepare the agricultural public for the novelties likely to compete for the £200 prize, we would direct attention to the practical objections weighing against some of them.

The theory of the operation of minute and deep pulverization we leave for future consideration; merely observing that it may be useful for preparing ground for certain kinds of cropping, and at some distant time, when the action of the atmosphere upon fine particles of earth is better understood than at present, may be proved profitable and effectual as a means of fertilization. But as yet the crops raised from our land seem unable to repay any very costly operation; and it may, therefore, lead to future success if steam power shall first perform like present processes. And we believe that Mr. Hoskyns himself—taking into account the necessity for an exposure of the soil in rough clods at some seasons, the spontaneous crumbling of such clods which occurs at others, together with the frequent cleansings from root-weeds which must be provided for—is prepared to welcome any modification of the rotary rasp capable of tilling heavy land more efficiently than the plow.

What is the general expectation with regard to a successful steam-cultivator? Why, that it will effect the ordinary tillage of our fields—in an improved manner it may be—with greater cheapness and expedition than at present. The earliest idea awakened by the advent of a steam-plow was the extravagant supposition that land would be now prepared in hours instead of days; and we still consider that no invention will answer which does not include economy of time among its advantages. Can a farmer be expected to sell off the most of his teams for the sake of substituting an engine, unless the latter will facilitate the breaking up of his turnip land or stubble for spring corn, proceed with unprecedented dispatch, in autumn cleaning, and prepare a seed-bed for wheat or any other crop in double quick time? No data exists by which we can foretell the amount of work due from a steam-rasp; but the very nature of the process of grating or scratching necessitates either an enormous expenditure of power, or a tediously slow rate of performance. One of the most carefully studied inventions of this kind is calculated (according to the specification) to till with a powerful engine, about 200 square yards per hour, or only one acre a day. Mr. Mechi, after constructing and testing one of these mincing or powdering machines, has concluded that the process is altogether impracticable; and that the soil must be dealt with in masses larger than mere dust, and must be cut and raised by a slow, steady motion.

A steam digging machine has been in-

vented in Germany; the power required for all its motions has been ascertained from experiments, and every detail corrected by calculation; and the patentee estimates that the strongest engine which can be employed in spite of its weight will dig to the depth of one foot not more than 1½ acre per day on the average quantity of cultivated land. Mr. Usher's steam plow in 1852, according to Professor Wilson, broke no less than seven acres per day, the cost of working being only 2s. 6d. an acre; and though the style and depth of its work may have been far inferior to that made by the German engine, this rapid rate of labor is far more likely to get the farmer's patronage. Our advice to inventors is: however ingeniously you may pulverize, dig, or plow; however perfectly you may accomplish any of the heavier labors of tillage; you must work *economically*, and promise a *saving* to the husbandman, before you can reap success.—I. A. C., in *Agricultural Gazette*.

NITRO-PHOSPHATE.

We lately saw the works at Belleisle, near King's Cross, where the Nitro-phosphate, or Blood Manure Company, at present manufacture their fertilizer until their works in Plaistow Marshes are completed. And as blood is used now by several companies advertising in our columns, such as the London Manure Company, the Manchester Sewage Manure Company, and the Cyanic Manure Company, we may refer to the operation of the last as characteristic, if not of the process employed by all, at least of the value now set upon a substance most of which used generally to be wasted.

The manner in which it is used at Belleisle is as follows: Bone-dust and crushed coprolites are placed in a long tub, along the central axis of which is the shaft of a revolving agitator—so many casks full of blood are poured in over the bones and well mixed by the arms upon the working shaft. Sulphuric acid is added to the mixture, which boils and effervesces under the action of the vitriol on the bones and blood, and after thorough commixture for about ten minutes the liquid mass is allowed to escape through the opened end of the vessel, and it runs in a heap upon the earthen floor, where, as it cools, it hardens and dries. Some 16 or 18 large vessels full of this mixture are thus poured out in the course of the day, forming at the end of it a large mass of probably 40 or 50 tons of manure. It soon hardens, and in a day or two is turned over with the spade and broken small, and is found already dry enough for drilling. This is the turnip manure of the Nitro-phosphate Company. In their wheat manure the same materials are used in different proportions, and a larger quantity of blood being used, artificial heat is needed to dry the resulting compound. The turnip manure contains about 2 or 3 per cent of nitrogen along with 16 per cent of soluble phosphate of lime; the wheat manure contains about 7 per cent of nitrogen and the phosphate is reduced to 10 per cent. The proportion of ingredients needed to produce these results we have, of course, no right to publish, as it is on the determination of these that the relative merits of the plans adopted by the different companies depend. Several thousand gallons of blood are daily the using now at Belleisle, and at the works of other companies which use it in very large quantities are being also turned to agricultural uses; so that this may be considered one of the most prolific of the home sources from which the enormous demand for manure is now supplied.

How rapid the growth of this demand has been appears in the history of the London Manure Company, which sells about 10,000

tuns annually of manures of all sorts, and which, from three tuns of guano in the first year of its formation (sold at £26 per tun), has risen in its transactions to the quantity of 3000 tuns, sold last year.

The great room for extension of the manure trade appears also in the number of companies which have latterly engaged in it. To some of these companies we have referred in past numbers of this paper. The substance manufactured by one of them—the British Economical Manure Company—was fully described in last year's volume from analyses by some of our best chemists, and readers of this paper were warned both from the recorded experience of those who had used, and from the recorded opinions of our best writers on the food of plants, that the substance was neither worth the sum demanded for it, nor calculated to do the good which it pretended. We regret to find that a repetition of this warning is required, and that the sale of a substance little calculated to be useful is being pushed in Scotland as well as England, in spite of the abundant evidence which exists of its low agricultural value.—*Agricultural Gazette*.

WHOOING-COUGH, so often severe and dangerous, is now very generally treated with chloroform internally, in doses of 1, 2, or 3 drops, in the 1st, 2d, and 3d year of childhood, and repeated when the paroxysms demand it. It may be conveniently given in the syrup or wine of ipecacuanha, and will be found always innoeent and eminently useful.—*Medical Gazette*.

STRANGULATED HERNIA, which but a few years ago was incontinently doomed to the knife by most surgeons, is now very generally relieved by the application of cold to the tumor, in various forms. We have recently seen two successful cases, by pouring ether on the parts concerned, and hastening its evaporation with a pair of bellows. This will be found every way preferable to any of the frigorific mixtures in vogue.—*Id.*

DYSPEPSIA.—Lactic acid, in doses of 20 drops, to be taken in half an ounce of water, is reported to be highly useful in those forms of dyspepsia which resist alkalies. It deserves trial.—*Id.*

CAMPHOR is said to have proved itself efficient as an antidote to the poison of strychnine. It is to be administered largely, by the mouth and by injection.—*Id.*

TEA AT HALF PRICE.—Laysel, a French chemist, asserts that if tea is ground like coffee, before hot water is poured upon it, it will yield nearly double the amount of its exhilarating qualities.

THE WORLD A TRIBUNAL.—A man passes for what he is worth. Very idle is all curiosity concerning other people's estimate of us, and all fear of remaining unknown is not less so. If a man knows that he can do anything, that he can do it better than any one else, he has a pledge of the acknowledgment of that fact by all persons. The world is full of judgement days, and into every assembly that a man enters, in every action he attempts, he is gauged and stamped. In every troop of boys that whoop and run in every yard and square, a new comer is as well and accurately weighed in the course of a few days, and stamped with his right number, as if he had undergone a formal trial of his strength, speed and temper. A stranger comes from a distant school, with better dress, with trinkets in his pockets, with airs and pretensions. An older boy says to himself. "It's no use; we shall find him out to-morrow."

Horticultural Department.

NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The society held a special meeting in Clinton Hall, Astor-place, on Monday evening, May 14, in order to make arrangements for an exhibition of fruits and flowers—President Wilson G. Hunt in the Chair, and Peter B. Mead, Secretary.

The society of late has been in a very low condition, many of the members to whom premiums were due having withdrawn. They state, however, that they are willing to forego their premiums and reunite with the society, provided they receive a diploma—which will be readily given.

Having resolved to hold an exhibition some time in June, the Secretary was instructed to address a circular to each of the members, stating the facts of the case, and requesting them to be present in two weeks (Monday, the 28th inst.), to assist in completing the arrangements.

Messrs. Mead, Groshon, and Leggett were appointed a committee to determine on what articles premiums should be given, and then it was resolved that whatever premiums were given should be voluntary. This course will save all expense to the society. A vote of thanks and also free tickets of admission, were tendered to the Young Men's Christian Association, who have freely proffered their hall for the exhibition.

Mr. Stephen Cranston exhibited choice cut flowers, consisting of magnolias, pelargoniums, spirææ, &c. The most novel thing was a double white peach blossom (new) from Japan.

A NEW FACT IN GRAFTING.

BY LYMAN B. LANGWORTHY.

The better process generally for working cherries and plums, is to bud or inoculate at the proper season; but it often happens that it is desirable to work trees too old, or the season so dry that the bark will not slip and the budding process can not be performed, in which case grafting sometimes becomes important.

The grafting of the cherry is quite an uncertain operation and never succeeds well, except when performed early in the spring, and the scions, which are difficult to keep, are fresh and in good order, the bark is so liable to discolor, and the wood to shrivel, which is absolutely fatal to its vitality. The same trouble applies to the plum in a less degree. Individuals, not nurserymen, are apt to neglect cutting their scions in proper time, and are only sensible of the oversight when they observe the objects they wish to alter at the opening of spring, when it is too late.

The new process to which I allude, is a means whereby a scion of any kind may be cut from the tree after the buds are fully expanded, but not opened, and grafted the same minute, and which almost invariably succeeds if properly executed. In this process I prefer the terminal point of a limb for the scion, or any part may be used by cutting the wood close to the upper bud and dipping it twice, with two or three minutes interval, into a vial containing a small quantity of *collodion*, or *artificial cuticle*, which can be procured of any apothecary. It instantly forms an air-tight coating, both flexible and elastic,

and protects it from drying and loosing its vitality.

There is no time of year after the new buds are sufficiently formed, and the stock in a growing state, but what grafting by this process may be performed, in which case have but one bud on the scion, and dip the whole wood, except the wedge, in the *collodion* to protect it from the drying sun and heat of summer. It sometimes happens that one has a single choice exotic, difficult to procure, that it is important not to fail in grafting, and this method almost infallibly insures success.

[Some time ago we published an account of an experiment in the use of *collodion* in propagating roses, and some other plants, from cuttings. We have not before heard of its being employed in grafting. The experiment is well worthy of attention.—Ed.]

Horticulturist.

FERNS.

I can not conceive a more interesting class of plants, or one that will adapt itself so well to the fancy of man, as the humble fern. Enter a fernery, either from tropical or temperate regions, at any season of the year, and you will find something to admire. Here the curving frond developing itself in true artistic form, there another more advanced, in all the beauty you could desire, while yonder the noble frond of some gigantic tree fern bends itself over the more lowly companions as if to protect them from harm; all remind us of the wisdom and goodness of the Omnipotence in clothing the earth with vegetation, and giving to each plant a constitution suitable to that part of the globe in which it was placed. The hardy ferns are no less curious and handsome in their season of growth, and may be grown by any person having a few square feet of ground in a shady corner, where little else would grow; raise thereon a mound of light sandy earth, of any shape and size, to suit the taste of the owner, and over that place some roots and pieces of rocks, so as to give the appearance of natural rock-work, and among these plant the ferns any time in spring, attend to watering in dry weather, and you will be amply rewarded for all the trouble, by watching their singular development and after beauty, especially of a summer's evening, after having been sprinkled overhead through the rose of a watering-pot. If a small fountain can be added, the beauty will be much enhanced.

It is, however, to the cultivation of ferns in dwelling-rooms, that I most particularly wish to draw attention.

Your readers are no doubt aware, how difficult it is to keep the ordinary greenhouse plants in health, for any length of time; in fact, to keep them even alive, in dwelling-rooms. Not so with the ferns; they may be grown with perfect ease, and for any length of time, in dwelling-rooms, in the most crowded cities, with perfect success. This is accomplished by means of what are known as "Ward's Cases." They may be of any size and shape, to suit the taste or convenience of the owner; may fit in a window, or stand upon a table in any part of the room. The only thing to be observed, is to avoid the mid-day sun. The bottom and a foot of the sides may be of wood; the rest glazed, on the ordinary hot-bed system, or it may be glazed with large sheets of glass; the latter, although the most expensive, will look the handsomest, and show the plants to the best advantage. The case being completed, put eight or ten inches of soil in, say one-fourth part loam, the rest peat and sharp sand; to which add some charcoal or small pebbles, to keep the soil open, which is of the greatest importance in fern culture;

over the soil place some pieces of rock and shells, to give it a natural appearance, and among these plant the ferns; when this is done, sprinkle all through a fine rosed watering-pot; then shut down the top, or movable part of the case; but be careful not to *over-water* at first, for fear of souring the soil, in which case the plants would remain sickly.

The cases being made as nearly air-tight as possible, it will be seen that the plants are completely shut up from the great enemy of vegetation—a dry and dusty atmosphere—unavoidable in dwelling-rooms; and as evaporation is prevented, watering will seldom be required, probably not more than once in two or three weeks in summer, and much more seldom in winter. The same thing can be accomplished with large bell-glasses as with a "Ward Case."

The prettiest piece of miniature rock-work I ever saw, was contained within a bell-glass of about eighteen inches in diameter. The part containing the mold was circular, and made of wood, about six inches deep, the outside veneered with mahogany; over the mold, which was elevated a little in the center, was placed small pieces of fancy rock and shells, and among them were planted the ferns; the bell-glass rested in a groove in the wood-work, and could be lifted off at pleasure. The whole stood upon the drawing-room table, and the little ferns, growing on their "rocky mountain," were an object of attraction to every person who entered the room, especially in winter.

As the family of ferns is so very extensive and each species, vieing in beauty and loveliness with its neighbor, it would be difficult to name any handsomer than others, fit for planting in cases, but any of the following will prove very interesting, and are all of dwarf habit:

Adiantum assimile,	Asplenium ebenum,
" cuneatum,	" attenuatum,
" pedatum,	" fontanum,
" pubescens,	" viviparum,
" reniforme,	Aspidium trapezoides,
" varium,	" trifoliatum,
Gymnogramma rufa,	" pectinatum,
" chrysophylla,	Pteris longifolia,
" calomelanos,	" rotundifolia,
" sulphurea,	" serrulata,
" tomentosa,	" ternifolia, and,

with such mosses as *Lycopodium denticulatum*, *braziliense* and *densum*, to creep over the surface, will, when once planted and begin to grow, form, I am sure, the most attractive piece of furniture in the room; while the invalid, who may be prevented from leaving the house to look upon the all-good and all-wise Creator's works, may here admire some of the handsomest tribe of all the vegetable kingdom, and the only tribe with which I am acquainted that will prosper in close confinement for a lengthened period.

As a proof of how the ferns will live and grow under close confinement, allow me to state a case in point—not that proof from me, of the practicability of the thing, is required, for it has been proved times without end. Some years ago, as I was about to leave the shores of Britain for those of New-Zealand, some botanists, desirous of proving whether or not it would be possible to carry some of the most delicate of the fern tribe, under close confinement, through all the various degrees of temperature between us and the antipodes, placed six varieties in a large bottle, such as are used for holding pickles; the roots of each plant were tied in a little damp moss, and the mouth of the bottle securely fastened with a piece of bladder, and then committed to my care; in this way the inmates remained during my passage, a period of five months, and were set at liberty on those distant shores apparently as healthy as when they started. The bottle was a greater object of attraction to my fellow-passengers than my cases of

plants were, and many were the inquiries after the state of the "poor bottle." I ought to mention, that it hung in my cabin in cold weather; at other times, on deck.

I hope you will pardon me for "running my yarn" to such a length; if it shall be the means of adding pleasure to any of your readers, especially to the sick and infirm, the object of their humble servant has been attained.

ALEXANDER BURNETT.

Philadelphia Florist.

PROFITS OF THE COLD GRAPERY.

BY WILLIAM CHORLTON.

In the Horticulturist of February, 1852, at the request of the late A. J. Downing, I gave a practical account of the Cold Grapery at this place which was planted in March, 1850, and, as the question, "will it pay," has often been put to me during the interval of time which has elapsed, I have thought that an estimate based upon the produce and expenses up to the present time, might be of service in your journal. I would here premise that there is nothing extraordinary in the amount of fruit, more than what others are obtaining by skill, care, and attention. The average weight of the respective crops given, if taken collectively, would be one pound per bunch, all of which would have readily sold at from fifty to seventy-five cents per pound; the lowest price, however, is only calculated. The following number of bunches of good quality have been cut in the respective years: 1851, 262 bunches; 1852, 618 bunches; 1853, 918 bunches; 1854, 1147 bunches; making a total of 2945 bunches.

The following calculation, which is as correctly stated as can be, will show the balance side of the question:

2945 lbs., at 50 cts.	\$1472 50
Deduct labor, 1st year.....	\$50 00
" " 2d "	100 00
" " 3d "	150 00
" " 4th "	200 00
" " 5th "	225 00
Yearly dressings of manure, at \$20.....	100 00
Repairs, planting, &c.....	200 00
	<hr/> 1025 00
	\$447 50

By the above example it will be seen that there is \$447 above the lowest wholesale market prices, and as the house, border, etc., cost about \$2000, it leaves a surplus profit of 4½ per cent per annum upon invested capital, which, in the present position, looks somewhat low; but it must be understood that, in this case, profit was not the object—everything was done regardless of expense, to make a good and handsome structure. The best French crystal glass was used, and all labor paid by the day; besides which, in the first year, there is no return profit, and the last season is the only one in which a full crop has been allowed. Take into consideration, two, that the labor account for management is reckoned at \$2 per day, and it will be readily seen that a good and suitable house may be built and tended so as to give a large return profit. A house of equal dimensions, and well finished, can be erected at \$12 per lineal foot, with the exception of cistern, force-pump, hose, and tank; and if we make an estimate of all incidental expenses on a house equal to the above, and fifty feet long, it will stand thus:

House, 50 feet long, furnished with two coats of paint, at \$12.....	\$600 00
Brick cistern, cemented, 10 feet square.....	70 00
Tank, Force-pump, and Hose.....	90 00
25 tons of manure for borders, at \$2.....	50 00
Material for drainage.....	20 00
90 bushels of bones, at 50 cts.....	45 00
100 bushels of charcoal, &c.....	15 00
Labor—making borders, &c.....	20 00
48 vines, at 50 cts.....	24 00
	<hr/> \$934 00

As, in the first example, the house is 74 feet long, and, in the latter, 50 feet, the com-

parative weight of fruit that may be taken will be about two-thirds, or 1964 lbs., at the same prices, making the total value for the five years \$982; and making the same comparison in labor, expenses, &c., in both cases, we may put down \$298 gain upon a capital of \$934, which shows a profit of about six per cent per annum, and this, too, at the commencement. If we were to calculate upon seven years, the per centage would amount to nine per cent; and continued further, it would be still greater, as the vines will continue each season to produce a full crop.

From these illustrations it will be readily seen that, with good management, there is no loss in having a Cold Grapery, even though partial failure may occur.—*Horticulturist*.

For the American Agriculturist.

GRAPES AND WINE.

In your paper of last July I observed a valuable piece on the use of the grape as a food or medicine, which was too good to pass unnoticed.

The most eminent physicians, and men who have traveled in grape countries, agree with you. It is a common saying, that in wine countries there are but few drunkards. The writer in the Observer finds an exception in Paris. What less could be expected of a city like Paris? There is a wonderful difference between a man's sitting under his own vine, eating the fruit and drinking the juice, and going to grogshops and other detestable places, and taking their wines and other intoxicating poisons.

Aleohol, whether clear or adulterated, tends to create unnatural thirst, till, like a poisoned rat, he drinks himself to death. The pure juice of the grape, or the fruit, tends directly the other way, and also to give strength and health and vigor to the system.

The grape is of the easiest culture, by slips, cuttings, grafting, or transplanting from the swamps. There is in this region the best of table grapes, and the best of wine grapes of native growth; the former ripening in August, and being sweet, productive, and free from pulp. I suppose they may be found elsewhere. There are families in this place who have made and kept for years excellent wine for medical purposes, of fine flavor and color, and without adding aleohol, spirit, or coloring matter to the wine. There are two skillful physicians near by, who use this wine, and no other, for medicine.

One of the greatest pleas for using intoxicating liquor is, the idea that our Savior used, directed it, &c. A very great mistake and absurdity. The wine he made was that which he distinguished by calling it the fruit of the vine. Pliny, who lived at the time of our Savior, says good wine was that which was destitute of spirit. Plutarch calls that wine best which is harmless, and that the most useful which has the least strength, and that the most wholesome in which nothing has been added to the grape.

The Commissioner of Patents has had a bottle of excellent wine presented to him, which, he says, has no intoxicating power. I apprehend no difficulty in making such wine, and having it improve by keeping. The grape can be kept the year round, and the juice pressed out when wanted. Every

family, or physician, or church officer can make what is needful, and keep it in small quantities easier than in large, and know what they are using.

PHINEAS PRATT.

Deep River, May 8, 1855.

STUDY OF FLOWERS.—It is very common with men who think there is nothing rational that is not connected with dollars and cents, to ridicule the study of flowers.—"What good can come of it?" they ask. "Will it improve a man's fortune or advance his interest? Will it render him a shrewd calculator? Will it earn him his bread or make him a fortune?" They are greatly mistaken who believe that no actual utility, in the common niggardly sense of the term, can be derived from the pursuits of taste. But granting that they will accomplish none of these useful purposes, we would encourage such studies, as tending to fill up many hours of idleness with an interesting and agreeable employment. Every new amusement which can be participated in without danger to the health or the morals, provides an additional means for the moral improvement of society, inasmuch as it serves to divert many minds from pleasures which are liable to be accompanied with vice. Though to a mere plodder in the common business of life it may seem almost ridiculous to be engaged with enthusiasm in naming and preserving a few insignificant wild flowers, yet this very zeal may preserve many a youth from corruption and ruin, whose passions might otherwise lead him to seek the haunts of vice. There are many pursuits which are useful in no other way than by contributing to our pleasures. Let plodding misers and conceited sensualists ridicule them, because they neither fill one's coffers, nor spread his board—they forget that one distinguishing mark between men and brutes, is, that the latter pursue only the *useful*, while the former are about equally employed in the *fanciful*.—*Hovey's Mag.*

OSAGE ORANGE TREES.—Mr. H. P. Byram, the editor of the Louisville Journal, writes to that paper from Dayton, Ohio, under date of September 9th, 1854:

In the vicinity of this city I saw some of the most perfect specimens of the Osage Orange hedge that I have ever before met with—more perfect, indeed, than I supposed nature could produce, even with all the aid that art and industry could lend her. The plants seem to withstand the blighting effects of this unusually dry season, better than any other species of vegetation. The leaves still present the most rich glossy green that characterizes this plant in our most favorable seasons.

From a somewhat extensive acquaintance with the character of the Osage Orange plant, I have often pronounced it the hedge plant of America, but I had no idea of the degree of perfection to which I find it susceptible of being trained in the hedge. The oldest of the hedges here now is about four years. It is four feet high, and three feet broad at the base, and as dense, compact and uniform from the ground to the top, as if it had been molded by hand from some plastic material. My attendant remarked that it was "so close at the bottom that a snake could not find its way through it." There were several other specimens in the same vicinity, from one to two years old, all presenting the same beautiful appearance.

The great and only secret in producing this living American prairie fence is, *clean culture for four years, and a relentless, unsparing shearing*, from the period of setting the plants to the end of four years, and then to maintain it in its proper form by semi-annual clippings

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, May 17.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

LOOK INTO THE CELLARS.

We hear not a little said of the superiority of country over city residences. Much of this is doubtless true, and yet we think there are some advantages enjoyed by the denizens of many parts of New-York city, which are not found generally in the country. We refer more particularly to the freedom from noxious vapors and malaria arising from decaying vegetable matter. Where the streets are supplied with sewers and an abundance of Croton water to wash away all organic matters, including the washes from sinks, privies, &c., the air is pure compared with that around many farm-dwellings near which are located the barnyards and outhouses.

One of the most fruitful sources of ill health connected with country residences, however, is the impure air from cellars which rises through the different rooms above, and really renders them unfit for occupation during the day, and especially at night. The effluvia from the remains of a heap of potatoes, cabbages, or other vegetables, is quite sufficient to breed a pestilence. At the earliest possible opportunity in the spring the cellar should be freed from every particle of vegetable matter likely to decay. The bottom should be supplied with pulverized freshly-burned charcoal, or chloride of lime; or, in the absence of these, with common lime. Not only health but neatness and comfort will be greatly promoted by white-washing the walls and ceilings. Let cellars also be frequently opened and ventilated. A little early attention to these matters may save you a large doctor's bill, to say nothing of loss and suffering from poor health.

THE FORTHCOMING VOLUME OF THE AMERICAN HERD BOOK.—Mr. L. F. Allen informs us that almost every breeder of any note in the United States, has responded to his Circular, and that about two thousand pedigrees are already received. The volume will contain thirty illustrations or more, and be fully equal if not superior in its getting up to the English Herd Book. Those designing to send their pedigrees *must do so immediately*, or they will arrive too late for publication in this volume.

RULES FOR THE APPLICATION OF SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

Superphosphate of lime consists mainly of bones decomposed by sulphuric acid. In this form it is entirely harmless when applied about the roots of plants. But to increase the activity of this fertilizer and add to its qualities, which it possesses only in a very limited degree, guano or sulphate of ammonia is added. Ammonia is a very active alkali, and like quick-lime and potash, readily combines with and destroys or seriously injures almost every substance brought into contact with it. Containing like guano, this caustic quality in a similar, yet in a very subdued degree, the rules for the application of superphosphate are in a great measure similar to those for the application of guano.

It may be sown broadcast or in drills, but in either case should be covered with earth by subsequent plowing or thoroughly harrowing. The seeds or roots should never come directly in contact with the superphosphate, though the covering of earth may be less than for guano. When applied as a top-dressing to grass land, it may first be mixed with several times its bulk of peat or swamp muck, that has been exposed to the air for six months or a year, or with rich turf, charcoal or plaster.

From 300 to 500 pounds per acre is a liberal application for exhausted lands, and 200 to 400 pounds as a top-dressing for meadows. When applied near or around the hills, from half to three-fourths of a gill is sufficient for corn and potatoes.

AN ANT TRAP.

We have constructed, seen, heard of, or read of traps to catch almost all sorts of animals, from man-traps down to chirp-muck traps; we have set box-traps for pole-cats, and drowned them alive without disturbing their bottle of perfumery; have put "figure fours" under the edges of inverted waggon or other boxes, for quails, pigeons and crows; have made midnight hideous with the screams of luckless rats which we had enticed into steel-traps; have stopped the carnage of sheep-stealing dogs by placing before the muzzle of a well-slugged musket a piece of meat attached to the trigger by a string; have caged many a bird and squirrel by ingeniously arranged springs or levers—in short, much of the amusement of our boyhood days was drawn from "trapping"; but in all our efforts in this line, we never essayed to inveigle in traps those pests which so greatly infest the pantries and larders of the house-wife—we mean the little red ants. In this we must yield the palm to the J. J. correspondent of the Public Ledger, who proposes to catch and despatch them as follows:

Procure a large sponge, wash it well and press it dry, which will leave the cells quite open. Then sprinkle over it some fine white sugar and place it near where the ants are most troublesome. They will soon collect upon the sponge and take up their abode in the cells. It is then only necessary to

dip the sponge in scalding water, which will wash them out "clean dead" by ten thousands. Put on more sugar, and set the trap for a new haul. According to J. J., this process will soon clear the house of every ant, uncle and progeny.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

STEAMBOATS ON THE HUDSON—*P. Watson.*—There are at least two companies running regular freight and passenger boats—the Merchants' line and the People's line. The steamers of the Merchants' line are, the Knickerbocker and the Manhattan. One of these boats leaves Albany and the other New-York every evening. They are of light draught, and on this account are seldom detained by low water. Produce, &c., as well as passengers, are carried at low rates.

STATE AND COUNTY SHOWS—*W. C. Gardner.*—The next New-York State Show is to be held at Elmira, on the Erie Railroad. We shall soon speak of this more particularly. We are preparing a list of times and places of holding the next Shows, to be published in June or early in July, and we must refer W. C. G. to that list for an answer to his other inquiries.

We request the officers of all Agricultural Societies to send us early information as to the location and time of their autumnal Shows, that we may make up our list as soon and as complete as possible.

THE RUSSIAN FOWL.

We have recently received letters from Mr. E. L. Hyde, of Mystic, Conn., concerning a breed of fowls known as the Russian; and from the testimony of the above gentleman they seem to be a variety worthy attention. He says: "The Russian fowls, after several years' trial, sustain the character which was sometime since given them in my letter to Dr. Bennett. They are the most sought after and esteemed of any fowls we have ever had in this region, where some of the choicest breeds have been originally imported. They are truly 'the farmers' fowl,' for layers, nurses, and readiness to fatten. In this latter respect they resemble the Suffolk pig.

"They are without exception the hardiest fowls that I have ever seen. I knew of six pullets that layed constantly throughout one of the coldest winters in this region for several years; and yet they roosted out of doors with no shelter whatever. They were not in the least injured by the frost, except in their combs; they being, as a matter of course, frozen. They weigh from 15 to 17 pounds the pair; have large single combs, small wattles with a ruff under the throat; small wings; large, long body; wide breast and back, and very deep in the quarter; legs not long but black. They are of uniform color, being greenish black, with red hackles on the cocks.

"I understand they were brought from the north of Europe, by a New-London whaling vessel."

MOWING MACHINES.

Mr. Richard S. Fay has placed at the disposal of the Essex County (Mass.) Agricultural Society, the sum of \$200, for the following purposes:

1. For the best and most satisfactory experiment with a mowing machine, operated by two-horse power, on not less than fifty acres, on any farm or farms within the county, \$50.

2. For the best and most satisfactory experiment with a one-horse mowing machine, on not less than 25 acres, on any farm or farms within the county,\$25

3. For the best mowing machine,\$25

4. For the best and most useful agricultural implement, not being a mowing machine.....\$20

Second best do., \$15. Third best do.....\$10

Fourth best do., \$10. Fifth best do.....\$10

Sixth best do., \$10. Seventh best do.....\$5

Eighth best do., \$5. Ninth best do.....\$5

Tenth best do., \$5. Eleventh best do.....\$5

HEALTH AND HOUSE-HUNTING.

Many will select a house this month, for a residence, and it will be their last home on earth; it would not have been had they remained where they are or had moved elsewhere. It does not express the whole truth to say, that some houses are unhealthy; it is nearer the fact in reference to many dwellings that they are deadly. Sometimes certain rooms in a house are impregnated with poisonous emanations, that their occupants become ill in a few days. I know of a capacious mansion, formerly, (now a boarding-house), in Walnut-street, Philadelphia, which has in it a certain room, known to make the parties sick within a few days after they move into it. Within a year, a man in perfect health, was placed in a room in London, and in a few days died of putrid fever. The next, and the next, and the next occupant, were noticed successively to become ill. It became so notorious, that the authorities took it in hand to examine the premises, and it was found that the man who papered the room, in order to fill up a cavity in the wall, put in a bucket full of paste and pieces of the glazed papering, which in time began to ferment and rot, throwing into the room a steady supply of the noxious fumes of decomposed lead, and other hurtful ingredients employed in the sizing of wall paper. It is known that the sizing on a visiting card is enough to poison a child if put in its mouth; being a little sweetish to the taste, it is rather palatable.

Another English house became so notoriously unhealthy, that the common people reported it to be haunted; it soon gained such a reputation, that nobody would live in it free of rent. Investigation discovered that it was the result of pasting new paper on old.

LESSON.—In repapering a room or house, first pull off the old paper, and scrape and wash the walls.

Within a month, the Grand Jury of the chief criminal court of New-York City, have repeated their bitter complaints against the damp and noisome apartment in which they are compelled to sit day after day in the performance of their official duties. The recent death of one of their number is attributed by that body to the unhealthfulness of the room they occupy.

The White House at Washington, is believed by observant men there, to be the main reason for the ill-health of our Presidents, since General Harrison first went

there so soon to make it his grave. Its unhealthiness is very justly attributable to the construction of a bridge or causeway across the stream, which passes near it, thus giving a larger body of still water than in former times; and the neighborhood of stagnant water, with the usual amount of decaying vegetation, must originate disease in the warmer portions of the year in all temperate latitudes.

These things being true in reference to houses, there are other items to be taken into consideration in selecting our dwellings, besides price, appearance and neighborhood.

Very many persons in cities are decided, in determining upon a residence for themselves and families, by the appearance of the street front. An elegant frontage of brown stone, towering in stateliness to five stories, brings many a dollar beyond its value to puffy landlords. But how vigorously fond new husbands and weak old ones have to *shin around* in the slops and snows of winter to pay the rent, and "*monstrous*" hard as it may be in winter, summer heats make it "*monstrous*," as Chareoal Sketehe would say. How many a restless turn at night, how many a Sunday plan, which matter of fact Monday morning makes vanish in thin air, how many an anxious conjecture it costs, whether this acquaintance or that old friend, or nearest neighbor might not make a loan "*on call*," to help out at quarter day; how many racks of self-respect, of personal independence, of wounded pride, of debasing tergiversation it costs to pay for this purchase of appearance, the initiated can better tell than I can guess, never having been a renter "*in the whole course of my life*," except for a short year on trial, in the country; yes, in the country! delightful summer residence! on the banks of the Hudson! just over against the Palisades! as dear a purchase of imaginary blisses, as of the *appearances* aforesaid. I like no half ways, give me the center of the largest city on the continent, or a log cabin in the far recesses of the unpenetrated west.

But the waste of money to keep up appearances is not the greatest loss; health sacrificed, life perilled, is oftentimes an "*extra*" not calculated on, but like "*extras*," comes with a thunder clap of unexpectedness, meeting, too, the fate of all "*extras*," an exclamation, a demur, dwindling down to an argument and final delivery of the purse strings.

LESSON 2ND.—Reader, pay extras and be done with it. I have always found it the *quickest and the easiest plan*. It saves temper, for the more you argue about it, the more angry you will get, and the worse you will feel afterwards when you find that you have not only lost your temper, but your money too.

Other persons, as intimated already, will put jewelry, plate, gold watch, all "*up the spout*" to make up the usual advance on the landlord, who has not the pleasure of their acquaintance; will do all this, to secure a residence in a "*genteel street*," or "*fashionable neighborhood*" on "*the*" side of Broadway. There are men and women, that is, grown persons of both sexes in New-York, who would think themselves hopelessly disgraced to live in a street which had "*East*" attached to it; would consider they had lost caste more irrecoverably by living on the "*other*" side of Broadway, than if they had, in a pinch, checked on a bank for ten thousand, when they never had deposited a dollar there. To such persons, and to all others living in cities, I wish to make some suggestions in reference to the selection of a family residence.

If practicable, let the rear of the house face the south; mainly for two reasons, first and chief, unsightly things, the washings of

the kitchen and the laundry are deposited there, and with other causes, almost always in a damp condition; which, with the dust and unavoidable accretions of various kinds, make fit materials for decompositions, and their inevitable result, the generation of hurtful gases, sometimes actually poisonous. The heat of the sun has a drying influence, and with moderate attention, the premises may be kept sweet and clean. The second reason is, greater light is afforded to the kitchen, where it is so much needed, especially in winter time, to allow of the cleanly preparation of daily food. A mind of any refinement revolts at the mere mention of cookery in the dark.

The front of a house in the city does not so much need the sun, since the too frequent custom is to make a parlor of the first floor front, for the occasional accommodation or reception of guests and visitors, in many instances averaging not an hour a day; and for similar reasons, the "*spare rooms*," are those in front in the upper stories. In my opinion, the very best, largest and most commodious rooms in a house should be appropriated to the daily and hourly use of the family.

As accumulations are not allowed in the streets, the sun is not so much needed on a northern front, while the passing of persons and vehicles, compensate in cheeriness for the absence of sunshine; but it is not a total absence, for there is the sunshine of the countenance of your visitors; unless of that not innumerable class, who are rather disagreeably disappointed, when they find you are at home, and had much rather have left a card; their smiles are of the sardonic order, or of the mechanical kind, ieieling in a moment all the outgushings of kindness, were it not the fashion to keep our parlors so dim and dusky, that we can't tell whether the smile comes from the head or the heart.

In selecting a residence, notice if there is any standing water in the cellar, or any uncovered drain or well; I know of two adjoining houses in Philadelphia, which has brought death to every family that has occupied them for some years past, and another not far distant which has proved the death of three successive occupants, each of them strong hearty men when they moved in.

Notice the rear premises; if they adjoin a stone-entier, or livery stable, or distillery, or cow yard, or for drays, carriages and the like; if any of these are within a block of you in any direction, the house is dear at any price, it is dear at nothing, whatever may be its frontage.

As a general rule avoid long rows of brown stone fronts, built uniformly; or of brick or any other material; they were built by contract, or for purposes of speculation. If the flues do not burn you up, there is a large probability that the rats will devour everything you purchase, over and above what you actually consume, and the friends Biddy, your cook, supplies with their daily provender. Sometime since I accompanied a gentleman, who wanted to purchase or lease a family mansion, on a tour of observation. We looked through one of a row of five story brown fronts, one of the most imposing in appearance outside in New-York; it had been occupied but a year, the flue had set it on fire; the family had left, and there being no carpeting or other furniture to cover defects, there was revealed to us a quality of carpentership utterly disgraceful to both builders and owners; the flooring had not the roughness planed off in many places; while the spaces between the "*tongue and grooves*," as also between the ends of the planks, and between the wash or surboard and the floor, were in many instances from a quarter to half an inch or more in width; and this in rooms where the

fire and water had no access; these items, together with the spoiled locks, broken keys, doors hanging awry from a shrinking of the wood and "settling" of the building, immovable window sash, made a tenement which, notwithstanding its fine brown stone frontage, was unfit to be occupied by any family who wanted to live comfortably.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

DEATHS BY SCALDING AND BURNING.

We still see reported, almost daily, an appalling number of deaths by *burns* and *scalds*, not one of which we take it upon ourselves to say need prove fatal, or would do so, if a few pounds of wheat flour could be promptly applied to the wounds made by fire, and repeated till the inflammatory stage had passed. We have never known a fatal case of scalding or burning, in which this practice has been pursued, during more than 30 years' experience, and having treated hundreds in both public and private practice. We have known the most extensive burns, by falling into cauldrons of boiling oil, and even molten copper, and yet the patients were rescued by this simple and cheap remedy, which from its infallible success should supplant all the fashionable nostrums, whether oil, cotton, lead-water, ice, turpentine, or pain extractors, every one of which has been tried a thousand times with a fatal result, and the victims have died in excruciating agony, when a few handfuls of flour would have calmed them to sleep, and rescued them from pain and death. Humanity should prompt the profession to publish and re-publish the facts on this subject, which are established by the authority of standard medical works on both sides of the Atlantic. Flour is the remedy, and the only one, in severe cases of scalding and burning, casualties which else so often destroy life. Let us keep it before the people, while the explosion of steam boilers and burning fluid lamps are so rife all over our country.—*American Medical Gazette.*

EYES AND COLD WATER.

The aquatic furor has become so general, that for the simple reason that cold water is a pure, natural product, it is claimed to be a universal and beneficial application. Arsenic is a pure, natural and simple product; so is prussiac acid, as obtained from a peach kernel. A single drop of tobacco oil will kill a cat or dog in five minutes.

Many persons are daily ruining their eyes by opening them in cold water of mornings. Cold water will harden or roughen the hands, and much more will it do so to the many-fold more delicate covering of the eye; or, the eye will, in self-defence, become scaly in the manner of a fish; that is, the coats of the eye will thicken, constituting a species of cataract, which must impair the sight. That water, cold and harsh as it is, should be applied to the eye for curative purposes, in place of that soft, warm, lubricating fluid which nature manufactures for just such purposes, indicates great thoughtlessness or great mental obliquity. Nothing stronger than luke-warm water should ever be applied to the eye, except by special medical advice, and under special medical supervision; for we have only one pair to lose. Even warm water should be applied only by closing the eye and flapping it against the lid with the hand, patiently, scarcely letting the fingers touch the lid. This cools the eye more rapidly than cold water does, and without the shock, while its soothing effect is delightful, dissolving or washing out the yellow or other matter which may have accumulated over night, in half the time required by cold water.—*Journal of Health.*

COTTON AND ITS CULTURE.

A correspondent writes to the Farmer and Planter as follows: "We never could see the sense of throwing up, with great care, a high bed for cotton, and immediately set all hands to work to tear it down. We have tried various expedients, but never found out how to plant cotton until last spring. For this we acknowledge our indebtedness to Capt. Thomas Byrd, of Greenwood, from whom we received an implement for smoothing and opening the cotton bed, which does the work to perfection—a cover adapted precisely to follow in the wake of the opening, leaving your beds nicely smoothed over, and ready for the reception of the seed, and a scraper to do the first working—decidedly the best implements we have ever seen. This forms a complete set of implements, adapted to cotton-culture, simple and cheap, which any good blacksmith and plow-stocker can make easily. If Novice will try Capt. Byrd's implements, and not agree with us, we will acknowledge the corn, and pay for them. Let us be understood, we are not puffing an implement manufacturer, but offering an acknowledgement due to a public-spirited planter who took the pains to set us right. By the way, while talking, we may as well say that the best variety of cotton we have ever planted is the "Calhoun Cotton." Where it originated, we are not able to say. Capt. Byrd kindly sent us half a bushel of seed, from which we have picked 511 pounds of very beautiful cotton. The overseer counted seventy bolls on one stalk not over knee high. It is no humbug, for we have selected our seed for years from fancy stalks, and being side by side, we have been compelled reluctantly to give it up. We trust that even Broomseed may be allowed to puff a home-made article. Before closing, we must dissent, however, from Novice's declaration. Twelve hundred pounds cotton per acre on common land—stand or no stand—it is no common land that will average seventy bolls of matured cotton per stalk."

PLANTING SWEET POTATOES IN LEVEL GROUND.—The old method of planting sweet potatoes in hills and ridges, in this dry climate, and on our hard, upper country lands, is all wrong. Potatoes must have *moisture* and *soft earth* to do well. But they lack both in the common culture. Hills and ridges are the driest forms in which you can put the soil. *Flat* culture is the only right kind for potatoes, or anything else in our burning climate, and on our clay uplands. Potatoes should be planted as *flat*, and may in that way be planted as *easily* as corn.

First, break up the land well; then lay off rows four feet wide with a shovel plow; run *deep* in the same track with a rooter, and then, if you want it perfect, deeper still in the same furrow with a common new-ground coulter. Next, list upon both sides of this in the same way; that is, with shovel, rooter and coulter—one right in the track of the other. This makes deep work, and the deeper the better. It is soon done. Your ground is now ready—deep, loose, and moist, and will keep so all summer.

Now for planting and culture. With a rooter draw a shallow furrow on the top of the list, just over the first shovel track, to guide you in dropping. In this drop the seed, cut roots, sprouts or vine cuttings, 12 or 15 inches apart, and cover lightly. Plow them a few times, just like corn, running close to the potatoes with a rooter, and finish off each working with a cultivator, or some other plow, to keep the middles flat.

This mode of culture is not one-fourth as troublesome as hills; the crop is wonderful. This is not theory, but is my constant practice. By this mode the vines never turn

yellow; the crop comes forward early in August, and the owner has no chance to complain of "small potatoes."—*Southern Cultivator.*

CULTIVATION OF THE GROUND OR PEA-NUT.

Thinking that a few hints on the cultivation of the ground-nut, would not be altogether unacceptable to the readers of the Horticulturist, and might be of assistance to those wishing to grow them, I am induced to write this article—more, however, with the desire that its cultivation may be better known than to give any particular plan for raising it.

The proper time for planting is about the 10th of May, or as soon as all danger of frost is over. It would be better, in northern latitudes, to plant them in boxes or hot-beds, so as to have the advantage of as long a season as possible, since on this the crop greatly depends. The soil should be sandy, or light. A heavy soil should be avoided; for though the ground-nut will grow in such, yet, where one has the choice of a sandy soil, to that he should give the preference. They should be planted about two inches deep, in rows, fifteen inches apart—even two feet would not be too far, the branches grow long. The rows should not be less than three feet apart.

After the vines have made some growth—say six or eight inches—the soil should be hoed over them, leaving an inch or two of the ends exposed. This should be done every two or three weeks, according as the vines may grow, so that but two or three inches of the ends of the vine may be uncovered. On this also the yield depends; for if it is not done, the nuts will not half ripen.

Whether north of the latitude of Philadelphia the ground-nut could be cultivated without the aid of a hot-bed, I am unable to say; but I think that they could be successfully south of it.

As to the yield, I can not speak to any certainty, but I have seen over thirty to one root. They can be purchased at most of the confectionary stores at six to eight cents per quart.—*Horticulturist.*

RED ANTS.—Red Ants, are worrying plagues to housekeepers. The Public Ledger calls for a recipe against the vermin. Spirits of turpentine on a small sponge tied at the end of a stick, will, with a little management, be spread like a vapor over the shelves of a pantry, effectually ridding you of the vile thing. But many persons think the cure worse than the evil, disliking the smell of turpentine, therefore I give a recipe I have used successfully. It is this: Sprad over the shelves infested by the red ant, leaves of green sage. This I have known to act like a charm in getting rid of the ant.

Spirits of turpentine applied in a similar manner to the newly commenced nests of caterpillars among your apple trees, I have always found a sure disposer of that pest to the orchard. FARMER.

CASH AND CREDIT.—If you would get rich, don't deal in pass-book. Credit is the "tempter in a new shape." Buy dry goods on trust, and you will purchase a thousand articles that Cash would never have dreamed of. A dollar in the hand looks larger than ten dollars seen through the perspective of a sixty-day due bill. Cash is practical, while Credit takes horribly to taste and romance. Let Cash buy a dinner, and you will have a beef-steak flanked with onions. Send Credit to market, and he will return with eight pairs of woodcocks and a peck of mushrooms. Credit believes in double-breasted pins and champagne suppers. Cash is more easily satisfied. Give him three

meals a day, and he don't care much if two of them are made up of roasted potatoes and a little dirty salt. Cash is a good adviser, while Credit is a good fellow to be on visiting terms with. If you want double chins and contentment, do business with cash. — A special edict with a vermillion tail.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

THE RETORT.

BY G. P. MORRIS.

Old Birch, who taught a village school.
Wedded a maid of homespun habit ;
He was as stubborn as a mule,
And she was as playful as a rabbit.

Poor Kate had scarce become a wife,
Before her husband sought to make her
The pink of country polished life,
And prim and formal as a quaker.

One day the tutor went abroad,
And simple Kitty sadly missed him ;
When he returned, behind her lord
She slyly stole, and fondly kissed him !

The husband's anger rose !—and red
And white his face alternate grew !
"Less freedom ma'am!"—Kate sighed and said,
"Oh dear! I didn't know 'twas you!"

Dr. Keene died of a surfeit, from a roast
goose he had partaken too liberally of, where-
upon a writing wrote the following

EPIGRAM.

Herc lies Dr. Keene, the good Bishop of Chester,
Who ate a fat goose, and could not digest her.

A DUNNING LETTER.

To avoid all proceedings unpleasant,
I beg you will pay what is due ;
If you do you'll oblige me at present,
If you don't, then I'll oblige you!

GENUINE WIT.—At a party a few evenings since, as a young gentleman named Frost was eating an apple in a quiet corner by himself, a young lady came up and gaily asked him "why he did not share with her?" He good naturedly turned the side which was not bitten towards her, saying,
"Here, take it, if you wish."
"No, I thank you," she exclaimed, looking at him archly, "I would rather have one that is not Frost bitten," and merrily ran off to join the company, leaving poor Frost with a thaw in his heart.

TIRED OF S(H)INNING.—One of our big speculators in real estate, says the St. Louis Democrat, met a friend and relative in the street a few days since, when the following dialogue took place :

"How d'ye do, O——?"

"Not very well, Ez."

"Why, what's the matter? you should be in good spirits; money is getting easier; lots are rising."

"Well, 'tisn't that altogether. I was down in S.'s office a whole hour to-day. We were talking about the other world. You know he is a Swedenborgian. He says we will be doing the same kind of work in the next world, that we have been engaged in in this. I tell you Ez., that's what makes me feel bad. I have been skinning it here for the last twenty years, and I don't like the idea of skinning it to all eternity."

Prosperity is the only test that a vulgar man can't pass through. If a man has any thing mean in his disposition, a little good luck is sure to bring it out.

HOW TO TAME A MADMAN.—A workman at a Lunatic Asylum in England, left a chisel, more than three feet long, on a recent occasion, in one of the wards. A furious patient seized it, and threatened to kill with it any one who approached him. Every one then in the ward immediately retreated from it. At length the attendant opened the door, and balancing the key of the ward on his hand, walked slowly toward the dangerous madman, looking intently at it. "His attention," said the attendant, "was immediately attracted thus. He came towards me and asked:

"What are you doing with that?"

"I am trying to balance this key on my hand," said I, "and I can do it; but you can not balance that chisel in that way on the back of your hand."

"As he balanced it carefully and was extending it toward me, I took it off very quietly, and without making any comment upon it. He seemed a little chagrined at having lost his weapon, but he made no attempt to regain it, and in a short time all irritation passed away."

TASTES DIFFER.—Punch says, "Where there is a looking-glass in the room, you will generally find a knot of Frenchmen assembled round it. Where there is a fire in the room, you will generally find a group of Englishmen hanging in front of it, with the backs of two or three of them, their coats tails uplifted, turned elegantly towards it."

Punch might have added, "Where there is a bar in the room, you will generally find a number of American bucks before it, sucking juleps and smoking cigars."

THE SWEETHEART.—A very pretty young woman went to the Post-office, with a letter and no direction, and said to the Postmaster, "Send that to my sweetheart."

The Postmaster took it, looked at it, and said, "What is his name, and where does he live?"

The girl blushing replied, "Ah, that is the very thing I don't want any one to find out!"

Of course the bachelor P. M. kept it himself.

COVETOUSNESS.—Shakespeare gives the following :

Master.—"I marvel how the fishes live in the sea."

Fisherman.—"Why, as men do a-land; the big ones eat up the little ones. I can compare our rich misers to nothing so fitly as to a whale; it plays and tumbles, driving the poor fry before him, and at last devours them all at a mouthful. Such whales have I heard of on the land, who never leave off gaping, till they've swallowed the whole parish, church, steeple, bell and all."

MILES OF CLOTHING.—Mr. Ewbank, in one of his mechanical essays, thus speaks of the miles of clothes we wear :

"In winter a lady is wrapped in a hundred miles of thread; she throws over her shoulders from thirty to fifty in a shawl. A gentleman winds between three and four miles around his neck, and uses four more in a pocket handkerchief. At night he throws off his clothing, and buries himself like a larva in four or five hundred miles of convolved filaments."

The following advertisement appeared in an Irish paper: "Whereas John Hall has fraudulently taken away several articles of wearing apparel without my knowledge, this is therefore to inform him that if he does not forthwith return the same, his name shall be made public!"

TOOTH-ACHIAL CONUNDRUMS.—The following are "going the rounds" under this head, though we have not yet seen it stated whether they are efficacious to cause, or cure the tooth ache :

What street in London puts you in mind of a tooth which has pained you for a long time? *Long Acre.*

When should you apply a sovereign remedy to your tooth? When it is *a-king.*

By what ejaculatory exclamation would you declare that your tooth pained you? It aches, *by gum.*

Why does an aching tooth impose silence on the sufferer? Because it makes him *hold his jaw.*

To what town in Poland should you go to have it extracted? *Pulltusk.*

Which of your teeth are like a mantau-maker's fingers and thumb when she is cutting out a dress. *Incisors.*

When do your teeth usurp the functions of the tongue? When they are *chattering.*

Why is it, then, not to be wondered at that your teeth cause frequent disturbance in your mouth? Because they often make there more than *one row.*

A COURT SCENE.—"William, look up! tell us who made you, William; do you know?"

William, who was considered a fool, screwing his face, and looking thoughtful and somewhat bewildered, slowly answered—

"Moses, I s'pose."

"That will do. Now," said Counsellor Gray, addressing the Court, "the witness says he 's'poses' Moses made him. This certainly is an intelligent answer, more so than I supposed him capable of giving, for it shows he has some faint idea of Scripture. But I submit, may it please the Court, that this is not sufficient to justify his being sworn as a witness in this case. No, sir, it is not such an answer as a witness qualified to testify should give."

"Mr. Judge," said the fool, "may I ask the lawyer a question?"

"Certainly," replied the Judge, "ask him any question you please."

"Wal, then, Mr. Lawyer, who do you s'pose made you?"

"Aaron, I s'pose," said the Counsellor, imitating the witness.

After the mirth had somewhat subsided, the witness exclaimed—

"Wal, now, we do read in the good book that Aaron once made a calf, but who'd a thought the tarnal critter had got in here!"

STORY WITH A MORAL.—Many years ago, a merchant, worth near a million dollars, stood upon a wharf watching the approach of a rich ship, just arriving in port, of which he was the owner. He was elated with the good fortune, and looked lofty and arrogant. A poor seaman, suffering under grievous maladies stood near, and having experienced how changeable is life, he ventured to tell the triumphant merchant that riches had wings.

"Pooh!" said the merchant, "there! you see that diamond ring I take from my finger? You see me throw it into the river. As well may you expect to see that ring again, as to see me a poor man!"

Some days afterwards the merchant gave a great dinner to his friends. Among the luxuries provided for the feast, was a salmon, from the river. The cook, happening to open the stomach of the salmon, found there, to her great surprise, the merchant's diamond ring! She carried it to him. His countenance fell, for he remembered his boastful language.

The dinner was heartless and tedious to him. The rich wine only made his thoughts the more poignant. He slept none that night. He became "an altered man." His speculations were all unfortunate. Loss suc-

ceeded to loss; and in a few years he was a poor man.

Wealth is the gift of God, and given for a good purpose. Not to be squandered—nor to make the possessor hard of heart—but to teach him benevolence, to enable him to benefit his fellow men.

THE DOG.

THE POINTER

Is used by field sportsmen to find out the spot where game lies. He ranges the fields ahead of his master, scents the partridge and quail, and then remains with his head pointing to the spot where the game may happen to be, with an inflexible purpose, that makes him appear for the time as if carved in stone. In this attitude he continues until the gun is discharged, reloaded, and the sportsman has reached the place whence the bird "sprung." It is related that a pointer accompanying a shooting party proceeded to a wall, leaped on it, but apparently got her leg fastened among the stones, and thus remained until the gentleman came up. Upon examination, it was found that the intelligent creature had got the scent of some partridges on the opposite side of the wall, and fearing lest her rude appearance in the adjoining field should flush them before the sportsmen were within shooting distance, she suspended herself by her fore-paws until they came up. The moment, however, she was satisfied that the sportsmen understood her ruse, she leaped into the field, and the game was thus secured.

THE FOX-HOUND AND BEAGLE

Are not very dissimilar in form and habits. They both follow their game by the scent. The fox-hound, as its name implies, is used for hunting Reynard, and in every country where this exciting sport is followed, is raised with the greatest care, and immense sums of money are lavished to keep up "packs." The speed of the fox-hound is quite equal to that of the best horses, which shows how perfectly it is adapted to the chase. In England the fox-hound is so much a favorite, that it is no figurative expression to say that more books have been written upon its training, and more attention has been paid to its proper development, than ever was lavished upon the poor people of the same country. The man who has charge of a gentleman's dogs, is of more importance than the teacher of the gentleman's sons; the poor curate may be a very brute, if he only knows Latin and Greek; but the gentleman who has charge of the dogs, Mr. Beckford says, "must be young, strong, active bold, and enterprising. He should be sensible, good-tempered, sober, exact, and cleanly—a good groom, and an excellent horseman. His voice should be clear and strong, with an eye so quick as to perceive which of his hounds carries the scent when all are running, and an ear so excellent as to distinguish the leading hounds when he does not see them. He should be quiet, patient, and without conceit. Such are the qualities which constitute perfection in the man who takes care of the dogs. He should not," continues Mr. Beckford, "be too fond of displaying them until called forth by necessity, it being a peculiar and distinguishing trait in his character, to let his hounds alone while they hunt, and have genius to assist them when they can not." Here are qualities that sum up all human perfection, requisites demanded that have never been deemed necessary to train the heir to a throne, but which are positively essential, to get a fox-hound fairly up to its Cambridge and Eton degree.

Our space will not permit us to particularize the residences of the English fox-hound. They are really as splendid as art and hu-

man ingenuity, brought down to the level of a dog's wants, can make them—even the most ordinary specimens having the corners of the doorways rounded, lest they should injure the dog as he passes in and out. We have seen plans and directions for building kennels that provide for palaces, lawns, and all the "modern improvements" in house warming and ventilation, and which sink into sublime nothingness the much-cherished American work dedicated to the protection of human beings, and known as "Downing's Landscape Gardening."

The Beagle, although (as we have already observed) similar in its habits to the fox-hound, yet is very diminutive, being scarcely ten inches high, and a running pack is much admired, because they keep close together—a trait of beauty and utility combined. The beagle is slow, and is sometimes followed by hunters on foot, and its principal game is the hare. The animated manners of the little beagle, flourishing among the hedges and out-of-the-way places in search of game, is exceedingly interesting, and affords juveniles, as well as older hunters, never-ending amusement. The custom in England has been to carry the beagle pack to "the ground" in bags borne by a horse; this was to keep them from forming any attachments, or from being attracted with things "met by the way."

A WARNING TO THE PEEVISH.—I once witnessed a spectacle in the Liverpool Zoological Gardens which I shall never forget. In a large deep pit there were three bears; two very large, the other quite small. I dropped a biscuit for the little one, which he began to eat. The large bears, being full of frolic, took away the broken pieces of the biscuit several times with their paws, and returned them to him. The little one was testy and fierce; snapped and snarled, and bit at his jocose companions. The big bears put up with this for a while without resentment. But the little one could not forget the insult; he went on quarrelling and snapping. In a few moments, to my surprize and horror, the great bears began to growl; and, being angry, set upon the poor little thing, bit him completely through the bowels, and laid him dead on the spot. I looked on and received instruction. I said to myself, if men will not put up with trifling annoyances, but resolve to fret and fume and resent them, they must expect from parties as meddlesome as themselves, but with greater power, formidable injuries, and it may be, ruin. Let a man once acquire a character for peevishness, we may then conclude that in social life he will be avoided; and should he give himself airs before power and authority in public, he will be chastised; and if still troublesome, as a member of an organized society, he may expect to be deposed.—*Sermons on Peevishness.*

WHAT CAN BE DONE.—A dark-eyed, bright-looking boy, engaged in selling our paper in the streets, interested us recently by his display of tact and energy, and we inquired of him concerning his profits, savings and prospects. He detailed his operations with the distinctness and clearness of a business man. He is about 12 years of age, and has been in the streets nearly three years selling papers. He has been very industrious, always on the alert, selling morning and evening city papers, and some popular sheets printed elsewhere, and had actually saved five hundred dollars of his own earnings, which is locked up in one of the suspended banks. This shows what can be done by a persevering boy.—*Cincinnati Com.*

And it also shows what can be done by a persevering bank.

MISERY OF STATESMEN.—Probably few, if any, great philosophic statesmen—that is, who have acted intimately in public affairs, as well as contemplated them from the closet—ever quitted the stage without a feeling of profound discouragement. Whether successful or unsuccessful, as the world would deem them, a sense of sadness and disappointment seems to prevail over every other sentiment. They have attained so few of their objects—they have fallen so short of their ideal—have seen so much more than ordinary men of the dangers and difficulties of nations, and of the vices and meanness of public men.

Not many Englishmen governed so long or so successfully as Sir Robert Peel, or set in such heartfelt blessings and esteem; yet, shortly before his death, he confessed that what he had seen and heard in public life, had left upon his mind a permanent impression of gloom and grief.

Who ever succeeded so splendidly as our Washington? Who ever enjoyed such a degree, and to the end, the confidence and gratitude of his country? "Yet," says Guizot, "toward the close of his life, in the sweet and dignified retirement of Mount Vernon, something of lassitude and sadness hung about the mind of a man so serenely great—a feeling, indeed, most natural at the termination of a long life spent in men's concerns."

Power is a very great burden, and mankind a hard taskmaster to him who struggles virtuously against their passions and errors. Success itself can not wipe out the sorrowful impressions which originate in the conflict; and the weariness contracted on the scene of action is prolonged even in the bosom.

A VERY COMMON CASE.—"Well George," asked a friend of a young lawyer, who had been admitted about a year, "how do you like your profession?" The reply was accompanied by a brief sigh to suit the occasion—"My profession is much better than my practice."

There was a rule in an old debating society of which we read, which might be advantageously recommended to some of our public bodies—that any gentleman wishing to speak the whole evening should have a room to himself.

Johnson says that the greatest magicians of the age are paper-makers—they transform the beggar's rags into sheets for editors to lie on.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has fallen the past week from 25 to 37½ cents per bbl.; corn no change in price, but a tendency to lower rates.

Cotton has advanced since our last ¼ of a cent per lb.; Rice 25 cents per 100 lbs.; Sugar ¼ to ½ a cent per lb., while Tobacco is unchanged.

The Weather is hot for the season, and vegetation is advancing rapidly; the chance now is, by the first of June, the season may get as forward as usual at that time. We hope the farmers will improve this fine weather to the utmost, and continue to put in large crops.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, May 15, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the

average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

There has been little change in the market since last week. The supply of Nova Scotias begins to be moderate, and in consequence they have met with a slight advance. The prices of other potatoes, too, are a little firmer. No Bermudas have come in since our last.

There is an abundance of green stuff in market, most of which has fallen off since our last.

Apples continue the same, with a fair supply. There is no change in butter, though cheese is higher.

VEGETABLES.

Table listing various vegetables and their prices, including Potatoes, Onions, Cabbages, Spinach, and Apples.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY May 16, 1855.

The supply to-day is 338 greater than last week, though less than we anticipated. A large share is still-fed, and from this State; but we learn that the supply from this source is nearly ended.

The prices to-day are about the same as last week, though the market is a little slow. To pay 14c. and 15c. for beef cattle knocks against the butchers mightily; and it is not till they have wandered through all the yards, and sworn awhile at the brokers, that they consent to do it.

We notice the following lots:

W. E. Wheaton was selling, for John A. Merritt, 62 still-fed cattle from this State, at prices ranging from 13c. to 15c. The average price was about \$82. \$300 was offered for one pair. This was a mixed lot containing some very slim brutes.

Geo. Avault was selling another mixed lot from this State, owned by Mumford & Van Dusen. Some of these were fine heaves, and some disgraceful to the market. Geo. Hawes paid, for six of the former, \$33 per head, or 15c. Some of the latter were only fit for the compost-heap.

Ed. Wheeler had 99 Iowa cattle, owned by S. M. Baker & Co., of Ohio. Some of these were rather coarse. The lot would range from 13c. to 14c.

Chas. Teed, had a prime lot of still-fed cattle from Syracuse, N. Y., owned by D. Allerton. They were selling from 14c. to 15c., and would average about 1,000 lbs.

Barney Bartam had a good lot of Illinois cattle, owned by Geo. M. Read, which sold for 13c. @ 15c. and would weigh about 850 lbs.

E. Gurney had a mixed lot from Morrisville, N. Y., the poorest of which brought \$66 per head, or 11c. \$ b. 23 will average \$106, or 15c.

John Merritt had another uneven lot of Illinois cattle, which will average about 14c.

Wm. Belden had 68 fair still-fed cattle from this State,

owned by S. Park. One pair sold for \$300. They would average about \$100.

Table listing livestock prices: The following are about the highest and lowest prices: Extra quality, Good retailing quality, Inferior do., Cows and Calves, Veals, Swine, alive, dead.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

Table showing livestock received during the week and in market to-day, including Beeves, Cows, Veals, Sheep and lambs, Swine, etc.

The sheep market is not as good as last week, though there are not many good sheep in market. Lambs are getting more plentiful, but there are not many on hand to-day.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

Table listing sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, including 30 Sheep, 326 Sheep, 1 Sheep, 31 Sheep, 8 Lambs, etc.

Average.....\$4 67.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Ashes, Beeswax, Bristles, Coal, Cotton, Cotton Bagging, Coffee, Flour and Meal.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Ohio, common to good brands, Ohio, fancy brands, Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do., Genesee, fancy brands, etc.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Wheat, White Genesee, Wheat, do. Canada, (in bond), Wheat, Southern, White, etc.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Hay, North River, in bales.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Lime, Rockland, Common.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Lumber, Timber, White Pine, Timber, Oak, etc.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Molasses, New-Orleans, Porto Rico, Cuba Muscovado, etc.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Oil Cake, Thin Oblong, City, Thick, Round, Country.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Rice, Ordinary to fair, Good to prime.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Salt, Turk's Island, St. Martin's, Liverpool, Ground, etc.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Sugar, St. Croix, New-Orleans, Cuba Muscovado, etc.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Tallow, American, Prime.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Tobacco, Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, St. Domingo, Cuba, Yara, etc.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month, one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

SHEPHERD DOGS.—The subscriber has for sale a few young SHEPHERD DOGS, bred from the well-known dog "SWEEP," at prices varying from \$10 to \$25, according to age and training.

H. A. LAMPHERE, Weedsport, Cayuga Co., N. Y.

NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PREMIUMS ON FARMS.

Premiums are offered for 1855, of \$50, \$30, and \$20, on farms of not less than 50 acres, exclusive of wood and water land, regard being had to the quantity and quality of produce, the manner and expense of cultivation and the actual products.

Questions to be answered by the applicants will be furnished by the Secretary, on application.

Notice must be given to the Secretary on or before the FIRST OF JULY.

by persons intending to compete, so that some member or members of the Executive Committee may visit and examine the farms entered for competition, and report on the same.

Agricultural Rooms, } B. P. JOHNSON, Secretary. Albany, May 16, 1855. } 88-91 N.1197

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86-6m

THE FARMERS' BEST FRIEND—Is a box of REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE—the very best ointment to have in your family in case of accidents. Burns, cuts, wounds, of every description, are healed and completely cured. It relieves pain and allays inflammation at once. For felons it is the best article ever used. This excellent SALVE has been sold in Boston for the last 30 years, and it is well known to be a good article. Price 25 cents a box. Sold by all druggists in the United States, and at most of the country stores.

REDDING & CO., Proprietors,
51, 53, 97, 102, 6n1189j No. 8 State-st., Boston.

TENTS! FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, MILITARY COMPANIES, EXHIBITIONS, &c.

The Subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of Tents of every description, suitable for Agricultural Fairs, Military Encampments, Camp Meetings, Conferences, Political Gatherings, Exhibitions, &c., &c., which he will rent on liberal terms. He has a large number of Camp Meeting and Military Tents of the following sizes—21 feet by 30; 16 by 24; 12 by 17; 9 by 12. Also, for Conferences, Agricultural Societies, &c.—80 feet diameter; 70 feet do.; 60 feet do.; 50 feet do.; and 80 feet by 110; 60 by 90; 50 by 80.

These tents are of his own manufacture, of the very best material, and are every way desirable. When parties renting Tents desire it, a competent person will be sent to erect and take charge of them.

He has furnished Tents to the Agricultural Societies of New-York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Canada, and to many other prominent Agricultural and other Associations, and can therefore with confidence refer those who are about purchasing or renting Tents, to any of the officers of these Associations as to the character of his work and fairness of his dealings.

TENTS AND FLAGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, MADE TO ORDER.

He has on hand the largest assortment of Tents on the Continent, sufficient to accommodate seventy thousand persons, and can fill orders for any number of Tents, on short notice. All orders by Mail will meet prompt attention.

February, 1855. E. C. WILLIAMS,
79, 84, 8, 93, 7, 102, 5n1182 Rochester, N. Y.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT.)



THE BEST Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Copper Smiths, Gas Filters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.

35-136n1190ow

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. MORRIS'S Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pastureage \$3 per month. Accidents are escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 36-tfn1193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by address: L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 36-tfn1194

BLACK HAWK HORSE RAVEN.—This Horse will stand at the farm of the subscriber, in NORFOLK, Conn., called the Robbins Farm, the coming season, at ten and fifteen dollars. The oldest colts of this Horse are three years old. The stock is of extraordinary promise. RAVEN is by Vermont Black Hawk—dam has the blood of Gifford Morgan and of Cock of the Rock. 35-10n1191 ROBBINS BATTELL.

FARMERS ATTENTION!—Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied. The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention. WHY NOT TRY IT?

Cuttings can be had in any quantity upon early application to the subscriber, and instructions for planting &c.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. Hitherto the labor of peeling willows by hand has been the great objection to their cultivation, but now a machine has been perfected, capable of doing the work of twenty men, and doing it well. 79-4f

SUPERIOR THOROUGHbred DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS FOR SALE.

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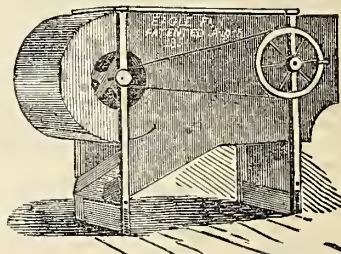
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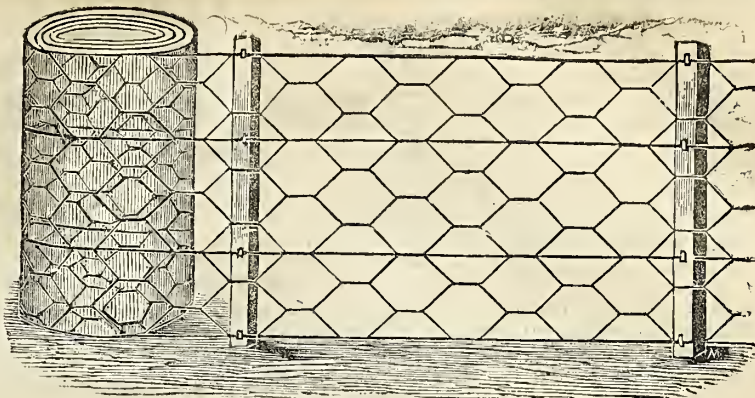
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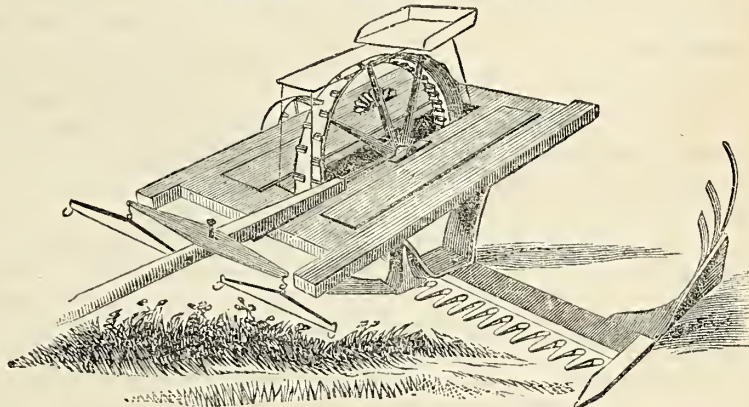
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The Publishers confidently believe that the Agriculturists of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow *monthly* issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and *reliable* character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

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The *American Agriculturist* is under the *control and management* of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an *experienced farmer*, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness and reliability* of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 89.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

PREPARE FOR SOILING STOCK—TO EVERY FARMER.

WE have already published several articles on crops for soiling, but the importance of this matter to every farmer, leads us to recur to it again at this seasonable time. One year ago, (May 17th, 1854) we wrote an article predicting a drouth, and urging farmers to prepare an extra three months' supply of green food for their stock. We have heard directly from a number of persons, who acted upon the hints then thrown out and derived great profit therefrom. One farmer in New-Jersey sowed three acres of corn for fodder, and afterwards stated to us in a private letter that it was worth more than a hundred dollars to his stock during the dry season. We noticed, in No. 51 (Aug. 30, 1854), the success of another on the Hudson river, who sowed seven acres of corn broadcast and in hills, and when the severest drouth was prevailing his cows, fed upon the green corn-stalks, were giving an unusual quantity of rich milk, and "an extra supply of firkins were necessary for the great amount of butter produced."

Now we do not predict another drouth this summer, for this can hardly be expected, since we seldom if ever have two successive very dry seasons; yet we are quite confident there will be wanted all the food for cattle that can be grown by ordinary means, and even by extraordinary. There is not now, as usual, a supply of old fodder to be left over for next year. During the present month we have traveled some 2,000 miles, and in all that distance have seen but one stack of hay, where we are accustomed to find hundreds or thousands of them at the same period. Cattle will need to be turned out sooner than usual, which will prevent much of the luxuriant growth that would be witnessed if the fields were depastured at a later period. Then this demand for early

forage will cause many fields to be pastured which would at other times be mowed. Again, the high price of all market animals will lead to rearing a much larger stock of calves than usual. With the present prospect of home and foreign demand for meat, no judicious farmer will send his calves to the shambles.

The above considerations point to an unusual demand for fodder, and it becomes all cultivators of land, and stock raisers, to look out for every means of husbanding and increasing their supply for home and market purposes. We know of no more feasible means of accomplishing this at this season, than by sowing corn for *soiling*—that is, to be cut up and fed to cattle, instead of allowing them to gather it by grazing. We have conversed with many farmers who have read agricultural papers for years, but they have not got hold of this subject, and have no intelligent idea of this matter of soiling cattle, either as to its utility or of the method to be pursued. They have passed over unread all articles on this subject, supposing that "soiling" referred to some new-fangled notion to be looked into only by farmers in other countries, or by those situated near our cities. To such we say, that this is a subject of the highest importance to every farmer, no matter what his locality or situation, if so be that he has stock to be fed or grazed.

We are by no means in favor of a general system of soiling cattle—that is, keeping them in stables or yards and carrying all their food to them. We say we do not agree with those who recommend this plan as the best in all situations. On the contrary, we think there are very few farms upon which such a system is economical; but every one knows that there is, in most years, a period of some weeks, during midsummer, when the pastures are parched by heat more or less, and cattle do not flourish as well as they do earlier or later. Often it is the case that, during this dry season, stock become so reduced in flesh that they hardly recover sufficiently to be well prepared to withstand the rigors of the winter. Now all this can be easily remedied by having an extra supply of green corn-stalks to cut up and feed, just at the season when the pasture-grounds will be in the poorest condition. The expense will be very trifling compared with the advantage to be derived.

Corn withstands hot weather better than most other crops, and if sown or planted in drills, at successive periods between this and

the second week in July, it will yield a large supply of most excellent green food.

A plot of ground which will support one animal on grass, if plowed up and sown with corn, will furnish food for two or three animals during the same period. On this account it will be found economical to sow more or less corn for fodder, even though we are assured of a wet season and an abundance of grass. Mr. M. W. Philips (see No. 40, June 14th, 1854,) states that he has cut 36,000 pounds (18 tuns) of green corn-stalks* from a single acre, and 8,000 pounds (4 tuns) of *cured* millet.

Our advice to all farmers is, prepare one acre of ground for every eight full grown neat stock, or at least one for every twelve, and devote it to soiling purposes. There are exceptions to this general recommendation; as, for instance, where there is a wide range of pasture-land unfitted for the scythe; but even then, a small supply of extra food for dry weather is advisable. *It will pay.*

Where land is high-priced, and where there is a ready market for hay and milk, the amount may well be increased to one acre for six, or even four animals, so as to have not only a supply for summer feeding, but also a quantity over, to cure for winter forage.

METHOD OF CULTIVATING CORN FOR SOILING.
—Prepare the ground as for ordinary planting—that is, plow deep, or what is better, use the subsoil plow, and manure well when practicable, if the land is not already in good heart. The corn may be sown broadcast, and harrowed in or covered with the cultivator or a shallow plowing. About 3 bushels of seed per acre, more or less, will be required. The sweet varieties are generally to be preferred. The more seed there is sown the smaller and better for feeding will be the stalks. It is better, however, to sow the corn in drills, 15 to 20 inches apart. The drill or seed-sower will do this best, but in the absence of this implement, a shallow furrow may be marked out, the corn be dropped in by hand, and covered with a hoe. One successful farmer practices, and recommends, preparing the ground first; then to give it a shallow plowing, and have the corn dropped in every second furrow, to be covered with the plow at the next round. The field to be finished off by passing a light harrow over it, and follow this, if need be, by a roller. He has found this a rapid and suc-

* Probably equal to 9 or 10 tuns of cured fodder, which is almost as good, pound for pound, as hay, for feeding neat stock.

cessful method. Whatever method is adopted, the kernels should be pretty close together in the rows. The corn when sown in drills should be cleared of weeds once or twice by the usual means of the hoe, and the cultivator or plow between the rows.

The whole ground should not be sowed at once, but be divided into portions to be sown at successive intervals of 10 or 12 days. The first plot should be sown as early as the first of June, or before, to be ready for commencing upon before the close of July.

OTHER CROPS THAN CORN FOR SOILING.—We have thus far spoken only of Indian corn, because the cultivation of this crop is more generally understood. There are several other crops that may be substituted for corn. Late-sown oats, to be cut before maturity, furnish excellent food for feeding in a green state, and also for curing for winter's use. For this purpose they should be sown much thicker than usual, 4 bushels or more of seed being put upon the acre. They may be sown at any time between this and the first of July.

MILLET furnishes an excellent soiling crop. Seed can not, at the present time, be easily procured, and many farmers are afraid to try this crop where they have not *seen* it grown. It is, however, easily cultivated as a green crop in almost all sections of the country. Prepare the ground as for oats, making it as deep, mellow and rich as practicable. Dry, rich, clean, well-pulverized soil is the best. Sow broadcast, or in drills six or seven inches apart. It should be cut for green feeding before or at the time the stalks are well in flower. It may be cut a little later than this when it is to be cured for winter forage. Sown broadcast, about 40 quarts of seed should be used; in drills, about 10 quarts of seed will be required. Oats and millet should, like corn, be sown in separate successive portions.

The above crops—corn, oats, and millet—may be cut for green feeding as they are required, and whatever remains be cut before full maturity and cured for winter use.

Oats and millet can be cured similar to hay.

Corn should be cut when the grain is just going into the milk, and tied up in small bundles, and left to thoroughly cure in stooks in the field. On this account it is better to grow it upon land not designed for fall crops.

There is, in addition to getting a double or quadruple amount of corn-fodder over grass, another advantage—that corn can be cut and cured at a season when there is less hurry and cheaper labor than in the haying season.

Let us once more urge every farmer to try, *this* season, at least one acre of corn, oats or millet for green fodder. We are quite sure if they do, they will thank us for this suggestion, and for urging it upon their attention.

AUCTIONS IN HOLLAND.—It is an invariable practice throughout Holland to bid down instead of up at an auction. An article is set up by the auctioneer, at any price he chooses; if no one bids, he lowers till some person calls "mine," and that person who so claims it, is then entitled to it.

A GOOD AGRICULTURAL ADDRESS.

[Concluded from page 147.]

In countries overburdened with population, the system of garden cultivation obtains to the exclusion of horses and oxen. The labor of tillage is performed by human hands; the spade takes the place of the plow, and every portion of arable surface is occupied in furnishing a supply to pressing human wants. Such a calamity is far from us, and the horrors of a dense population do not threaten our happy country for ages to come. Besides, it is an error to suppose that the soil ever loses the capacity for production. It may be removed by rains, and waste away under injudicious cultivation. Barren clay and abraded surfaces, which never had the power of production, may and will continue to possess their nature; but soil never loses its capacity to produce. It may lose its power of producing cereal grains or other crops requiring fertility, for a time, the recuperating power of nature will ultimately restore it. Look abroad upon the old fields covered with pines, and those in progress to that condition, covered with broomstraw and sedge. Those lands were abandoned as resources for the production of cereal grains; but although exhausted of the elements necessary for that purpose, they produce other vegetation in immense quantities, and present in the crop of pines a burden of timber greatly exceeding that of the original forest. Mark the progress of nature towards the benevolent end of recuperation. The tap root as the pine pumps up the mineral manures from beneath, and returns its leaves to the soil. The growth gradually changes on the surface; sweet grasses, oaks, dogwood and hickories appear by degrees, and the evidences of amelioration are manifest to every observer. Cut down those pines and allow them to decay, and the land for several crops is found to be as productive as ever. Press the cultivation for a few years, and it at once relapses into barrenness. The supply of manures necessary to cereals has been exhausted; and the soil, filled to repletion with acids and other elements favorable to the production of broomstraw and pines, commences anew the work of recuperation under the wise and genial influence of nature. It is usual to speak disparagingly of this aforesaid broomstraw. Sir, this is most ungrateful and unjust. Should a statue to Ceres be erected within our borders, this despised and disparaged grass should constitute a portion of her crown. It has stepped in between exhausted soil and utter sterility—commenced the work of reclamation, stopped gullies and covered galls, protected pine seed, and nourished young pines—while it has contributed no little to the rescue of famished cattle, coming out from the ordeal of a winter's feeding on a southern farm.

Let us learn from the operations of nature the value of rotation of crops as well as the necessity of a constant supply of food for plants. This we may in a great measure obtain by a wise system of shifts. Of these there should be no less than five. In our section there should be no more, otherwise the growth of shrubs and briars would overrun the fields, and render their preparation too laborious. Let some portion, a few acres, according to the size and stock of the farm, be appropriated to meadow in each shift—the land of course most suitable to the purpose; this to be a permanent arrangement. Then let the rotation be one shift followed for wheat and oats, leaving out the meadow; one in corn and tobacco, with the meadow to produce grass; and one in wheat, following corn the year before with its share of meadow in grass; the two remaining shifts in clover, herds grass, one of

the second crop, and the other following the last crop of wheat. That which lies for the second year should be pastured by the entire stock of the farm, as it is to be fallowed for small grain in the fall, and to be devoted to corn the following year. The young stock may graze the second field in early summer, and all the stock be put on it with advantage after the middle of August. The meadow land in the pastures only adds to their value as pastures. Thus each shift has three cultivations in successive fallow for small grain, corn and tobacco—with peas sown on the corn, with grasses sown on the wheat. Three shifts are in cultivation and two lying in grass.

The advantages of this arrangement are numerous. The fallow for small grain preceding corn and tobacco, in a great measure destroys the worms and insects that infest lands which have lain out for some years, and render a stand of corn and tobacco so difficult to obtain. Tobacco and corn follow wheat or oats remarkably well; and the two cultivations, together with the manures employed upon them, and the guano and other fertilizers prepare the land for wheat and clover; for it is a well ascertained fact that clover does not succeed well unless following a hoe crop. Upon the field lying the second year in grass, a tobacco lot should be selected of the land most in need of improvement, upon which the summer cow-pens and the manure intended for the tobacco crop ought to be put, leaving the best portions of the shift for corn. This insures a progressive amelioration of the surface, for tobacco will not grow upon any but highly improved land. In the system proposed, there are meadows in three of the shifts which can be mowed, and thus furnish an ample supply of hay for the farm or for market. If the precaution is adopted of keeping the stock off the field to be grazed principally in the spring until the last of April, the grass will be sufficient, and the lands suffer no injury from grazing. Indeed most of our lands are improved by summer and fall treading of stock, if they have been two years in grass.

In adopting this rotation of shifts, it may be necessary at first to make a considerable outlay in foreign fertilizers, in order to insure success. But the operation will pay and that promptly. One of the popular errors which has cast its blight upon the interests of agriculture is, that but little or no capital is necessary in the business of cultivation. The unwillingness to make outlays for the improvement of the farm, and the continual draughts upon it for income and support, afford conclusive proof that as an occupation farming is the most remunerative that is known among us. In all other employments, accurate profit and loss accounts are kept, and the capital watched, lest it should be impaired; credits given to show the profits, and debts entered to show the expenses. In farming, and inventory of increased stocks is rarely taken, and the support of the family regarded usually as a charge rather than a credit upon the amount of its production. The market crop and its net proceeds are all that is counted, and not one dime expended to keep up or restore the capacity for production. Such a business in any other department of human occupation, would be considered as the discovery of the philosopher's stone, the undoubted road to success and wealth. But farming, like all other employments, needs sufficient capital in order to complete success—the advance of money in order to the receipt of profit.

I have already remarked that some advance of money may, and most probably will be, necessary in order to the adoption of the five shift system successfully and at once. It is peculiarly fortunate for us, sir, that the introduction of guano and other fertilizers

fully meets and obviates this difficulty. The varieties of guano and those combinations which chemical science has furnished the agricultural community, are subjects of profound interest to Eastern Virginia and North Carolina, and to develop them fully would require more than I could properly assign to them on this occasion. All of them are valuable to renovate and increase the fertility of our soils, but the particular fertilizer to which I shall chiefly refer is the Peruvian guano. This is the most powerful as well as the most universally efficient of any which have gained the confidence of the agriculturists of the country. The promptness and certainty of its action, and the almost incredible results from its application render it of inestimable value to those engaged in the cultivation of the earth. It is also fortunate for us, sir, that the use of it has become so general, particularly as a manure for tobacco and wheat, that experiments enough have been made to give us quite a satisfactory guidance in the practical application of this manure. Nothing is more desirable to the farmer than the certainty of agricultural truth founded upon faithful experiments. The nature of his occupation inclines him to recoil from doubtful theories; he desires

—“Truth alone—

Truth tangible and palpable—such truth
As may be weighed and measured, truth deduced
By logical conclusion, close, severe,
From premises incontrovertible.”

Not the oracular givings out of those whose age and experience have only endeared their own errors more strongly to their hearts; whose ancient saws and pithy sayings are directed to the discouragement of progressive improvement; who tell of failures only, prophesy them for the future—and forgetful of all success in what they are pleased to call book-farming, tell with peculiar glee of disappointments in any enterprise which comes new and fresh from genius and science—

“Some persons have a knack, you know,
Of saying things *mal apropos*.
And making all the world reflect
On what it hates to recollect;
They talk to misers of their heir,
To women of the times that were,
To poets of the wrong review,
And to the French of Waterloo.”

The diligent and inquiring farmer has no use for such oracles—he desires practical, experimental truth, and I rejoice that in the use of the great renovator, Peruvian guano, experience has given clear and unerring developments, that in it we possess a resource which, if judiciously employed, gives assurance of the restoration of Eastern Virginia, and North Carolina. I do not propose, sir, to deliver a lecture on agricultural chemistry, for however sincerely I may value its discoveries and invoke its aid, I concur with you that all such dissertation among us should be ruled out of order until we shall have taken the first and obvious steps for the increased comfort of our farms and curtilages. But certain interesting facts have been ascertained, and the whole current of proof sets in one direction, to-wit: that it is an unequalled renovator of the productive power in impoverished soils. These facts have been fixed in relation to the mode, as well as the quantity employed in its application. It seems to be conceded that it should be always applied broadcast to the surface in order to its greatest effects—whether upon wheat or oats at the time of seeding—upon tobacco land when prepared for hilling—or on corn, with this additional fact, that the most decided impression is produced by sowing the guano upon the land at the second or even the last working of corn, and turning it in with the plow—that it acts satisfactorily, whether combined with plaster or charcoal, or not—and above all, that it seems

almost to annihilate for the time the difference between poor and rich soils in the results of production. Experience has established another fact, in my section of North Carolina, namely that its most manifest and valuable effects as a manure for tobacco, are realized upon old fields covered with sedge, bushes and pines. Such soils, upon the application of from 150 to 200 pounds to the acre, produce both in quality and quantity, crops equaling our best tobacco lands. This is the conclusion of our best planters from the experience of several years. Early and effectual plowing is proper in such lands, and with such preparation the tobacco stands readily, and resembles the purest and best of that grown upon new ground. If sown upon the tobacco at the first hilling and plowing after the establishment of the crop, there is a most remarkable improvement in its growth as well as its early maturity. This is perhaps as good a mode as can be adopted.

The best conclusion which repeated experiments have justified, is that upon naked land, guano does not do well for tobacco. Litter is necessary in order to the health of the plant, and its consequent vigorous growth. When used for wheat this difference is not perceived; it acts like magic on all poor surfaces in the production of this crop. There is a peculiarity in the soil which produces the fine manufacturing tobacco in the portion of North Carolina where I reside, which those familiar with the appearance and natural growth readily detect. Much of such soil is naturally too poor to produce tobacco in quantities which would repay the cultivation. The application of guano to such lands insures in any ordinary season such a quantity as well as quality of tobacco as is most satisfactory to the planter; and this may be kept up for a series of years—especially if a combination of potash and plaster is occasionally applied at the rate of one hundred and fifty pounds to the acre after the first two years of cultivation. Care must, however, be taken not to apply them in combination, as the potash would neutralize the best properties of the guano by freeing ammonia which it contains. *The times of application should be different—the potash and plaster in the fall or early in the spring, and the guano just before hilling, or during the cultivation.*

The aid which this manure has furnished in securing plants for early planting, has been a great boon to the tobacco growing region. Nothing compares with it in this respect. I hear from some sources that if applied in sufficient quantities that burning may be dispensed with on the plant beds. Facts, however, do not sustain this declaration as far as my own observation extends. But the proof is abundant that as a quickening manure, Peruvian guano has no rival on the plant beds. I give the experience and practice of a planter who has not entirely failed in plants for twenty-five years, who usually establishes his crop among the earliest, but who estimates guano, which he has used for the last five years, as the best security for early and strong plants that we possess. He employs that agent in reference to plants, as all foreign fertilizers ought to be employed for other crops, only as a means combining the increase of production with the increased facility for extending the improvement.

The first requisite is to burn enough land—and not all of the same kind. Some low—some high land—but all of it inclined to be moist. Close soils inclining to the production of small sweet gum, whether poor or rich, are best. Before burning, after the land is raked, cover with stable manure, and chop it in with hilling hoes; then burn the land sufficiently, which will not injure the manure, which ought to be chopped in some

four or five inches. Coulter the bed, and remove the roots, and chop in one hundred pounds of guano to every twelve hundred square yards, and sow the seed. Either tread or beat the surface with brush, and cover it all over with tobacco stalks, one layer thick. These soon give out their fertilizing properties from the effects of a rain and dew. As soon as the first plants appear on the outsides, remove the tobacco stalks, and cover with brush. But little remains to be done, except slight sowings of guano once a week during the spring, in the dry part of the day, after the dew disappears. Fall burning is best, as well because of the unusual dryness of the earth, as the suitable weather for the hands engaged in the work. It is best to select beds in the forest, and not near open fields or old beds. The fly—that great enemy to plants—breed in open surfaces, and live and winter in old plant beds. There should be several places, as remote as convenient from each other, that they may not be exposed to a common disaster. I have been thus minute, because convinced that early and abundant resources of plants are indispensable to success. To the question: is guano a permanent manure? experience replies, as much so as any other applied in the same quantities, and infinitely more valuable than a like quantity of any other fertilizer in the result of production. It gives a good crop of tobacco, wheat and clover, on lands of moderate quality, from one application; and this is all that could be asked from the outlay made. Applied to turnips and potatoes it is extremely effective—and equally so on every variety of peas and beans.

We sometimes hear it objected that this manure is too costly to be used much—that it may be well to apply it in moderate quantities—and that the supply on the Pacific coast will soon be exhausted. The obvious reply to the first remark is, that if a little is profitable, a great deal of the same kind of application must greatly increase the profit; and if the supply is soon to be exhausted, wisdom would urge us to get the full benefit before it passes away. Its value consists in the restoration of lands, heretofore valueless, to a highly productive condition. The increase of market staples, and what is of equal importance, in the offal of those increased crops as well as in the production of grasses, the means of making manure on the farm, are incalculably increased. Combined with plaster it is the best top dressing for grass, or meadows, or fields of clover, that can be employed—always remembering that it should not be sown on the grass while moist from rain or dew.

I pass by the objection that although a *present stimulant*, it is an ultimate impoverisher, with the remark that the fertilizing elements of guano are contained in all the putrescent manures of our stables and farm-pens—only highly concentrated and uncombined with vegetable matter, which ought to be furnished to lands upon which guano is sown—that the idea of stimulants to the soil seems to be predicated upon the existence of a nervous system in the earth which has not obtained credence with those who have examined the subject. It is exceedingly objectionable to employ terms unphilosophically. A nervous system capable of stimulation does not exist in the soil. It is a strong figure of speech to apply the term stimulus in this manner. Philosophy and science do not recognize tropes and figures. They demand severe sternness in the use of terms in order to the ascertainment of truth. Manures are only the elements of fertility mixed into and assimilated with the soil—affording support to vegetation. They being inanimate, act upon inanimate subjects according to the laws of nature. They make such combinations as fulfill the conditions of

vegetation. Guano is to the manure from our stables what quinine is to the old preparations of bark—the active principles in the one concentrated, and the other diffused.”

For the American Agriculturist.

TURTLE-SOUP, LIMA, NEAPOLITAN AND OTHER BEANS.

It has long been a vulgar truism that our farmers “don't know beans”—and I am glad to see such a portion of your paper of the 10th of May devoted to so important a subject as the bean crop, and most heartily concur with you in recommending them as an article of food, which it would be much for the pecuniary interests of this country, but more for the physical strength of the inhabitants, were they used in greater quantities than they are at present.

There appears to be a lack of information with most of our rural population on the properties of food, whether certain kinds are for forming muscle or fat; and this is of more importance certainly with regard to the human family than it is with beasts, and yet I think it is not as much attended to. Politicians often have much to say about the “bone and muscle of the country;” but farmers, where labor is concerned, confine their observations to muscle, for that is the part which they depend upon for effort. We have good reason to believe there is a great contrast between the first settlers of this country and the present population in regard to muscular power and capability for endurance; and has not this change in part been the effect of change of food? Is not this a favorable time, when most kinds of food command such enormous prices, to persuade people “to go back to the tastes and habits of our forefathers, and make beans a more common dish at our tables; for, with the exception of peas, they are unquestionably the cheapest food we eat?”

As beans are sent to the table in different dishes, and have different properties for such dishes, I think Mr. Bement conferred a great favor upon your readers in giving his description of the turtle-soup bean, and the manner of cooking it. I have planted it, and agree with all that he has said in favor of its fine cooking qualities.

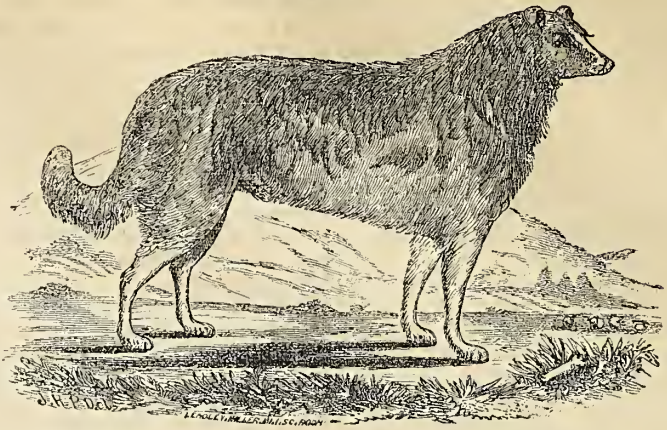
There are two kinds of beans I can not dispense with—the Lima, that queen of all shell-beans, and those I have known as the Neapolitan, which stands at the head of all the family as a “snap” or *string-bean*, although it has no string to it.

The Neapolitan is a dark-colored small bean, which might be called a blue-black, a free climber, and a plentiful bearer; pods round, and of large size—but should not be picked until they have changed from a green to a light straw-color, when they become semi-transparent; should be boiled without breaking, like asparagus, when they become soft and pulpy, and perfectly destitute of fiber. They may be served up as an asparagus dish, or mixed with sweet corn for that well-known dish, *succotash*. G.

New-Haven, May 13, 1855.

A NEW WRINKLE.—It is said to have been satisfactorily demonstrated that every time a wife scolds her husband she adds a new wrinkle to her face! It is thought that the announcement of this fact will have a most salutary effect, especially as it is understood that every time a wife smiles upon her husband it will remove one of the old wrinkles! Mr. Caudle is delighted with the discovery, and anticipates sunshine the year round, as Mrs. Caudle has an unquenchable desire to appear young and handsome, and mourns deeply over the rapid departure of her youthful charms. Poor, curtain-lectured husbands are looking up.

SWEEP.



A SHEPHERD DOG.

The above engraving is a correct likeness of a thoroughbred Scotch shepherd dog, the property of Mr. H. A. Lamphere, of Weedsport, Cayuga Co., N. Y. “SWEEP” is a descendant of the celebrated shepherd dogs

sent to this country by Gen. Youpuse, of Scotland, as a present to Joseph Bonaparte, of New-Jersey. We have seen Mr. Lamphere's dogs work in the field, and can testify to their good training and intelligence in bringing up and driving sheep.

GREAT FRAUD IN GUANO—FARMERS BEWARE!

We have had frequent occasions to caution farmers against frauds practised upon them by dealers in guano and the manufacturers of “artificial fertilizers.” A few years since, while at work in the Yale College Analytical Laboratory, we received a sample of an article sold extensively in western New-York as guano, by a dealer in this city. An analysis of the sample was made and published, showing the article to be comparatively worthless. The dealer immediately sent a threatening letter, saying that he had lodged positive orders with his attorney to commence a prosecution if the article reflecting upon his deception was not retracted within a given time. He was politely told to “go ahead,” and that is the last we have heard of the matter, except sundry letters in agricultural journals from the purchasers of the above article, *condemning Peruvian Guano!*

We have under observation some other frauds now being practiced by sundry persons, which will be exposed when some further facts have been gathered in reference to them. Among these are the purchasing of damaged cargoes of Peruvian guano, and selling it for the best; wetting the genuine or mixing foreign substances with it to make it weigh ten to twenty per cent more; sending out one year to certain sections of the country superphosphate of lime containing more than half its weight of guano, and the next year supplying orders for the same locality, with a mixture of burned bones, muck, railroad cinders, and a trifle of guano and lime to give it an odor. *The fact is, farmers are not safe in purchasing any foreign fertilizers except from reliable dealers of established reputation and uprightness of character.*

We have made these remarks at the present time to introduce the following article from the Country Gentleman, in reference to a miserable fraud now being carried on. Will not some of the farmers in the neighborhood confer a benefit upon their fellow

farmers in other parts of the country, by watching, ferreting out, and publishing the doings of the “Chilian guano” manufacturers?

Every one acquainted with the guano trade of Great Britain is aware that adulteration is carried on to an enormous extent. The laws are stringent, and the penalties in case of detection severe, yet the profits are so large and the difficulty of *proving* the fraud so great, that numbers of dishonest men are willing to brave the chances of detection. The agricultural press, when in the hands of honest, independent men, untrammelled by business connections, is the great safeguard against these and other impositions; but, though the British agricultural journals are mostly of a high tone and character, their price prevents an extensive circulation; and, indeed, comparatively few farmers take any agricultural paper whatever. Under such circumstances, therefore, it is no wonder that fraudulent manure dealers reap a rich harvest.

We have long been convinced that there were parties in this country engaged in manufacturing various artificial fertilizers which are of little value—and we have done our part towards exposing their fraudulent practices. We were also aware that inferior guanos are often sold under an assurance that they are equal or superior to the best Peruvian, but we had no idea that there was any one in this country engaged in the *manufacture of guano*. We are sorry to say we have been deceived. Numerous as are our agricultural papers, great as are their circulation and influence, they are found insufficient to prevent unscrupulous men from *attempting* to palm off on the credulous farmers of our broad domain a comparatively worthless article, at a high price, under a *false name*, and, what is most to be regretted, it is one of the professed friends and teachers of scientific agriculture, that is engaged in this deception.

How we discovered the fraud, we are not at liberty to state. Suffice it to say, that some six weeks ago, we were informed that an article known as Mexican guano was taken to an establishment, near Newark, N. J., and there mixed with plaster, salt, sugar-house scum, Peruvian guano and quick-lime, the whole ground up together and put in bags, marked “CHILIAN GUANO.”

Following the direction of our informant, we proceeded to Newark, and there found a

large heap, of about 250 tons of Mexican guano, and some 200 tons of the *manufactured article* in bags, marked "Chilian guano," as we had been informed. We also learned that a considerable quantity had already been shipped to New-York and Boston, and one gentleman said he believed a good portion of it had been sent to England.

In New-York we were offered the Chilian guano, if we would take it in quantity, at \$35 per tun.

We took samples of both the Mexican and Chilian guano, and made careful duplicate analyses of them in the laboratory of Prof. Carr, of this city, chemist to the New-York State Agricultural Society. The following are the mean percentage results of the analyses :

MEXICAN GUANO.

Sand,	0.5
Organic matter,	5.0
Phosphate of lime,	26.0
Carbonate of lime,	68.0
	99.5

CHILIAN GUANO.

Water,	4.0
Sand,	2.4
Organic matter,	15.3
Phosphate of lime,	24.5
Sulphate of lime, (plaster)	9.5
Chloride of sodium, (salt)	6.2
Carbonate of lime, (chalk)	37.6
	99.5

Ammonia,

Having obtained these results, we proceeded once more to Newark, and there received the following account of the *modus operandi*, adopted in the factory.

The bags are first marked "Chilian Guano;" they are then moistened with water, and laid in a heap, in layers, *with a quantity of Peruvian guano between each layer.*

The sugar-house scum is pounded fine. Three barrowfuls, of "five half-bushels" each, then are mixed with six barrowfuls of Mexican guano. To this are added 1½ bushels common salt, 1 bushel of plaster, 3 bushels Peruvian guano, and ½ bushel of quick lime. When the Peruvian guano and lime are added, "they make it tremendous strong." In other words, the lime sets free the ammonia of the Peruvian guano, and gives the manufactured Chilian guano a strong smell of hartshorn, which, to the unreflecting, is a sure indication of a valuable guano.

The floor, where the bags were filled, was covered with Peruvian guano, in order to make the article look as like genuine guano as possible.

What is Chilian guano, and why is this name given to it instead of the better known Peruvian guano? The only genuine Peruvian guano in this country comes through the hands of Berreda Brothers, and has their mark upon it; so that it would not be easy to sell a spurious Peruvian guano. Chilian guano is subject to no such regulations, and the books describe it, when "fine,"—and the manufactured article is made fine by grinding—as a "very valuable variety, equal to that of the very best Peruvian." The name, therefore, has been chosen with consummate cunning.

The Oxford (Me.) Democrat states that it has received a circular containing an analysis of "Chilian guano," made by Prof. Hayes, "Assayer to the State of Massachusetts," and which is "Endorsed by Prof. Mapes." This analysis represents the Chilian guano as containing 27.9 per cent. of "azotized organic matter and fixed salts of ammonia." This is a much larger quantity than the sample we analyzed contained. The actual quantity of ammonia or nitrogen is not stated, and it is impossible to judge correctly of the value of the manure without it. Fer-

mented saw-dust, or peat, may be termed "azotized organic matter, with fixed salts of ammonia;" and we can see no use of such phraseology except to deceive.

Seeing it stated in the Southern Farmer, that Chilian guano was about to be tried on the Model Farm of the Union Agricultural Society, at Petersburg, Va., we wrote to the Superintendent, Mr. Nicol, for information in regard to it. He replied that it was obtained from Messrs. Powlett & Hardy, of Petersburg, who received it from Mr. S. of Boston. The price was \$40 per tun. Mr. T. S. Pleasants, the guano inspector at Petersburg, informs us, that having made a chemical examination of the Chilian guano, he told Messrs. P. & H. that "it was a fraud." On this, Messrs. P. & H. wrote to Mr. S., who replied that the opinion of Mr. Pleasants "was very different from other gentlemen, mentioning the names of Dr. Hayes, and the Inspector at Richmond, Dr. Powell."

We have now presented the facts in regard to this Chilian guano manufacture, so far as we have been able to obtain them. Our readers can draw their own inferences. Even was the article itself valuable, it would be a gross deception to palm it off as genuine guano; but the article is comparatively worthless, as our analysis fully proves. Thus a tun of it contains 490 lbs. insoluble phosphate of lime, which at two cents per pound—a high estimate—is \$9.80; 124 lbs. of salt, worth say \$1; 190 lbs. plaster, 50 cents, and 21 lbs. ammonia at 12 cents per pound, \$2.52. This is \$13.82 per tun. Allowing that non-azotized organic matter, and carbonate of lime is worth \$1.18, we have fifteen dollars as the outside value of a tun of the so-called "Chilian guano." And for this the farmers are asked \$40, and are told that it is better than Peruvian guano!

Since writing the above, we have received the May number of the American Farmer, containing the report of the Inspector of guano at Baltimore, Md. He says, "two lots, consisting of 100 bags each, were consigned from New-York and Boston, purporting to be "Chilian guano," and so marked. An average sample of that from New-York contained ammonia 1.78 per cent, and bone phosphate of lime 21.10 per cent. That from Boston contained 2.56 per cent ammonia, and 21.10 phosphate of lime." This is a little more ammonia than we found, and a little less phosphate of lime. The analyses show, however that the article is comparatively worthless, even taking the highest figures.

ANNUAL STATE AGRICULTURAL CENSUSES.—

We have received a very neatly printed copy of the excellent annual address of F. S. Heiskell, President of the Knox County (Tenn.) Agricultural Society, delivered at the State Fair for the Eastern Division of Tennessee, which was held at Knoxville, October 25, 1854. From among a number of good suggestions we select the following :

Connected with this subject, I would take occasion to remark, the Legislature should provide some general and reliable means of knowing the products of this State—the various methods of cultivation—system of management—and everything connected with it which would afford instruction—a species of information which every State for itself, should furnish the means of ascertaining every year. We would then know, fully, all about our agricultural resources. It would, at once, open to our view the particular condition of each branch of husbandry. Is one branch languishing—we would thus be enabled to see it at once and the proper remedy could be applied. If any branch is prosperous, is found to succeed satisfactorily, we

would have the information before us, and all know the means by which that branch has succeeded.

Gorticultural Department.

FOREST SCENERY IN MAY.

BY WILSON FLAG.

April's young buds have ripened into bloom,
Diffusing wide their luster and perfume;
And a still greater crowd of radiant things,
Fanned into life by vernal zephyrs' wings,
Are waking into beauty, and will soon
Lead up the spangled multitude of June.
The little nests of various birds are hid
In every wood and knoll, beneath the lid
Of some green leaf, or placed upon the ground,
Embossed in a little tufted mound:
And lo! beneath the trees, as we pass by,
The broken fragments of their egg shells lie,
That show the rambler where the callow young,
High up amid the scented foliage hung,
Seek in the open air, through sun and showers,
The tender mercies of the month of flowers.
The early birds are wedded to their mates:
And every hill and wood reverberates
With their melodious chirping, and the swell
Of their full song resounds from vale and dell.
For Echo, joyful at the sound, has lent
Her myriad choir to spread their merriment,
And given to every rock and hill a voice,
To join the tuneful millions, and rejoice.
The piping frogs are vocal in the pool;
And when the evening hour is still and cool,
Glad hosts of merry croakers wake their glee,
And fill the air with wild garrulity.
Silence has fled with winter, and among
Groves, hills and plains, no harp remains unstrung.

During the space of one year, the woods present to the eye of the spectator five different aspects, corresponding with the infancy, the youth, the maturity, the tinting and the dropping of the foliage. The first is the appearance assumed by the woods, when putting out their tender plaited leaves and blossoms in May, up to the time when they are fully expanded; the second when nearly all the trees have attained their brightest verdure, as in June, but exhibit a nearly uniform shade; the third in midsummer and later, when their verdure is less brilliant, and when each species and individual have acquired that particular shade of green that respectively characterizes them; the fourth is the appearance they assume when the leaves have acquired those variegated tints precede their fall, and which are erroneously attributed to the action of frost; the fifth and last is the naked appearance of the winter forest, when the evergreens alone retain their verdure. These ever-changing aspects of the woods are sources of continual pleasure to the observer of nature, and have in all ages afforded themes for the poet, and subjects for the painter.

Of all these phases, the one that is presented to the eye in the month of May is by far the most delightful, on account of, the infinite variety of tints and shade in the budding and expanding leaves and blossoms, and the poetic relations of their appearance at this time to one of the most agreeable sentiments of the human soul. I allude to the idea of progression combined with the image of hope and activity. Nothing adds so greatly to the charms of a scene in nature, as anything which is palpably suggestive of some pleasing moral sentiment. It is this quality that gives half their beauty to certain flowers; and the unfolding leaves and ripening hues of vegetation require no forced effort of ingenuity, to make apparent their analogy to the period of youth, and the season of hope; neither are the fading tints of autumn any less suggestive of life's decline. There are not many, however, who would not prefer the lightness of heart that is produced by

these emblems of progression, and these signals of the reviving year, to the more poetic sentiment of melancholy, inspired by the scenes of autumn.

Among the different species of trees and shrubs, there is a notable difference in their habits of leafing and flowering; some wreathing their flowers upon the naked branches, before the expansion of the leaves, like the peach tree, the elm and the maple; others putting forth their leaves and flowers simultaneously, like the apple tree and the cherry; others acquiring their full green vesture, before the appearance of their flowers, as the lilac, the elder, the rose and the viburnum. When we observe these multiplied and beautiful arrangements, we can not avoid associating them with the benevolence of nature; and we are prone to regard her as an affectionate parent who has instituted these phenomena, in order to present at all times the greatest amount of beauty to the eye, and to guard us from all that weariness that is sure to follow the long continuance of one unchangeable source of pleasure.

There is manifestly some connection between the tints of the half developed spring foliage, and those we observe in the decline of the year. The leaves of nearly all the trees and shrubs that are brightly colored in autumn, present a similar variety of tints in their tender plaited foliage in May. This is very remarkable in the different species of the oak, whose half-developed leaves are deeply marked with purple, violet and yellow stains, that fade entirely out as the leaf ripens and expands. Similar hues may be observed in the tender branches of many shrubs, as in those of the sumach, before they are hardened into wood. The young leaves of the whortleberry bushes, of the cornels, the sumachs, and viburnums, all brightly tinted in autumn, with purple, crimson and orange, exhibit lighter shades of the same colors in their half-expanded foliage.

The locust, on the contrary, unmarked by a single tint in the autumn, is seen arrayed in a light verdure at this season, unmixed with any other hues. The poplars and willows that incline to yellow after the harvest, show the same yellow in the tinges of their vernal leaf, that gives them a remarkably lively hue. Their golden and purple aments add to this brilliancy, which is also in harmony with their light green and silvery spray. The birches have the same brilliant verdure, contrasted with the dark purple of their small branches, that renders their hues the more distinct and beautiful. It is all these different tendencies in the hues of the expanding foliage, that afford the woods such a charming variety of shades during the present month; and it seems to be the design of nature to foretoken, in the infancy of the plants, some of those habits that mark both their maturity and their decline, by giving them a faint shade of those colors that distinguish them in autumn.

If we take our stand on an elevation that overlooks an extensively wooded country, which is diversified with wayside trees and orchards, we may witness the full charm of this variety. The elms, which in this part of the country are chiefly found by our roadsides, and in the inclosures of our dwellings, have shed their brown and purple blossoms; and their light green foliage, varying greatly in individuals, is mostly observed in solitary masses, or in occasional rows along the streets. The elm is in the perfection of its beauty at this time, when its verdure is marked by a brilliancy that fades before midsummer. After June, the foliage of the elm is full and lifeless in its hues; and the tree is beautiful only on account of the flowing outline and graceful sweep of its branches.

If we next turn our eyes upon the woods, we may behold a spectacle of infinitely va-

ried splendor. Masses of purple and cinereous foliage are presented by the oaks, enlivened by the bright green aments, that hang luxuriantly from their branches. Among them are interspersed the purer and more lively green of the beech trees, rendered still more light and airy by their pale ashen stems; also the slender spiry forms of the birch, whose purple sprays afford by contrast, a peculiar luster to their shining verdure, from the lofty black birch that overtops the other forest groups, to the graceful coppices of white birch, whose leaves already exhibit their tremulous habit, when fanned by the passing winds.

Though we can not find in May those brilliant colors among the leaves of the forest trees, which are the crowning glory of autumn, yet the present month is more abundant in contrasts than any other period. These contrasts increase in beauty and variety until about the first of June. In early May, set apart from the general nakedness of the woods, may be seen, here and there, a clump of willows full of bright golden aments, maples with buds, blossoms and foliage of crimson, and interspersed among them, junipers, hemlocks and other evergreens, that stand out from their assemblages, like the natives of another clime. As the month advances, while these contrasts remain, new ones are continually appearing, as one tree after another assumes its vernal drapery, each exhibiting a tint peculiar not only to the species, but often to the individual and the situation, until hardly two trees in the whole wood are alike in color. As the foliage ripens, the different shades of green become more thoroughly blended into a single uniform tint. But ere the process is completed, the fruit trees have expanded their blossoms, and have brought a new spectacle of contrasts into view. First of all, the peach trees with their bright pink flowers, that appear before the leaves, and cause the tree to resemble a single and uniform bouquet; then the pear trees, with corols of perfect whiteness, internally fringed with brown anthers, like long dark eyelashes, that give them almost the countenance of life; then the cherry trees, with their pure white blossoms, thickly enveloped in green foliage; and last of all, the apple trees, with blossoms of every variety of shade, between a bright crimson or purple and a pure white, all come forth, one after another, until the whole landscape seems to be wreathed in bloom.

During the last week in May, were you to stand on an eminence that commands an extensive view of the country, you would be persuaded that the prospect is far more magnificent than at midsummer. At this time you look not upon individuals, but groups. Before you lies an ample meadow, nearly destitute of trees except a few noble elms, standing in their blended majesty and beauty, combining in their forms the gracefulness of the palm with the grandeur of the oak; here and there a clump of pines, and long rows of birches, willows and alders bordering the streams that glide along the valley, and exhibiting every shade of greenness in their foliage. In all parts of the prospect, separated by square fields of tillage of lighter or darker verdure, according to the nature of their crops, you behold numerous orchards, some on the hillside receiving the direct beams of the sun, and others on level ground, exhibiting their shady rows with their flowers just in that state of advancement that serves to show the budding trees, which are red and purple, in beautiful opposition to the fully blown trees, which are white. Such spectacles of flowering orchards are seen in all parts of the country, as far as the eye can reach, along the thinly inhabited roadsides and farms.

The effect produced by the flowering of trees is less conspicuous in our forests than in our orchards and gardens; but the dazzling whiteness of the Florida cornel, rising up amid the variegated masses of forest verdure, attracts the attention of every traveler. The flowering trees of our forests are chiefly of the amentaceous tribes, whose flowers serve rather to add gaiety and variety to their tints, than any positive beauty of colors. Among the shrubbery, however, there are many species that are made attractive by their blossoms, and yield to the pastures and coppices a more beautiful appearance than anything we have observed in the woods. While the woods are still gleaming with the variegated tints of the sprouting foliage, you may behold, rising up in solitary brightness, arrayed with a profusion of white flowers and silvery green leaves, the tall branches of the swamp pyrus, a shrub that bears the earliest flowers and fruits of the forest. The pyrus is the forerunner of many beautiful flowering shrubs. After this appear in succession the common thorn, with its white rosaceous flowers in lovely circular clusters; the barberry, with its golden racemes fringing the branches from their extremities, almost to their roots; the wild dwarf cherry, with its spikes of gaudy but delicate blossoms arranged fantastically at right angles with the twigs that support them; all these appear one after another, until at length, as if nature was desirous of concentrating all our admiration upon a single plant, appears the beautiful Canadian rhodora, which marks the era of the departure of spring, and the commencement of the reign of summer.

In striking opposition to the scenes I have described, we may observe in different parts of the country a densely wooded swamp, with the tops of the trees hardly towering above the level of the surrounding landscape, covered with the dark green somber foliage of junipers and cypresses. Even this renders the remaining prospect more cheerful, by acting as a foil to the pleasant scenes that everywhere surround us. The very notes of the birds seem to harmonize with the character of the wood, and serve to enliven the contrasts that are presented to the eye. In the open flowery plain we hear thousands of chattering and musical birds—the wren in the gardens, the merry bobolink in the grassy meadows, and the oriole among the blossoms of the fruit trees, while from the dark cypress groves we hear the scream of the jay, the cawing of the raven, blended occasionally with the liquid notes of the *syllvius* and solitary thrushes.

By making such observations, one may be satisfied that upon our barren hills nothing could be substituted, that would equal in any respect of beauty and ornament, the trees and shrubs which are indigenous to the situation. The practice of Great Britain, operating as an example to American improvers, has been fatal to the beauty of many a delightful spot in our own country. The native garniture of our own fields, modified by the hand of man, as exemplified in certain tracts to be seen in every old settlement, exceeds all which the combined wealth and taste of Great Britain could read in the place of it. Vain are all attempts to improve the face of nature by dressing her in ornaments borrowed from a foreign clime. That taste which recommend a system of improvements based upon any principle, save that of preserving the whole indigenous growth of our fields and woods, is barbarous, and will ultimately be spurned with indignation, by every true lover of beauty and of nature.—*Hovey's Magazine*.

It is said that pioneers go before an army, to *ax* the way.

NOTES ON SOME SPECIES OF HICKORY.

BY THOS. MEHAN, GERMANTOWN, PHILADELPHIA.

I was so much interested in some remarks you made in your magazine last fall on "our neglected American trees," that I could not resist the temptation of troubling you with a note in relation to *Celtis occidentalis*. Beyond the "neglected," as you have them enumerated, the hickories may also be mentioned, as especially worthy of note in both an utilitarian and ornamental point of view, and, with your permission, I beg to draw attention to them; at least so far as to those with which I am well acquainted.

In Pennsylvanian forests the first change of color which give them such an interesting appearance in the fall, is due to the hickories. Long before the sassafras appears in its variegating hues, the hickories are brilliant with every shade of yellow and orange. The first white frost, or unseasonably cold night, changes their dark green hue in a few hours. The depth of shade varies with the species. Some kinds fade as pale as a tulip tree; others have frequently the deep scarlet hue, which often gives such a richness to the orange of the sugar maple.

That they have not hitherto received any attention from the landscape gardener, in his efforts to improve country residences, is probably not because he has been insensible to the beauties they are capable of enabling him to effect in his operations, as on account of their never being found in a nurseryman's collection; from whence it is almost indispensable for him to procure his materials. And why are they not kept on hand by the nurseryman? Simply because he is unaware that the landscape gardener requires them. It is not the business of a nurseryman to point out beauties; his duty is to supply the demands and wants of his customers, for whom he would as soon keep on hand a supply of hickories as of any other tree.

There are two other circumstances which may in some degree operate against the cultivation of hickories; they are not as easily transplanted, nor in many cases do they grow so fast as some other trees. A hickory, transplanted directly from the woods, will very rarely succeed, and it requires a warm sun and dry atmosphere to make a good summer's growth. In a cold, humid climate, such as England, for instance, with even the most careful culture, they can scarcely be made to grow; but there are few places in the States, where, with about the same attention as is bestowed on the magnolia, they may not be made to grow as fast, and thrive as well.

The hickorys (CARYA) were classed originally with the walnuts (JUGLANS). They were separated by Rafinesque under the name of Hickories, and subsequently by Nattall under the name above given and usually adopted. The principal distinction resides in the fruit: the walnut having its nut inclosed in a somewhat fleshy covering, without any opening valves, and the nut itself being woody, rough and irregularly furrowed; while the hickory has its covering somewhat leathery, more or less opening by valves, and its nut bony and smooth.

The only kinds that we have about Philadelphia are: 1. The common or White hickory (*C. tomentosa*); 2. Shellbark hickory (*C. alba*); 3. Illinois hickory or Peccan nut (*C. oliviformis*); 4. Pignut hickory (*C. porcina* or *C. glabra* of Torrey); 5. Bitternut (*C. amara*); 6. Small Fruited hickory (*C. microcarpa*).

1. The Common White hickory (*C. tomentosa*) is the largest growing kind with us, and the most valuable for timber, but, in its habits and appearance, the least ornamental.

The leaves are larger and coarser than any other kind, and in the fall have frequently a tinge of scarlet mixed with the deep orange they always present. The bark of the old trees is usually cleft with deep fissures, and has a very coarse and heavy appearance. It is readily distinguished by its fruit, which has a very thick covering, often one-quarter inch, with the valves opening when ripe half way down; the nut itself is very hard, and the shell thick, so much so, that it takes a very heavy blow to crack them. It seems to attain its greatest dimensions in rich woodland soils, [that rest on a substratum of clay.

2. Shellbark hickory (*C. alba*) does not grow as tall as Nos. 1, 3, or 5, but has a more spreading habit than any of the rest. Indeed, it will occasionally come near rivalling in that respect either the British or white oaks. The bark often, though not always, peels off in large flakes, which has given rise to its popular name. The leaves in the fall turn to a blackish yellow, and are not so handsome as most of the others. The timber is least valued of the whole tribe; though in the matter of its catable nuts it has the preëminence. It is readily distinguished by its fruit, which is a little sunk in at both ends like an apple, has a thick covering, which opens all the way down, a nut with four angles, and a thin shell, easily broken. It seems to grow best in pretty much the same situations as the last.

3. Illinois hickory (*C. Oliviformis*), a tall growing species, having at a distance more the appearance of an ash than a hickory. The fissures in the bark are narrow and close together, precisely as in the ash. In the fall the leaves with us turn black, and are in no ways ornamental. Considerable interest is attached to its cultivation through the superior excellence of its nuts, which, however, are only produced in this region. It is readily distinguished by its fruit, which is long or olive shaped, with a thin covering, scarcely opening but a little at the apex. The nut has a thin shell, frequently marked by faint purple lines or dots. It grows well in a dry loamy soil, and I have seen good specimens in rocky situations and on gravel.

4. Pignut hickory (*C. porcina*). A very ornamental kind, having more spraying branchlets and more numerous dividing branches than the others. It has the smoothest bark, with numerous small fissures, of any of the tribe. The leaves turn to a rich yellow in the fall. It is but a middle-sized tree, but the timber is highly valued for its toughness. It grows best in rather moist clayey situations. It is easily distinguished by its fruit, which is pear-shaped, and slightly flattened. The covering of the nut does not open, or but very partially, and is thin. The nut has no angles, is a little heart-shaped at the apex, and also has a thin shell.

5. Bitternut (*C. amara*) is my favorite as an ornamental tree. In favorable situations it is lofty, often 80 or 90 feet high. I have seen it in open situations in rich alluvial river bottoms, form a perfect cone. The branches, like those of the Pignut, are densely clothed with fine sprays, and in the fall the leaves turn to rich golden yellow. It is very readily distinguished by its fruit, which is the smallest of the kinds mentioned. The covering is very thin, may almost be said to be papery, and opens half way down into four divisions, each division tapering to a point. The nut also tapers suddenly to a very sharp point, has a thin shell, and an intensely bitter kernel.

6. Small Fruited hickory (*C. microcarpa*). A middle-sized tree, ornamental in its outlines, but not equal to the two last. It is coarser in its appearance than 4 and 5; but not near so much so much so as 1 and 2. It would be more liable to be mistaken for the

Pignut, at first sight, than any of the others; but is well distinguished by its fruit, which, though it varies much in size, is always roundish, the covering not opening, and thin, the nut slightly four-angled, and thin shelled.

I have endeavored to describe these so that any one may distinguish them, who is interested in arboriculture, without the use of botanical terms, and shall be happy if I have succeeded.

To cultivate them success fully, sow the nuts in the fall, or save them in a cool place till spring. Cover them an inch deep at least. When they are one year old, take them up and transplant into nursery rows, previously shortening the tap root to encourage the productions of laterals. They may be successfully transplanted even at some years afterwards, if moved at or just before the fall of the leaf, and care being taken to prevent the few fibers they possess from becoming dry in the operation.—*Magazine of Horticulture*.

COCKROACH RIDDANCE.

The Scientific American says—"Common red wafers, scattered about the haunts of cockroaches, will often drive away, if not destroy them."

These wafers, like candies, are colored red by oxide of lead; a most deadly poison, and so is the acetate of lead, or sugar of lead, as it is sometimes called, on visiting cards, which being a little sweetish, has been known to destroy young children to whom they were handed, to be amused with. Fashion for once acts sensibly in discarding glazed cards, using instead, *Bristol board*, more pliant, less cumbersome, and really more delicate. And while we are speaking of one of the pests of housekeepers, it may be well to know,

How TO GET RID OF RATS, old, young, and middle aged, with the shortest possible suffering to them, and with small probability of their dying in their holes, or other uncomestable places.

Spread a level teaspoon of flour or cornmeal on a chip or small piece of dirty board, sprinkle over this half a grain of strychnine; it kills the rat before he can get to his nest.

It would be wrong to let this statement pass, in a journal like this, without cautioning the reader that strychnine is a fine white powder, much like flour, made from the seeds of a fruit which looks like an orange, growing on a moderate sized tree in the East Indies, in the Island of Ceylon and neighboring islands. A sixth of a grain of pure strychnine will kill a dog in half a minute. One grain, which would easily lie on a three cent piece, or even less, may prove fatal to a man. Hence the reason for not mixing more than half a grain at a time, and by putting it on a chip or dirty board, it would not be likely that children would taste it, although the mixture with flour, looks very much like white pulverized loaf sugar. As it is such a deadly and instantaneous poison, no more than half a grain should be purchased at a time; it should not be allowed to pass out of the hands of the head of the family for a single moment. The mixture should be placed in a room the last thing at night, the door locked, the key put in the pocket, and removed the first thing in the morning, by throwing chips and all into the fire, washing the hands well after doing so, as also after first mixing it, for a great deal less than a grain would kill a man, if it happened to fall on a sore or cut finger.—*Hall's Journal of Health*.

"I have very little respect for the ties of this world," as the chap said when the rope was around his neck.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, May 21.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

USE MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES.

The time has arrived when farmers should buy and use these immensely labor-saving machines, provided they can procure such as will work satisfactorily. The exorbitant prices of all agricultural products throughout the United States, calls emphatically for the adoption of two important rules.

1st. To cultivate and save every article that can be profitably raised on the farm; and

2d. To economise labor by the use of every machine that can be adopted to advantage.

The use of harvesting machines, including the horse-rake, horse-pitchfork, horse-power and threshing-machines, as well as mowers and reapers, have these peculiar and greatly additional claims upon the farmer, viz: that they are required at a season when labor commands the highest wages, and is the most difficult to be procured; and the crops to be harvested must be secured at just the time they are ready to be cut, or they may be greatly injured or totally lost by delay. This is a work that admits of no postponement. Unlike most mechanical and much other agricultural work, it can not be deferred for a week or a fortnight, and sometimes the delay of a day or two works irreparable injury, by deferring the cutting and securing in favorable weather, which, if omitted, may carry it into a period of protracted rain that may spoil a crop. We have been informed by intelligent southern farmers, that the introduction of the reaping machine has enabled them to raise wheat, oats and barley where they could not before be cultivated, inasmuch as they could not command the amount of labor at the period required to harvest them by the old methods; whereas they can now put their machine into the fields, and with one man do the same work which, without it, would require the labor of six to eight men.

We do not advocate the indiscriminate purchase of machines, but to use the best judgment in selecting such as are well made, and on the best principles of construction. It is a feasible thing for any half dozen men to combine and get a machine for early trial, and if found to be successful, then engage at

once whatever may be required for a neighborhood. Every machine is capable of earning several times its cost in a single season, if it works well and is kept in constant use.

Many have been hitherto deterred from procuring machines, from apprehension that they will not work. But there is no longer serious grounds for objecting, as they are to be found now capable of doing their work in the most satisfactory manner.

RAY GRASS.

The editor of the Progressive Farmer is somewhat facetious upon our "important discoveries" in the nomenclature of this valuable grass; but we beg leave with all due humility to inform him, that it is no "discovery" at all on our part—the "honor" belongs to every English and Scotch farmer we ever conversed with upon this subject. With them rye grass and ray grass are quite different things; so also are they with our London seedsman, from whom we have annually received it for the past ten years. He invariably calls it in his bills, "ray grass;" and when we order "rye grass" from him, as we have occasionally done, we get an entirely different article from what is popularly known as "ray grass."

Ray grass has been cultivated with success in the neighborhood of the city of New-York for about fifteen years, and it is not known by our farmers, or by the Scotch and English who have settled here, by any other name. When we wrote about it, therefore, we did not go to our books like our learned cotemporary for a name, but called it as it is popularly known by the practical farmers with whom we have conversed on this subject in the United States and Great Britain.

A few years ago, a little work was published in England, on the grasses, which was sent to us from London. Upon looking into our library as we write this article, to refer to, we can not find it, nor have we been able to procure a copy in this city. If we recollect rightly, ray grass and rye grass, annual, biennial, and perennial of the latter, were there distinctly figured and described as four different sorts, but can not positively say that it was so.

Be this as it may, as soon as ripe, we will forward our cotemporary a branch of this ray grass with its roots, stalks, leaves, seeds, complete for inspection; he will then be able to say whether it is identical with the rye grass. In return, we shall feel obliged if he will forward us ripe specimens of the different kinds of "rye grass" found in his neighborhood, and particularly designate that cultivated by Dr. Uhler and Mr. Reybold. If these gentlemen have been more successful than the writer in the cultivation of rye grass, we think it must be a different variety than the kind we have grown under that name; and it will afford us great pleasure to introduce it into cultivation among the farmers of this neighborhood. We are extremely anxious to multiply good varieties of grasses, and for any valuable new sort which can be added to our list we shall feel deeply grateful.

Our Miscellaneous Drawer.

BLACK KNOT.—This scourge of the plum-tree may be cured by paring the knot clean to the wood, and making a thorough application of spirits of turpentine. So says E. A. Porter, in the N. E. Farmer. We know some trees that would require considerable "paring" if this prescription be followed.

CLEANING OUT A HEN'S CROP—FOWL SURGERY.—In the same paper, John Fiske says he had several poor biddies that seemed to have a stoppage in the crop, so that food remained there till it swelled so as to be a burden, and finally resulted in death. He took one of these fowls, laid it upon its back, and while his son held its head and legs, he cut the skin crosswise, in the shape of an X, and with a crooked wire hooked out the contents, consisting of grass and grain which had become a decaying disagreeable mass. He next washed out the crop well with cold water; sewed up the slit with a strong thread, and set biddie upon her feet, when she went off *singing* her thankful song. In a few days the wound was entirely healed and egg-laying was commenced again.

PROFIT OF UNDERDRAINING.—Mr. William Chamberlain, of Lower Red Hook, N. Y., drained twenty-five acres of land, at an expense of \$60 per acre, and the first three crops paid the whole expense, including cost of cultivation. He may, then, hereafter look for a profit of \$20 per acre on each crop. Last season part of this ground yielded 75 bushels of corn, and a part 300 bushels of potatoes, while on adjacent undrained fields the crops were nearly ruined by the drouth.

GRAFTING.—In grafting always take care to have some portion of the bark on the scion meet the bark of the stock. The sap ascends through the wood and descends through the bark; hence the necessity of this precaution, if an immediate circulation of sap between the old wood and scion, and consequent growth of the latter, is looked for.

SUNFLOWER SEEDS FOR FOWLS.—We will be obliged to any who have given a long and thorough trial of sunflower seeds for fowls, if they will report the results through the columns of the *American Agriculturist*.

COBS AND WIRE-WORMS.—Some of our cotemporaries have recommended putting corn cobs in the hill with seed corn to prevent the ravages of the wire-worm. The recommendation has little plausibility. F. Powell states in the Rural New-Yorker, that he gave the plan a thorough trial upon part of a field of corn, and found no observable benefit.

PIGISH.—Liebig says an adult pig, weighing 125 pounds, may consume 5,110 pounds of potatoes during a year (14 pounds a day) without increasing its weight a single ounce.

RAISING PICKLED CUCUMBERS.—"It is said" that a man in Louisiana waters his cucumber vines with vinegar, and they produce excellent ready-made pickles. This is on a

par with the "professors" recommending tannin for strawberries, *because* tannic acid is found in them. Why not manure crab-apple trees with New-Orleans sugar or molasses so as to produce "August Sweets"? Substituting honey for molasses ought, "by the same reasoning" to give a fruit of still finer flavor. Who believes it?

BIRDS PULLING CORN.—S. E. Todd recommends, in the Country Gentleman, to prepare corn for planting, by steeping it in a decoction of tobacco, not very strong, for 12 hours or less, drain it in a basket; and then pour upon it a preparation made by warming together in an iron vessel, say a pint or more, of coal tar (gas tar) to each bushel of corn, with a sufficient quantity of water to coat over the grain. The mixture is to be heated as hot as it can be borne by the finger, and the corn briskly stirred as it is added, so that every kernel shall be thoroughly covered. Mr. T. says that although crows, birds, or squirrels may commence pulling corn thus prepared, they will immediately cease their depredations. The gas tar is a cheap article, and can be readily obtained in any locality where gas is used, and indeed in most our large villages.

SUBSTITUTE FOR BUTTERMILK.—We have seen it recommended to supply the lack of buttermilk or sour milk for cakes, &c., by keeping on hand gruel made by thickening boiling water with flour or Indian meal, and letting it stand until sour. This may do well as a source of acid to mix with soda, but it will not supply the casein found in sour milk or buttermilk which adds so much to the richness and nutritiousness of articles prepared with the latter substances.

NEW CURE FOR ROUP.—Edmund Cone says, in the Ohio Farmer, that in attempting to keep from 600 to 1,500 fowls together, he has, till recently, lost hundreds each year by the roup. The past season he lost *none*. As soon as the disease made its appearance, he collected all his fowls into the hen-house, and built a fire with corn-cobs, producing a smoke so dense that objects could not be seen unless in a direct line with the windows. He says the poultry seem to enjoy this dense, pungent smoke exceedingly; the cocks crow and hens sing more than at other times, especially if the weather is cold. The smoke produces constant snuffling, or sneezing, with a very active action of the nictitating (winking) muscles, and considerable lachrymation or discharge of water from the eyes. He does not tell us *how often* he smokes 'em. In addition to the effect of the smoke upon his fowls, he says he has himself been troubled for fifteen years with a throat affection (chronic laryngitis), which he has feared would terminate in consumption; but he is now almost if not quite well; and he attributes his recovery to being in the smoke to witness its effects upon the poultry. He will experiment further, both upon poultry and human subject.

SALE OF STOCK BY MR. MILLER.—We desire to call attention to the advertisement

in this week's paper, of the annual sale by Mr. Miller, of improved stock at Mr. Bathgate's, in Fordham.

THE WINDHAM COUNTY (CONN.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold their next annual show at Brooklyn, Wednesday and Thursday, September 19th and 20th. We notice one feature in the arrangements which we have not observed elsewhere, which is, that mileage is allowed to such animals as do not obtain a premium, but which are considered by the committee to be creditable to the exhibition. For all distances over five miles from the place of exhibition there will be paid as follows:

"All neat stock 4 cents per mile, except oxen driven or exhibited in yoke, which will receive 4 cents a mile per pair; brood mares with foal at foot, 4 cents per mile for one animal; colts, unbroken to saddle or harness, 4 cents per mile; all sheep and swine 4 cents per mile, except sows with pigs, which shall be entitled to mileage for but four animals."

This is a very good arrangement, as it renders the burden of getting to the show-grounds less onerous to those living at a distance. The officers of the Society are:

President,
CALVIN D. WILLIAMS, Pomfret.
Vice-Presidents,
Henry A. Dyer, Brooklyn; David Gallup, Plainfield; Ezra Dean, Woodstock.
Corresponding Secretary,
Albert Day, Brooklyn.
Recording Secretary,
Dr. James B. Whitecomb, Brooklyn.
Treasurer,
John Gallup, 2d, Brooklyn.
Standing Committee,
Perrin Scarborough, Brooklyn; Jos. Gilbert, Pomfret; Luther D. Alexander, Killingly; E. C. Eaton, Plainfield; Lucius Carter, Canterbury; P. H. Pearl, Hampton; James M. Johnson, Windham; Geo. C. Martin, Chaplin; Dyer H. Clark, Ashford; Jos. Dorsett, Jr., Eastford; Benj. Gallup, Jr., Voluntown; Amos J. Gallup, Sterling; B. F. Hutchins, Thompson; Asa T. Child, Woodstock.

1855 PREMIUMS ON NEW-YORK FARMS.—We call the particular attention of our readers in New-York State to the announcement, in the advertising columns, by Mr. B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the State Society, of the premiums to be paid on farms during the present year. We hope to see a lively competition for these premiums, for we consider reports upon the general system of farming pursued by successful men, among the most valuable brought out by the Society. We like to see detailed descriptions of the kind, quality and amount of different crops cultivated together upon a given surface, and also of the methods of manuring, tillage, &c. The competitors themselves, even though not successful in gaining the premiums, will be well repaid for their efforts; for, setting aside the advantages of giving especial attention to putting their farms in the best possible condition for exhibition and examination, there is no better method of bringing into notice or advertising a good farm or

its products, than to have it reported upon by a competent committee of the State Society.

THE SOUTH-WESTERN AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION will hold their next annual show on the Society's grounds, near Louisville, Ky., commencing October 9th and continuing five days. From the premium list received we see there is a pretty liberal sum offered. We notice that it is the policy of this society to make the premiums less in number, but larger in size, than is customary with some other similar associations. This will, perhaps, render the competition for those premiums more spirited. The officers of this association are:

George Hancock, President; Robert N. Miller, Gibson Mallory, and Lawrence Young, Vice Presidents; Hugh Brent, Recording Secretary; Dr. D. D. Thompson, Cor. Secretary; Thomas Y. Brent, Treasurer.

MR. TANQUERAY'S GREAT SALES OF STOCK AT HENDON, ENGLAND.

We have received from several sources, full accounts of the great sales of stock at Hendon, on the 24th ult. As usual, the American purchasers were first in the field. Messrs. Morris & Becar, of New-York, were the largest buyers, and with one exception they and Mr. Spencer secured the highest-priced animals.

The highest price paid was 500 guineas (\$2,500), for Oxford (11), by Mr. Gunter, a young English breeder of the "Young America" order. The next, Oxford (16), was purchased by Messrs. Morris & Becar, of New-York, for 580 guineas (\$2,400). The next highest animal went to Mr. Lorillard Spencer, of Westchester, N. Y.; the next to Morris & Becar; the next to Lord Burlington; the next to M. & B.; the next to Spencer; next to M. & B., and of the next eight the latter gentlemen took two.

Next week we will give a fuller account of the sale, together with the names and ages of the animals, the names of purchasers and prices paid; also of the sale of Mr. Bolden's herd, &c. It will be seen from this that the price of prime Short Horns still rules high abroad as well as at home.

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE FOR JUNE.—We have received an early copy, and read it with our usual pleasure. There are some twenty or more fine illustrations, including a map of the Dead Sea and its environs, one of the best we have seen. Goldsmith's Deserted Village is commenced, with a portion of a series of illustrations published by the "London Etching Club," of which only a few copies were published previous to the destruction of the original copper plates. The monthly number contains 96 pages of interesting and instructive reading matter of a high order. We can do no more than repeat what we have before said, that this is one of the best and cheapest magazines in our country. The next number commences a new (semi-annual) volume. Published by Carleton & Phillips, 200 Mulberry-st., New-York. Terms \$2 a year.

THE LADIES REPOSITORY FOR JUNE.—This number contains two beautiful copper-plate engravings—"Lawn Girt Hill" and the "Author of Sunnyside" (Mrs. Phelps). Among the leading articles we notice, Gerald Massey, the Chartist Poet, by D. Curry; Coming Down, by Alice Carey; The Great Siege of Gibraltar, a thrilling account of the attempt of Spain to recover this world-renowned fortress from the English; Woman and Flowers, by Celestia Rice Colby; The Horrors of Evil Company, by J. T. Barr, of Scotland—a most instructive sketch; Webster Unabridged, by J. D. Bell; The Sea Boy's Grave, from True Tales for Spare Hours; Extremes in relation to Dress, by L. A. Eddy; Literary Women of America, by the Editor. The remainder of the number is filled with a variety of original and well selected articles, Editor's Table, Items, Reviews, Wit, Repartee, Anecdote, &c. The mechanical execution is excellent, and with the higher order of reading and freedom from gossip and frivolity usually found in ladies' magazines, we consider this the first of its class. Carlton & Phillips, 200 Mulberry-st., New-York. \$2 per year.

FLOUR—A "NEW DODGE."

"Every day brings something new," and my stock of knowledge has been considerably increased to-day by witnessing the manufacture of "pure Genesee" flour by a new process. For the benefit of the uninitiated, I will give you an explanation. Some time during the last winter, a parcel of Canada flour arrived here, and was stored at East-Boston. It was in bond and remained so until, by the operation of the reciprocity treaty, it was released, and was sold in this market for consumption. The brand at the time of the sale was "Ontario Mills, St. Catharine, Canada." The flour was inspected by Wade—"fancy."

The mill brand has been erased, and it is now offered in the market with the brand "Hope Mills, pure Genesee," with Thompson's inspection—"extra."

This "Diddleism" is not only a fraud upon a consumer, but it is unfair towards our Canada neighbors, who are endeavoring to supply our market with a good article; and this fact, that their mark is removed and a popular New-York brand substituted, is good evidence that they have succeeded in producing as good flour as can be manufactured in this country. There is no higher grade than "extra," and no better flour than pure Genesee.

The difference in prices between extra and fancy is generally 25 cts. a bbl.

I cannot believe that flour dealers generally would countenance such a miserable cheat as I have described, and consumers are quite severely enough taxed when flour is sold for what it is in grade, without being compelled to pay 25 cents additional, because some person who probably knows nothing about his business, thinks it might be placed a grade higher.—*Boston Courier.*

TO CURE A COLD.

A bad cold, like measles or mumps, or other similar ailments, will run its course of about ten days, in spite of what may be done for it, unless remedial means are employed within forty-eight hours of its inception. Many a useful life may be spared to be increasingly useful, by cutting a cold short off, in the following safe and simple manner. On the first day of taking a cold, there is a

very unpleasant sensation of chilliness. The moment you observe this, go to your room and *stay there*; keep it at such a temperature as will entirely prevent this chilly feeling, even if it requires a hundred degrees of Fahrenheit. In addition, put your feet in water, half-leg deep, as hot as you can bear it, adding hotter water from time to time for a quarter of an hour, so that the water shall be hotter when you take your feet out than when you put them in; then dry them thoroughly, and put on warm thick woolen stockings, even if it be summer, for summer colds are the most dangerous; and for twenty-four hours, eat not an atom of food; but drink as largely as you desire of any kind of warm teas, and at the end of that time, if not sooner, the cold be effectually broken, without any medicine whatever.

Efficient as the above means are, not one in a thousand will attend to them, led on as men are by the hope that a cold will pass off of itself; nevertheless this article will now and then pass under the eye of a wise man, who does not choose to run the double risk of taking physic and dying too.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

THE DOG.

THE KING CHARLES.

This diminutive little creature has received much of its celebrity from the fact that it was a great favorite with the merry monarch, Charles II., and frequently appears upon the pictures of the court beauties painted by Kneller and Lely. The King Charles dog is nothing but a pet, and beyond its silken ears, lustrous eyes, and soft covering, has nothing to recommend it, as it possesses none of the intelligent traits so peculiar to the larger representatives of its species.

THE BLOOD-HOUND.

The fearful Blood-hound has a scent keener than any other dog; for it is less particular than any other of its species, what it pursues, and seems to readily acquire a passion for hunting human beings.

ST. BERNARD.

This magnificent breed is peculiar to the Alps, and to the country between Switzerland and Savoy. The passes over these mountains are exceedingly dangerous; a precipice of many hundred feet is often on one side, and perpendicular rocks on the other, while the path is glazed with, or hidden by, snow and ice. Often, indeed, the overhanging rocks are suddenly relieved of their superabundant snow, and it comes down in huge avalanches on the traveler beneath. Should he escape these dangers, his pathway is obliterated, and he wanders amid the dreary solitudes until night overtakes him. The hand of death approaches under the insidious guise of desiring to sleep, and if he indulges in the boon he will wake no more. On the top of Mont St. Bernard, and near one of the most dangerous passes, was a convent in which was preserved a breed of large dogs, trained to search for and relieve the benighted wanderer. On any threatening and stormy night these faithful guardians were sent out, and by their exquisite scent they could discover the hapless and perhaps already snow-covered traveler. Having thus succeeded, they would fall to work with their huge paws and soon clear away the snow; and by continually uttering a deep bark, that would echo among the mountains, the monks would soon learn that some wretch was in peril, and hastening toward the sound, often succeed in rekindling the vital spark ere it had gone out forever. One of these noble dogs obtained a European reputation, and always wore a medal round his neck, as a sign of honorable distinction; for he had saved the lives of forty persons. Some of

the most effective pictures of the Swiss artists are scenes in their native mountain-passes of groups of peasantry lost in the snow, and hailing the appearance of the Bernardine dog. Most of our readers will remember the popular engraving representing the animal, with a flask about his neck, solicitously licking the face of a dead man he has just dug from the shroud of the avalanche.

Recently, the Mont St. Bernard has been "turned" by a railroad; the ancient pass, so celebrated by tourists, and so wrought into the history of Napoleon, need no longer be pursued to take the wayfarer from the north to the sunny plains of Italy. The deserted monks have moved their hostelry down the side of the mountains, to administer to the luxurious tastes rather than to the terrible necessities of travelers. We very much fear that they will degenerate from the stern virtues long their heritage in the inhospitable regions of the upper air, and that their noble race of dogs, now no longer necessary to save life, will also be conquered by effeminate habits, and, losing the admirable qualities of their ancestors, sink into ignoble obscurity.

HOW TO MAKE A DONKEY CEASE BRAYING.

In 1840, we were once making a journey in a wagon in the province of Pekin. Our equipage was under the guidance of one of our catechists, an old schoolmaster, mounted on a magnificent ass, so full of ardor and agility, that the two mules who completed our team had all the difficulty in the world to keep up with him. This ass, however, was so filled with the sense of his own superiority, and so proud of it, that whenever he became aware of the presence of any of his brethren, let them be at ever so great a distance, he never failed to begin boasting of it in such loud and sonorous tones, that his folly became quite insupportable. When we got to an inn, instead of trying to rest himself, this indefatigable beast passed the whole night in practising his music; and there appeared to be something so peculiarly provoking in the tones of his voice, that all the asses within hearing, influenced, it would seem, by the power of some magnetic fluid, were quite sure to respond in a magnificent bravura, so that altogether, it became impossible to close our eyes.

One evening when our catechist was vaunting the superiority of his ass, we could not help interrupting him. "Your ass," said we, "is an abominable brute. During the whole journey he has prevented our getting a wink of sleep."

"Why did you not tell me so before?" said the catechist; "I would soon have stopped his singing." As the ancient schoolmaster was something of a wag, and indulged occasionally in a small joke, we took little notice of his reply, but that night we slept quite soundly.

"Well, did the ass make a noise last night?" said he when we met in the morning.

"Perhaps not; at all events we certainly did not hear him."

"No, no; I think not; I saw to that before I went to bed. You must have noticed," he continued, "that when an ass is going to bray he always begins by raising his tail, and he keeps it extended horizontally as long as his song lasts. To insure his silence, therefore, you have only to tie a large stone to the end of his tail, so that he cannot raise it."

We smiled, without replying, thinking this was another piece of pleasantry; but he cried, "Come now and see; you can easily convince yourselves." And accordingly we followed him to the court-yard, where we beheld, sure enough the poor ass with a large stone attached to his tail, and with the air of having lost his accustomed spirits.

His eyes were fixed on the ground, his ears hung down, his whole appearance denoted humility and dejection. We felt quite compassionate towards him, and begged his master to untie the stone directly; as soon as ever he felt his musical appendage at liberty, the creature raised, first his head, then his ears, then his tail, and at last began to bray with his wonted enthusiasm.—*Huck's Chinese Empire.*

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

PAT ON THE HORSE.—A pedagogue relates a laughable story of one of his scholars, a son of the Emerald Isle. He told him to spell "hostility."

"H-o-r-s-e, horse," commenced Pat.

"Not horse-tility," said the teacher, "but hos-tility."

"Sure," replied Pat, "an' didn't ye tell me the other day, not to say *hoss*? Faix, an' its *wun* thing wid ye one day, and another the next."

VERY POPULAR.—"Was Brown a popular man when he lived in your town?" inquired a busy-body of his friend.

"I should think he was," replied the gentleman, "as many persons endeavored to prevent his leaving—among others, the sheriff, his deputy, and several constables, followed him some distance."

A HINT TO LEGISLATORS.—"Make way, gentlemen," once cried a Massachusetts representative to the populace, who were crowding him out of his place, "make way, we are the representatives of the people." "Make way yourself," cried a sturdy man of the throng, "we are the people themselves."

BOSTON VS. PROVIDENCE.—An honest farmer in the south part of Massachusetts, talking about his crops, was told that he must trust in Providence. "I do no about that," said he, "I have been to Providence, and I have been to Bosting, and I believe I had much rather trust Bosting, taking all things into account."

DOUBLE MISTAKE.—An Irishman was accused of stealing a handkerchief from a fellow traveler; but the owner, on finding it, apologized to Pat and said it was mistake. "Arrah, my jewel," retorted Pat, with great readiness, it was a two-sided mishtake—you took me for a thafe, and I took you for a gintleman, upon my sowl I did, sure."

TO LET!—The Chicago Journal discourses thus eloquently upon these little, but significant words:

The anniversary of these little words is now upon us, and we see them on the doors of hovels at three dollars a month, and posted on aristocratic portals at a thousand a year.

To Let! There are more things to let than are placarded. Hearts are to let, every day; old hearts, young hearts, stricken hearts—all empty.

There are *heads* to let; to any new things, isms, ologies and ists; heads that have not had a tenant to bless themselves with in a twelve-month.

There are consciences to let; elastic, accommodating, caoutchoucic; at five per cent a month, sixty per cent a year. To let on bond and mortgage, and a pound of flesh. To let for anything that will "pay"—for any thing that will sell.

And so it goes; from soda to souls—every thing to let; every thing in the market, but griefs. They are never quoted, never at a premium.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE BOYS.—We have often wondered how people contrived to make a living in a large city. An instance was related to us, last week, which caused our wonder to cease. There is a man in New-York, who makes \$1,200 a year by selling "pop corn." He supports his family in a respectable style, and at the same time lays up something for a "rainy day."—*Nashua Gazette.*

True, as we happen to know, having learned from the lips of the man himself, that he cleared one hundred dollars a month. The mystery will readily be explained when we announce that he is a New-Hampshire boy, possessing energy, frugality and judgment. When he gets rich, he will probably return to his native State, purchase a farm, and live in peace and happiness.—*Granite Farmer.*

WE, too, have a slight acquaintance with a man in this city, the proprietor of several houses and lots, who has accumulated the principal portion from the sale of pea-nuts. Beside supplying a large portion of the peddling boys and women of this metropolis with the ready-roasted article, he may be found at his "stand" from sun up till late at night. His income from the sale of pea-nuts alone is but little short of \$2,500 per year, while the rent from his houses will add a similar sum—and yet he feels not *above* his business.

A DROP OF INK.

A drop of ink has just fallen upon my desk, spread upon my papers, and bids fair to roll over and find lodgement on the carpet. I put up my hand to stay it; my fingers are foul with its impression; hastily removing them, in the act a sheet of unsullied paper is pushed towards it, and ruined forever. Some valuable document is effaced; it has streamed over the page of a fairly written letter; the gilding on this beautiful book is nearly spoiled; this delicate embroidery has but just touched it, and see how it spreads! besides, it has made an ineffaceable stain upon the polished mahogany, and discolored its soft lining. Now it is removed; but, alas, what a wreck has it made! everything near it is contaminated, purity sullied, and beauty defaced, no matter what it cost. What shall I liken it to, that one drop of ink? Is it like a soiling word from a corrupt heart? It is spoken in haste; the cheek of woman turns scarlet with resentment; the child speaks it innocently till it becomes familiar, till his heart knows sin, and learns how to apply that guilty word. The youth repeats it to imitate the man, and the servant because his master did. The sister tolerates it in others, she is accustomed to hear it from the lips of her brother; the Christian is distressed, love is weakened, crime is strengthened; it is the drop of ink that blackens whatever it touches.—*Writer Unknown.*

ONE HAPPY MAN.

The happiest man I have ever known is gone far enough from being rich in money, and who will never be very much nearer to it. His calling fits him, and he likes it, rejoices in its progress as much as in its results. He has an active mind, well filled. He reads and he thinks. He tends his garden before sunrise every morning—then rides sundry miles by the rail—does ten hours work in town—whence he returns,

happy and cheerful. With his own smile he catches the earliest of the morning, plucks the first rose of his garden, and goes to his work with the little flower in his hand and a great one blooming out of his heart. He runs over with clarity, as a cloud with rain; and it is with him as with the cloud—what coming from the cloud is rain to the meadows, is a rainbow of glories to the cloud that pours it out. The happiness of the affections fill the good man, and he runs over with friendship and love—conjugal, parental, filial, friendly, too, and philanthropic besides. His life is a perpetual "trap to catch a sun-beam," and it always "springs" and takes it in. I know no man who gets more out of life; and the secret of it is that he does his duty to himself, to his brother, and to his God. I know rich men, and learned men—men of great social position; and if there is genius in America, I know that—but a happier man I have never known.—*Sermon of Theodore Parker.*

AN INTERESTING POSITION.

A perfectly authenticated story is told of an officer residing in British Guinea, who amused himself in fishing and hunting in a neighboring river. One sultry day, tired with unsuccessful sport, he threw out his lines, and drew his canoe to the river's edge, for the purpose of refreshing himself in the water. Having done so, he stretched himself, half-dressed, on the benches of his canoe, with his gun at his head loaded with shot, and in this position he fell asleep. Presently he was roused from his slumber by a curious sensation, as if some animal were licking his foot. In a state of half stupor, natural to waking from a sound sleep, he cast his eyes downward, and, to his horror, perceived the neck and head of a monstrous serpent, covering his foot with saliva preparatory to commencing the process of swallowing him whole. The officer had faced death in many forms—on the ocean and in the battle-field—but never had he conceived of it in such terrible guise. For a moment, and but a moment, the officer was fascinated, and then withdrawing his foot, he instinctively seized the gun laying beside him.

The reptile, apparently disturbed, for it had evidently mistaken the officer for a dead carcass, drew its head below the canoe. It rose again, moving backward and forward, as if in search of the object it had lost. The officer, with the muzzle of his gun within a yard or two of the serpent, fired, lodging the contents in his head. The terrible boa, with a hiss, raised its heretofore unseen body in the air, and seemed determined to throw itself upon the officer and embrace him in its powerful coils. A fortunate stroke of the paddle sent the canoe into the stream and to a place of safety. Having procured assistance, the officer returned to the place of attack, and, having killed the reptile, found it upward of forty feet in length and of proportionate thickness.

EARTH AND HEAVEN.—"You have two children," said I.

"I have four," was the reply. "Two on earth, two in heaven."

There spoke the mother! Still her's! only "gone before!" Still remembered, loved and cherished, by the hearth and at the board; their places not yet filled; even though their successors draw life from the same faithful breast where *their* dying heads were pillowed.

"Two in heaven!"

Safely housed from storm and tempest; no sickness there; nor drooping head, nor fading eye, nor weary feet. By the green

pastures; tended by the Good Shepherd, linger the little lambs of the heavenly fold.

"Two in heaven!"

Earth is less attractive! Eternity nearer! Invisible cords drawing the maternal soul upwards. "Still small" voices, ever whispering *come!* to the world-weary spirit.

"Two in heaven!"

Mother of angels! Walk softly! holy eyes watch thy footsteps! cherub forms bend to listen! Keep thy spirit free from earth's taint; so shalt thou "go to them," though "they may not return to thee."

FANNY FERN.

An Irish preacher once broke off the thread of his discourse, and said to his hearers, "My dear friends, let me tell you, that I am half through with my sermon; but, seeing your impatience, I will say that the remaining half is not more than quarter as long as you have heard."

THE PERUVIAN GUANO AGENCY.

[There having been some recent reports that there would be a reduction in the price of Peruvian Guano, we give the following official announcement to correct any false impression that may have gone forth.—EDS. AM. AG.]

(Official.)

BALTIMORE, May 16, 1855.

To the Editors of The Baltimore Patriot:

We have read with surprise the article regarding the traffic of Peruvian guano which you were pleased to publish in your journal of the 12th inst. As agents for the Peruvian Government we expected from your circumspection that before asserting, under your editorial responsibility, that such changes were to happen in a trade of such magnitude as this, you would have approached us to ascertain if we had any knowledge of them, and whether our standing and position in relation to the actual Government of Peru is such as to show good grounds for the same. And our impression is that the good faith, frankness and integrity with which we have always acted since the Peruvian Government, when presided over by Gral Castilla, confided to us the agency for the markets in the United States, entitled us to be heard before admitting as true the assertions of a person whose antecedents, position, circumstances and character were unknown to you. This step, that your own respectability as well as an exchange of the courtesy which we have always used in our social relations seems to advise, would have brought to light the true ground for the assertion of the person entitling himself "General Agent for the Peruvian Government," under the same-self authority that conferred upon him other titles that he has used elsewhere, and would also have avoided the prejudices accruing to the Peruvian Government and to ourselves from the emphatic assertion of such a radical change in the system by which the traffic is actually and will be for some time regulated, until the end of pending contracts and the fulfillment of engagements, based upon a continuation of said system, put the Government in a condition to adopt any other that may be considered most advantageous to the national welfare.

In a question of such importance we did not consider it proper to correct your statement under our own word alone, as we could not anticipate that parties ignorant of our views in regard to the trade and of our position towards the Government recently initiated in Peru, might rely upon it; and we limited ourselves to sending forward to the Peruvian representative at Washington your article on the subject. His reply accompa-

nies this, and the original letter has been placed in the hands of the editors of the American. We presume that in this official statement you will place *at least* as much reliance as you do in the statement of the self-appointed "general agent."

We do not know where the "general agent" whose modesty forbade him giving his name and approaching us will now take shelter to maintain his *elevated* position, but in the event of his stating to your credulous mind that he is "confidential agent" from the Peruvian Government, be good enough to reply that we challenge him to show his credentials, as also his title of "Colonel in the Peruvian Army," which we are told he has used in another city of the Union.

Since writing the above we have read your article in this afternoon's Patriot, and the first thought that occurred to us was to ask what had become of the General Agent *already designated*. If the actual Government (which by-the-by was invested by the people with dictatorial authority) has no power to make contracts, how can it *contemplate* the changes alluded to by you on the 12th inst.? If the American will find it somewhat difficult to foreshadow the policy of the incoming Government of Peru, why the Patriot will not. We do not doubt that the views of the "General Agent" in regard to the Guano trade are just as you have stated, but will the incoming Government accept them? It is also very true that the new Government will change officers, ministers, &c.; but we beg leave to suggest that we are not officers, ministers nor *employés* of the Government. We have a contract lawfully executed with the late Government respected, and we know too well that the incoming one will do the same for the period it has to run. When this is over, the "General Agent" will have a chance to make a proposal which may be accepted if more favorable to the interests of the country, and presenting more moral and pecuniary guarantees than others which

the Government may receive. We will conclude by challenging again the "General Agent" to present some proof showing that the policy of *any* of the actual candidates for the Presidency in regard to the Guano trade is in conformity with his views as stated by you. We think, Mr. Editor, that ere long you will have good reason to change your opinion in regard to the *undoubted authority* from whom you received your information as to the contemplated changes in the trade.

F. BARREDA & BROTHER.

[TRANSLATION.]

NEW-YORK, 15th May, 1855.

Messrs. F. Barreda & Brother, Baltimore:

GENTLEMEN: The Baltimore Patriot of 12th inst. brings an article which I have seen copied in several journals of this city, in which it is stated that the Peruvian Government intends to change the agency now established for the sale of Guano and to reduce its price to \$45 per tun.

You are hereby authorized to state before the public, without any loss of time, that there is not a single word of truth in the views attributed to the Peruvian Government in said article on the subject. The importation and sale of Peruvian Guano will be effected as heretofore and under the same arrangements, and if there is to be any alteration, it will only be in the advancing of the price up to the figure that may be considered prudent by the Government, its owners, whose views are not to extend the consumption here or elsewhere, but to sell it at a price required by the value of its compounds and the good effects it produces on the soil.

I repeat again that it is of the utmost importance to make known the untruthfulness of the statement in the Patriot, and that the price of Guano will in no event be reduced by the Government of Peru.

I am your obedient servant,

J. Y. DE OSMA,

Chargé d'Affaires of Peru.

[Advertisement.]

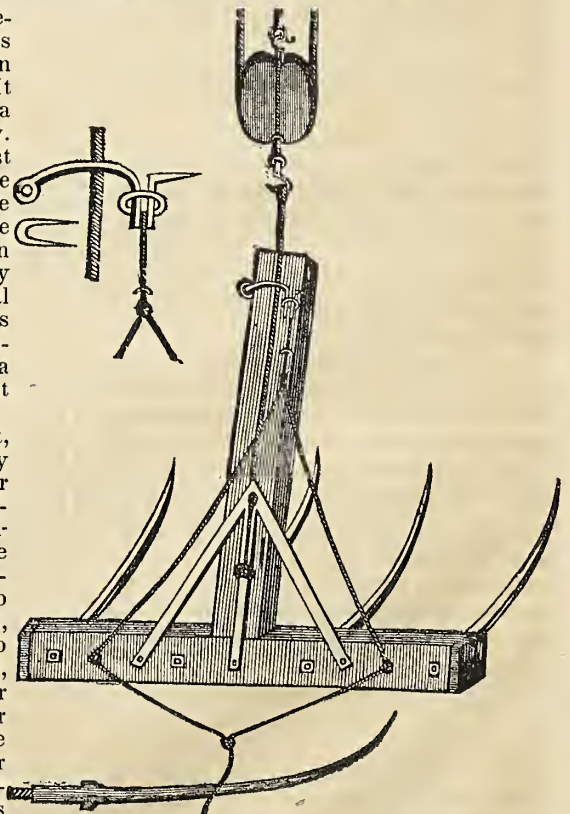
IMPROVED UNLOADING HAY FORK.

This is a great labor-saving implement, in a situation where labor is most oppressive, and at a time when it is most difficult to be procured. It is intended for unloading hay from a wagon upon a scaffold or into a mow. This is generally done in the sultriest weather, in a close barn, when the dust from the hay and the oppressive heat are almost stifling, and when the team and hands connected with it can be spared with least convenience. By the use of this simple and economical instrument, the same team that draws the load into the barn, or any super-numerary horse at hand, may unload a tun of hay in a few moments, without any effort at pitching.

The fork, as represented by the cut, is suspended from the roof directly over the load, by a tackle and fall, or by a single pulley and rope, the drawing end of which passes through a pulley on a level with the horse, to enable him to lay out his strength to advantage. The iron teeth are pressed into the hay, and the horse at a word, draws up some 400 to 600 pounds to the required height, when a light cord, attached to the fork and passing over another pulley suspended in the proper direction, in the hands of one of the operators swings it horizontally over the place to be deposited, and the sudden jerk of a strong twine, removes the ketch, and the forkful drops where required. A few forkfuls removes the entire load, when the men and team, refreshed by their few moments of rest, are off for another load.

For sale by

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.



"COME THIS WAY, FATHER."

During a short visit to the seashore of our State a few years since, with a party of friends, it was proposed, one bright afternoon, that we should make up a fishing party and go down to the harbor on a fishing excursion. We accordingly started, and after sailing about three miles, a young lady of the company declined going further, and requested us to land her on one of the small islands in the harbor, where she proposed to remain until our return. My little boy, then about four years old, preferred remaining with her. Accordingly, we left them, and proceeded six miles further. We continued out much longer than we intended, and, as night approached, a thick fog set in from the sea, entirely enshrouding us. Without a compass, and not knowing the right direction to steer, we groped our way along for several hours, until finally we distinguished the breaking of the surf on the rocks of one of the islands, but were at a loss to know which one of them. I stood upon the stern of the boat which I had been steering, and shouted with all my strength. I listened a moment, and heard through the thick fog, and above the breaking of the surf, the sweet voice of my boy, calling—

"Come this way, father!—steer for me—I'm here waiting for you!"

We steered by that sound, and soon my little boy leaped into my arms with joy, saying—

"I knew you would hear me, father!" and nestled to sleep on my bosom.

The child and maiden are both sleeping now. They died two short weeks after the period I now refer to, with hardly an interval of time between their deaths. Now tossed on the rough sea of life, without a compass or guide, enveloped in fog and surrounded by rocks, I seem to hear the sound of the cherub voice, calling from the bright shore—"Come this way, father—steer straight for me!"

When oppressed with sadness, I take my way to our quiet cemetery; still, as I stand by one little mound, the same musical voice echoes from thence, "Come this way, father—I'm waiting for thee!"—*Mothers' Magazine.*

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has fallen in the lower grades 25c. per bbl. the past week. Corn no change.

Cotton has advanced from ¾c. to 1c. per lb. Rice is 25c. to 50c. per 100 lbs. better. Tobacco, a small rise.

The Weather continues cool. A great quantity of rain fell on the 19th and 20th inst., which we understand was very general over the country. This copious flood has filled up our springs and insures us a good hay crop. The grass is springing up thick and strong now, and will continue to grow well till ready to cut. Planting still continues, and the crops are coming up well. Wheat, Rye, and all other crops are looking remarkably well, with few exceptions, where the drouth has been severe.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, May 22, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The Potato Market continues about the same as last week. There are 2,700 bbls. of Bermudas in Market, and about 1,300 more expected. These have fallen off consid-

erably, but there are not enough to effect the price of old potatoes materially. We may notice also 150 bbls. new Bermuda Onions, in excellent order; 60 bbls. also came in last week from New-Orleans. The market to-day is quite overstocked with green produce, and what is very remarkable in these times, some of it is cheap. 50c. per hundred bunches for radishes, make them hardly worth pulling and bringing to market.

Apples are the same. The butter brought into market is mostly new and rather slow of sale. Old butter brings from 16 to 17c.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas	do	5	—@5 50
New-Jersey Mercers	do	4	—@4 50
Western Mercers	do	4	—@4 25
White Mercers	do	3	62@3 87
Nova Scotia Mercers	do	1	30@1 35
New-Jersey Carters	do	—	@4 50
Washington County Carters	do	3	75@4 —
Junes	do	3	—@3 25
Western Reds	do	2	75@3 —
Yellow Pink Eyes	do	2	75@3 —
Long Reds	do	2	50@2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes	do	—	@ —
Philadelphia sweet	do	6	50@7 —
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do	1	75@2 —
White	do	—	@1 50
Onions—White	do	—	@ —
Bermuda Reds, new	do	5	50@6 00
Red, old	do	4	—@4 12
Yellow	do	4	25@4 50
Cabbage Sprouts	do	—	@1 —
Asparagus	do	10	—@14
Spinach	do	1	00@ —
Water Cresses	do	—	50@ —
Rhubarb	do	4	—@6 —
Radishes	do	—	25@ 50
Lettuce	do	10	—@14
Apples	do	4	—@4 50
Butter—new	do	22	@23c.
Western, old	do	16	@17c.
Cheese	do	11	@13c.
Eggs	do	—	@15c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY May 23, 1855.

There are 1764 cattle in market to-day, which is nearly 300 more than last week, which in these times is called a fair supply. Considering, however, the prices we have had of late, these are moderate figures, and prove that the scarcity of cattle is very great. Nearly half the cattle to-day came from Illinois, and some from Iowa and Texas; and here, if anywhere, we are to look for future supplies. The cost of bringing cattle this distance is from \$15 to \$20 per head.

In consequence of the increased supply to day, the prices are a little lower and the market more active. Beef has been in good demand the last week, and the delightful weather to-day makes the butchers "take hold," as the brokers express it. The cattle left over last week found a ready market on Friday, the clearing up day, and all, we think, will be wanted to-day. Many of the animals are young, but mostly of fair quality, and if there are none as good as last week, there are certainly none as bad.

The following are some of the lots offered: Ulery and Virgin had 168 good Illinois cattle, sold by White and Ulery, at an average of about 13c. per lb., and ranging from 12c. to 14c. These were 10 days in coming from La Porte, and at a cost of \$20 per head.

Geo. Ayrault was selling a mixed lot of cattle, 175 in all, owned by John Morris. Some of these were fed in Illinois, but came from Texas. 40 sold for \$78 per head, or about 12c., and 30 for \$100 each, or 14c.

D. L. Belden was selling 63 fair still-fed cattle, from Chittenango, N. Y., owned by Robt. Stewart. Mr. Stewart thinks they will average \$100 per head, or 13½c. per pound.

Wm. Belden was selling 74 good Ohio cattle, owned by S. M. Baker, at prices ranging from 13c. to 14c. Mr. B. had also 210 Iowa cattle in Market, part of which he has fed over the winter, and bought the rest recently. These were pretty fair cattle, and bringing 12½@13½c.

Barney Bartam was selling 103 fine Illinois cattle, owned by Thompson & Reid, at 13@14c. Five sold for \$118 each, and the lot would average about 800 lbs. in weight.

Samuel McGraw was selling 25 large fat cattle, owned by H. W. Alvord, of Syracuse, N. Y., and fed by Parker & Norton. They brought from 12½ to 14c., and would weigh about 1,000 lbs. each, and were doubtless equal to any in the yards.

Geo. Toffey had 71 rather light Ohio cattle, which brought from 12½ to 13c. Six sold to Mr. D. Conkling for \$670.

Jos. Williams was selling 71 fair Illinois cattle at an average of 12½c.; owned by Mr. Harris.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices: Extra quality 13½@14c.

Good retailing quality	12@12½c.
Inferior do.	11@12c.
Cows and Calves	\$25@56.
Veals	4c.@6½c.
Swine, alive	5½c.@6c.
" dead	7½@8c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.		IN MARKET TO-DAY.	
Beeves	1955		1764
Cows	21		—
Veals	988		—
Sheep and lambs	642		—
Swine	933		—

Of these there came by the Eric Railroad—beevcs.	124
Sheep	169
Swine	484
By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves	30
Cows	21
Veals	988
Sheep and Lambs	473
By the Hudson River Railroad	900
Swine	327
By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves	485
Swine	122
New-York State furnished—beevcs.	162
Ohio	223
Indiana	173
Illinois	715
Iowa	278
Kentucky	72
Connecticut	14

The Sheep Market continues excellent, with a short supply on hand. At Chamberlain's there are none worth mentioning, and very few at Browning's.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

27 Sheep	\$149 75
49 Sheep	160 00
12 Sheep	144 00
13 Sheep	130 00
152 do.	914 61
120 do.	771 00
15 Lambs	65 25
4 do.	18 50
31 do.	153 00
51 do.	233 75
474	Average.....\$5 78.
	\$2,739 86

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes—	
Pot, 1st sort, 1855	100 lb. — @ 5 87
Pearl, 1st sort, 1855	6 18@ —
Bristles—	
American, Gray and White	— 45 @—50
Beeswax—	
American Yellow	— 26@—27½
Cotton—	
Ordinary	Upland. 9½ Florida. 9½ Mobile. 9½ N. O. & Texas. 9½
Middling	10½ 10½ 10½ 10½
Middling Fair	11½ 11½ 12 12
Fair	11½ 11½ 12½ 13
Flour and Meal—	
State, common brands	10 — @10 12
State, straight brands	10 13 @—
State, favorite brands	10 25 @—
Western, mixed do.	10 12½ @—
Michigan and Indiana, straight do.	10 25 @10 37
Michigan, fancy brands	10 75 @—
Ohio, common to good brands	— @10 37
Ohio, fancy brands	— @10 50
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.	— @10 75
Genesee, fancy brands	10 50 @—
Genesee, extra brands	10 75 @13 —
Canada, extra	10 37 @—
Brandywine	11 43 @—
Georgetown	11 43 @11 50
Petersburg City	11 43 @—
Richmond Country	— @11 37
Alexandria	— @11 37
Baltimore, Howard-Street	— @11 37
Rye Flour	7 75 @—
Corn Meal, Jersey	5 18 @—
Corn Meal, Brandywine	5 37 @—
Corn Meal, Brandywine	— @21 50
Grain—	
Wheat, White Genesee	— @ 2 75
Wheat, do. Canada, (in bond)	— @ 2 50
Wheat, Southern, White	2 50 @ 2 70
Wheat, Ohio, White	2 50 @ —
Wheat, Michigan, White	2 62 @ 2 65
Rye, Northern	1 64 @ —
Corn, Round Yellow	— @ 1 15
Corn, Round White	— @ 1 14
Corn, Southern White	— @ 1 15
Corn, Southern Yellow	— @ 1 15
Corn, Southern Mixed	— @ —
Corn, Western Mixed	— @ 1 14
Corn, Western Yellow	— @ —
Barley	1 15 @ —
Oats, River and Canal	70 @ —
Oats, New-Jersey	65 @ —
Oats, Western	75 @ —
Peas, Black-Eyed	2 37 @ —

Molasses—			
New-Orleans	gall.	27	@— 33
Porto Rico		27	@— 32
Cuba Muscovado		22	@— 26
Trinidad Cuba		23	@— 26
Cardenas, &c.			@— 24
Oil Cake—			
Thin Oblong, City	gall.		@42—
Thick, Round, Country			@—
Rice—			
Ordinary to fair	gall.	5 75	@ 5 87
Good to prime		5 87 1/2	@ 6 50
Salt—			
Turk's Island	bush.		@— 50
St. Martin's			@—
Liverpool, Ground	sack.	95	@—
Liverpool, Fine		1 30	@ 1 40
Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's		1 50	@—
Sugar—			
St. Croix	lb.		@—
New-Orleans		5	@— 6 1/2
Cuba Muscovado		5	@— 6 1/2
Porto Rico		5	@— 6
Havana, White		7	@— 7 1/2
Havana, Brown and Yellow		7	@— 7
Tallow—			
American, Prime	lb.	11 1/2	@—
Tobacco—			
Virginia	lb.		@— 6 1/2
Kentucky		7	@— 13
Maryland			@—
St. Domingo		12	@— 15
Cuba		12	@— 20
Yara		35	@— 43
Havana, Fillers and Wrappers		20	@ 1—
Florida Wrappers		15	@— 60
Connecticut, Seed Leaf		6	@— 18
Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf			@— 12

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

By JAMES M. MILLER & Co.

THIRD GRAND ANNUAL SALE OF SHORT HORNS, DURHAM AND CROSSES FROM THEM, with the best approved AMSTERDAM, DUTCH and Pure bred AYRSHIRES.

THURSDAY, June 14, 1855, at 12 o'clock, on the farm of JAMES BATHGATE, Esq., one mile from Fordham, and 14 miles from the City Hall, New-York city, by Harlem Railroad cars, running hourly.

Being desirous of making my pledge good to the cattle owners to have an annual sale, and having the use again of Mr. Bathgate's capacious premises, I shall sell as above stated.

None but cattle of the well-known breeds or established character, will be received; and every animal offered must be sold without reserve.

The sale will come off rain or shine. Every facility will be offered by the Hudson River, Harlem and New-Haven Railroads to those who choose to take stock to the sale.

For further particulars and catalogues, apply to the Auctioneer, 81 Maiden-lane, New-York. 89-92n1199

KNOWLSON'S FARRIER OR HORSE-DOCTOR.

The greatest book for the treatment of diseased horses ever printed—containing also valuable hints for choosing a good horse, and directions for training horses. By J. C. KNOWLSON, F. Q. R. Price 25 cents.

This is a plainly written treatise on horses and horse diseases, by one of the most eminent English farriers ever known. Mr. Knowlson, the author, was none of your theoretical geniuses called gentlemen farriers. He was a plain, honest, hard-working man who doctored the horses with his own hands and his own preparations. He treated more than a hundred thousand horses in his life time, having practised fifty odd years; and he made a record of each case, so as to judge of other similar cases. This is the way he gained his popularity. He died a few years ago, leaving a property equal to \$50,000 in Yankee money; yet he was a hard-working man to the end of his life. This is the only Horse-Doctor book that can be relied on.

AGENTS WANTED in all parts of the United States and Canada, to sell this and other valuable works. Sample Maps, Books, Charts and Prints sent by mail (post-paid) upon receipt of price. Address A. RANNEY, Publisher, No. 195 Broadway, New-York.

N. B. Editors copying the above shall receive a copy of the work (post-paid.) 89-92n1183

SHEPHERD DOGS.—The subscriber has for sale a few young SHEPHERD DOGS, bred from the well-known dog "SWEEP," at prices varying from \$10 to \$25, according to age and training. H. A. LAMPHIERE, Weedsport, Cayuga Co., N. Y. 68. 89n1196

NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PREMIUMS ON FARMS. Premiums are offered for 1855, of \$50, \$30, and \$20, on farms of not less than 50 acres, exclusive of wood and water land, regard being had to the quantity and quality of produce, the manner and expense of cultivation and the actual products.

Questions to be answered by the applicants will be furnished by the Secretary, on application.

Notice must be given to the Secretary on or before the FIRST OF JULY, by persons intending to compete, so that some member or members of the Executive Committee may visit and examine the farms entered for competition, and report on the same.

Agricultural Rooms, Albany, May 16, 1855. B. P. JOHNSON, Secretary. 78-130

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE

HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS AND SEPARATORS. Single Horse Power \$85 00 Double do. do. 116 00 Do. do. do. with Thresher and Separator, 160 00 Single do. do. do. 128 00 Belts \$5 and \$10 each. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO

can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the IMPROVED POUDETTE made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY. Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUDETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, BENJAMIN DANA.

70-12n1152

SHORT HORN BULLS.—I have for sale

three young, thoroughbred SHORT HORN BULLS; ages—four, three, seven months, eighteen months; colors—roan, red, chiefly red; the get of SLENDOR, a son of Vane Tempest and imported Wolviston.

JOHN R. PAGE, Sennett, Cayuga Co. N. Y.

BLACK HAWK HORSE RAVEN.—

This Horse will stand at the farm of the subscriber, in NORFOLK, Conn., called the Robbins Farm, the coming season, at ten and fifteen dollars. The oldest colts of this Horse are three years old. The stock is of extraordinary promise.

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IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out

of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$30 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86-tfn1193

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CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS FOR SALE.

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Also, constantly on hand thoroughbred ESSEX PIGS, descended from the best imported stock. For full particulars as to price, age, pedigree, &c., address April, 1855. C. S. WAINWRIGHT, Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y. 87-34n1195

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Red and White Clover Lucerne, Sainfoin, Alyssum Clover, Sweet-scented Clover, Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

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best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties.

Oats, of several choice kinds. Corn, of great variety. Spring and Winter Vetches. PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for

Seed.

BARLEY—California and Two-rowed va-

riety.

TURNIP AND RUTA BAGA, of every

choice kind.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Or-

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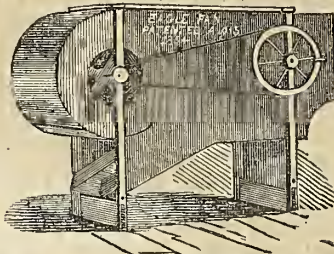
FRUIT TREES.—Choice varieties, inclu-

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ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUB-

BERY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

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THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists First—in cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

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- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
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- ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do.
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GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

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PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power--a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

FAN MILLS--Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS--A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

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SOUTHERN PLOWS--Nos. 10½, 11½, 12½, 14, 15, 18, 18½, 19, 19½, 20, A 1, A 2, Nos. 50, 60, and all other sizes.

PLOWS--A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Soil, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulters, Self-Sharpener, &c.

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HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

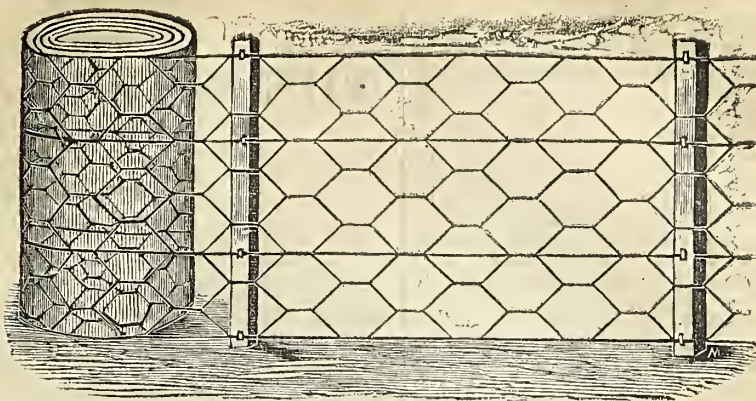
VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

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Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins, Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear, Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth, Hay and Manure Forks, Belding for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.



IMPROVED WIRE FENCE.

THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens, Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens.

It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years. Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the sunbeam, while it does not confine heat, and is withal ornamental.

This superior FENCE can be supplied at the following prices:

A--16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, 2 longitudinal wires,	\$0 95 per rod.
B--45 " " 6-inch " 2 " "	1 25 "
C--45 " " 6-inch " 4 " "	1 50 "
D--33 " " 3-inch " 2 " "	1 63 "
E--33 " " 3-inch " 4 " "	1 75 "
F--45 " " 3-inch " 2 " "	2 00 "
G--45 " " 3-inch " 4 " "	2 25 "

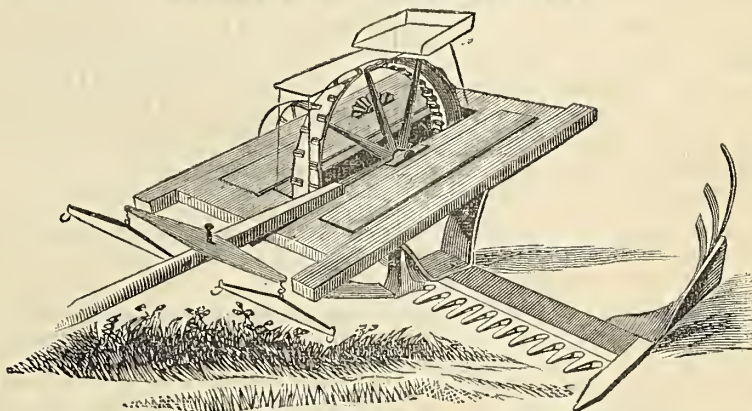
Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot.

The rod measures 16½ feet. Each coil contains about 25 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

- 1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.
- 2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.
- 3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line, and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.
- 4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.
- 5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.
- 6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
- 7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 26th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle--consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals. Nearly the whole of them are IMPORTED, and their direct descendants.

Also, about seventy-five (75) SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few SUFFOLK HOGS, bred from the importation of J. C. Jackson, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

TERMS OF SALE.

For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.

J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y.

March 20th, 1855.

81--32n1185

FARMERS ATTENTION.--Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied.

The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention.

WHY NOT TRY IT?

Cuttings can be had in any quantity upon early application to the subscriber, and instructions for planting &c.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. Hitherto the labor of peeling willows by hand has been the great objection to their cultivation, but now a machine has been perfected, capable of doing the work of twenty men, and doing it well.

79--11

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.--L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Pordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm.

April 24, 1855.

86--tin1191

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New-York. 86--6m

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THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

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A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 90.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

FOREIGN MANURES—LIME.

(Continued from page 33.)

IN our former article we stated that of the substances commonly termed "foreign manures," or those obtained from sources foreign to the farm, there were only two of which the general utility for most kinds of crops and soils has been established. These were stated to be *unburned* bones ground or dissolved, and genuine Peruvian guano. The others were classed, (2), those applicable to special soils or crops; (3), those worthy of trial, and (4) those depending upon the honesty of the manufacturers for their general or special value. Among those of the second class, we place first,

Lime.—This has been used more or less as a manure in almost all ages and in all countries. By some it has been esteemed as one of the most valuable of all fertilizers, while by others it has been considered as valueless or even injurious when applied to the soil. The cause of this difference of opinion is explained by the consideration that lime does not, like the animal or vegetable manures, furnish direct food to plants, but is, so to speak, a kind of instrument or machine for reducing *other* substances to the condition requisite for nourishing plants. To illustrate, suppose we have a plant growing upon a soil which contains a sufficiency of food, but that food exists in such a state that it can not be used. The plant requires ammonia, carbonic acid, &c., but these elements are locked up in undecayed roots, straw, vegetable fiber, muck, &c. Could we take out this vegetable matter from the soil and subject it to grinding, heat and fermentation, and return it to the soil again, it would then be ready to enter into the composition of the plant. But this is impracticable, and we accomplish the same end by placing lime in contact with the vegetable matter in the soil, and it there acts the part

of a grinding or decomposing machine. If we place lime upon the land, we know it will soon corrode or destroy the flesh. It produces a like effect upon all organic substances, vegetable as well as animal. We do not stop to discuss whether lime enters directly into the plant as food to supply a necessary constituent element. This is a question we consider as yet unsettled; and, further, we believe there are few soils which do not contain lime enough to supply any such certain or hypothetical want. It is sufficient to consider, when and to what degree lime may be used as an agency in preparing other food.

Negatively, lime is of no avail to soils which do not contain any animal or vegetable matter; it has nothing to exert its decomposing force upon, and is therefore useless. It is of no advantage to soils which, by reason of their warmth and dryness, &c., furnish the necessary conditions for a rapid decomposition of organic matter.

Positively, lime is beneficial to soils containing peat, which is vegetable remains covered with a kind of pitchy matter that shuts out air and arrests further decomposition. Here it acts as a solvent to this covering, and thus admits oxygen, so that decomposition goes on and elementary food is afforded to the growing plants. By its presence, as an alkali, it induces the production of vegetable acids, to form which, decomposition takes place, and other elements are set at liberty. For the same reason it is beneficial to any soil from which, by reason of its compactness or wetness, air is shut out. The lime takes the place of the oxygen of the air as a decomposing agent. Experience as well as theoretical considerations, show lime to be more directly and more powerfully effective upon clay or wet soils than upon those of an opposite character. We have seen lime used on two adjoining farms, upon one with the happiest results and upon the other with no effect, except a speedy deterioration; and we found of the two immediate neighbors, the one a strong advocate of lime applications, and the other as strongly condemning its use. An examination of the farms showed that the latter was situated upon higher ground, was dry, loose, and sandy, while the former was low, wet, heavy and clayey, or a clay loam. Upon one the lime, by reason of the greater warmth and the little retentive power of the open soil, soon decomposed and sent into the air all, or nearly all, its organic matter. Upon the other the lime, being unaided by warmth and

air, was slower in its operation, and the soil, by reason of its density and compactness, retained for future use the elements of the decomposed matter.

Considering lime only as a *decomposing agent*, we can deduce simple rules for the amount to be applied, as well as the kind of soil that will be benefitted by its use. While it is only to be applied to such soils as need its decomposing agency, the amount applied should be regulated by the *degree* of such necessity. Upon a dry, open soil, poor in vegetable matter, a very small quantity, not to exceed three or four bushels per acre annually, may be used with comparative safety, and often with benefit. If more than this is used, there is danger of *wasting* the organic materials. Upon a wet, clay soil, the quantity may be increased to twenty or thirty bushels per acre annually, and upon very wet, cold lands, the amount may be still greater.

Fresh-burned lime applied and mingled with the soil immediately after it is slacked, is far more efficient than that which has lain long after burning. Lime that has been exposed to the air for a length of time returns to a condition similar to that of finely-ground limestone.

On account of its decomposing effect lime should never be applied *at the same time* with fermenting farm-yard manures. Let it be mingled with the soil a few days or weeks after, or, what is much better, *before* the manure is applied. It may be sown broadcast, and harrowed or cultivated into the surface previous to the last plowing. The aim should be to have it mingled as thoroughly as possible with the soil.

As a special fertilizer for particular crops, several are reckoned as lime plants. We consider, however, the above considerations as to the condition of the soil as of greater importance, believing that, in the instances where its use is indicated as a decomposing agent, it will benefit all crops.

MODEL SHEEP.—Mr. Samuel Thorne, of Thorndale, Dutchess County, has presented as with two beautiful statuettes, in plaster, of his celebrated Southdown buck, and a ewe sent to him by Mr. Jonas Webb, of England, as a perfect specimen of the breed. Upon the whole, we think these the most perfect and life-like casts of sheep that have come under our observation. They would be an ornament to any country gentleman's parlor, and ought to grace the rooms of every agricultural society in the Union, as models to

guide the eye of all who wish to attain a high standard in breeding their flocks.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.
LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE—No. IV.

From Columbus I went to Bloomfield, by stage, over a fine turnpike. I was along this route seventeen years ago, before the present road was built. Most of the land in this region is level; soil a rich, dark loam, entirely free from surface rock; the subsoil and the occasional knolls are gravelly. No one who has not tried it knows the almost impassable state of a dirt road, laid out but not worked, on such land, during one half of the year. Of course I was agreeably disappointed to find a fine, well-made road, over which the coach was rolled at the rate of six miles an hour. When here before we made about *two miles* an hour, with a good pair of horses and a light wagon; yet the turnpike, with the exception of one bridge and three new farm houses, was the only improvement which I saw in seventeen years. The owners, or occupants, I don't know which, are living in the same double log houses, many of which were well remembered, and look like old friends. I don't think they are any older or worse for wear.

At Bloomfield I found a saddle horse waiting to convey me to Harniss Renick's, who lives on the Darby Bottom, one mile from Darbyville. Mr. Renick has a handsome house built on the bluff, between which and the creek, a mile or so off, stretches some of the finest bottoms I saw in Ohio. These bottoms are without doubt made land from the wash of the higher ground along the stream, and the frequent overflows of winter and spring. Their surface is level as a floor, and their fertility inexhaustible. Mr. R. pointed out a field which had been planted with corn for forty-five years, and as yet shows no falling off in its products. Did not inquire as to Mr. Renick's practice in planting, but I believe the following to be the *mode* on bottom land: With a one horse shovel plow split the old hills, and plant, without further preparation, four feet apart each way, allowing four stalks to the hill. All the cultivation received is with the same shovel plow, going through two or three times. As the southern corn has rarely more than one ear to the stalk, the yield is hardly such as one would expect from the rank growth—sixty bushels of shelled corn is probably over the average on the best bottoms. With the fertilizing matter brought on by a freshet, also comes foul seeds of all kinds. I have often seen fields that couldn't be husked until a horse with a big branch of a tree had passed between each row. I have seen the huskers return from work with their clothes so completely covered with Spanish needles that a place for another one was scarcely to be found.

But a small portion of the corn is husked—stalks and all being given to the cattle, in what is termed a feed-lot. Hogs follow and pick up what the cattle waste or leave. Mr. R.'s father, George Renick, now very aged, was the first to try the experiment of driving a lot of fat cattle to the distant eastern

markets. Fifty years ago, this was a long journey, but the Railroads are saving much time, besides a great amount in the flesh of the beeves. Geo. Renick, Sen., went twice to England to select cattle for companies in this part of Ohio. I saw many of their descendants of his importations on the farm of Harniss Renick. The most of his breeding stock were quite thin in flesh, although there were several cows which were fine-looking specimens of the Short Horn breed. One or two of his heifers were very fat; yet Mr. R. assured me they had been living on *browse* most of the winter. From their appearance I should say that their fattening tendency surpassed their procreative, and that they would prove barren.

Mr. Renick considers himself fortunate in owning the bull Thornbury, bred by Mr. Richard Booth, and imported last season. I saw a number of his calves, which did credit to the reputation of the Booth blood. As Thornbury was the first bull of this blood I ever saw, I examined him closely. His head is somewhat strong, wide between the eyes and horns, the latter large, but not so much so as the most of Bates's bulls. The neck is large and masculine, bending finely to the shoulder and brisket, which is good; wide along the chine, and particularly good over the loin, with well developed hips and rump; of great substance, with good hide and hair—but in much lower condition than many of the imported animals which I have seen; still fat enough for work. He is white, yet his get are in color, yellow roan; that is, the colored hairs are yellow and much lighter in shade than most roans, many of which have hair darker than a full red, which gives a bluish tinge to their color. I know of but one or two yellow roans in this State; they are fine animals.

I find there is, in New-York, much misapprehension as to Ohio Short Horns, and also the same in Ohio as to our cattle. They suppose that their cattle are much larger, and with a greater tendency to fatten. Now, save one or two herds in this State, I think New-York cattle will average as large as the Ohio breed. Breeders there, as well as here, are continually making draughts from the fountain head, the best herds of England. There, beef is the main object; with us, more milk is required. Besides, the Ohio breeders, as a whole, are lavish feeders, either with corn or in the number of acres of pasture which is allowed to an animal.

Much damage has been done to the reputation of Ohio Short Horns by speculators, who buy up droves of what is there termed *full bloods*, (grades and crosses of all kinds,) bring to this State, and by the time they have got here, they are all *thoroughbred*. Genuine Short Horns are much the same the world over, and more generally in repute in southern Ohio than in New-York. Any one at all conversant with their selling prices will readily see, that thoroughbreds can not be purchased there, driven or carried five hundred miles, and sold profitably for \$35 to \$100 a head.

He who murmurs at his lot, is like one baring his feet to tread upon thorns.

For the American Agriculturist.

DOES SORREL PROVE AN ACID SOIL?

We do not propose here to inquire whether lime or ashes will kill sorrel, for our experiments have been too limited to justify a hasty conclusion, but to express our conviction that the peculiarities of plants are, in a great measure, independent of the constitution of the soil. Every species of vegetable growth possesses peculiarities differing from every other species; leaves and flowers and fruit are unlike, color and fragrance and taste are dissimilar, notwithstanding the same soil, sun and atmosphere contributed to their production. And plants develop their peculiarities under almost every diversity of circumstances. The rhubarb plant grows its acid stocks in limestone regions, in no less perfection than in soil almost wholly deprived of that calcareous ingredient. Sour and sweet apples will mature in the same field, and even upon the *same roots*, showing conclusively that the soil has nothing to do with the acid properties of the one, nor the saccharine qualities of the other. Potatoes and lemons will grow from the same soil; the former composed largely of potash, and the latter to citric acid in abundance. Sorrel will wind its acid stems around the stock of corn, from which sugar can be extracted, or twine its slender roots with those of the potato plant, deriving its acid from the same elements that give to the former its sugar, or the latter its potash. Lime and ash an orchard as you will, and trees that produced sour apples before will produce them still. Should any inquire where the sorrel derives its acid, we answer, for the present, from the same source that the old nonesuch apple or the scarlet rose derives its color. The alder and the snowberry will grow upon the same soil, the scarlet fruit of the one contrasting with the snowey whiteness of the other; the snow peach and the red rareripe may be budded and fruited upon the same bough; every variety of rose may be budded upon the same stock, and the growth of each bud produce its own peculiarity of color and fragrance; every variety of apple may be grafted upon the same tree, and each graft produce its own peculiarity of leaf and flower, of color and flavor of fruit. The blood-root displays a snow-white blossom upon a low stem, proceeding directly from a root whose sap is as red as that fluid from which it derives its name.

We trust further illustration is unnecessary to show that the distinguishing characteristics of plants are independent of the soil on which they grow. The sugar maple and the cane, do not find their saccharine properties ready formed in the soil; neither do the sorrel and the pie-plant derive from the earth their acids. They possess, inherent in their constitutions, a chemical laboratory for their production. And, what may seem surprising is, the sugar of the former and the acid of the latter are composed of precisely the same ingredients. Thus, sugar is composed of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen; oxalic acid is composed of the same, the relative *proportion* of the ingredients only being changed; the varying proportions being de-

terminad by a power inherent in vegetable nature. What to some may seem no less strange is, woody fiber is also composed of the above mentioned elements, nothing more nor less, differing from sugar and oxalic acid only in the proportion in which the three ingredients are combined.* No one supposes plants derive their woody fiber from the soil ready formed; equally absurd is it to suppose that sorrel can only flourish in fields abounding in acids. When some agricultural chemist first suggested that acid plants could only grow upon an acid soil, and deduced therefrom the supposed fact that, consequently, alkalies would destroy sorrel, the press almost everywhere [not everywhere.—Ed.] gave utterance to the opinion, and thousands considered the idea plausible and supposed the deduction sound. There are many plausible ideas and opinions in the world that are not correct, and many deductions that seem logical that are not legitimate. He who receives every plausible idea as truth, without due investigation, has no security against error. Much of disrepute that has been brought upon scientific agriculture has its origin in disappointment, arising from the practice of teachings derived from false deductions based upon plausible theory. In the case under consideration, though the idea that lime and ashes destroy sorrel, by neutralizing the superabundant acid in the soil, is doubtless incorrect, yet there is, probably, no harm done to practical agriculture, for the above mentioned substances are in nearly every instance desirable manures. The writer once applied old mortar and soot to fruit trees, where sorrel was abundant, with decided benefit to the trees, but the sorrel only grew the more luxuriantly; hence, though one desired object was not obtained, yet no harm was done.

In conclusion, we would briefly indicate the source from which plants derive their elements of growth. The only constituents of vegetable production, are carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, and a few metallic salts. Water is composed of oxygen and hydrogen; air is composed of oxygen and nitrogen, and carbonic acid, though not a part of it, always exists in the atmosphere. Hence, except the minute proportion of metallic salts, air and water contain all the elements of vegetable growth and nutrition. Many eminent chemists, the distinguished Liebig among them, have claimed that the earth contributed comparatively nothing to vegetable production; that air and water were the great store-houses from which the renovation of nature was accomplished.

This opinion is probably not wholly true. The carbonic acid of the atmosphere, furnishes to plants the greater portion of their carbon, yet no inconsiderable portion is generated by the decomposition of vegetable matter in the soil; being absorbed by water, it is carried, through the roots of plants, to the leaves, there decomposed, the carbon retained and the oxygen liberated. Vegetation derives its oxygen and hydrogen principally from water, which it possesses the power of decomposing; in fact, these elements exist

*Sugar can even be made from chips by the addition of sulphuric acid.

in plants in precisely the same proportion that they are found in water. Hydrogen may also be derived from ammonia, which exists in the atmosphere and in all fermenting manures, and both oxygen and hydrogen from vegetable mold. Nitrogen is derived from ammonia, which exists as above mentioned.

The metallic salts are all derived from the earth, with water, absorbed through the roots and introduced into the circulation. Out of these simple elements, vegetables manufacture all their peculiar principles; their wood, leaves, flowers, and fruit.

From the above, in the process of vegetable growth, it will be seen how little is derived from the earth proper; decomposing vegetable matter in the earth, furnishes its quota. Hence will be seen the importance of manures, which are valuable only as they furnish compounds from which may be extracted the elements above mentioned.

Perry, Lake Co., Ohio.

O. C. GIBBS, M. D.

GREEN-CORN FODDER—AGAIN.

Last week our leading article was upon the value of soiling cattle upon green corn during the drier summer months. Our views are supported and confirmed by the experience of hundreds. From a number of articles before us we select the following, which we find over the signature of "A Practical Farmer," in the last number of the Germantown Telegraph:

In 1853, I broke up, early in the autumn, a piece of good grass land, which, at the time of plowing, was burdened with a heavy aftermath. About two tuns of hay had been cut on it, principally white clover and herdsgrass. In the spring, the land was rolled and thoroughly harrowed, and about four bushels of plaster and two bushels of unleached wood ashes sown; the corn planter was then introduced, and the common horse-tooth corn planted in drills eighteen inches apart in the rows, and the hills about six inches, one kernel being dropped in a place. The plants came up well and were cut quite early as a feed for cows, which were kept up with the exception of an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon, when they were permitted to walk in the yard for exercise and the benefit of the open air. They required but very little water, produced an abundance of rich, yellow milk, and were far more active than when permitted to range in the pastures. They were thus fed until the frost came, when their diet was changed to turnips, rasped and mixed with chafed corn stalks, corn and cob meal, slightly seasoned with salt, and moistened with tepid water. This feed was continued till spring, varying occasionally by a feed of rasped carrots or pumpkins, and now and then a feed of underground grain.

At first the change of regimen produced a slight diminution of milk, but this was of but temporary continuance, and after the first week, the flow was as copious as it had been when the animals were fed on green fodder.

The time required to cut and feed the corn to the animals was but slight, and was performed before meals, in the morning, at noon, and night. One boy 16 years of age, and another of 10, performed the work, and also attended to the other details of barn management. The manure produced by five cows tended in this way, was equal to the amount ordinarily produced by twice the number pastured. All the litter supplied, which was

of straw and woods' leaves, was, by the action of the urine, converted into excellent manure, but it was kept distinct from the solid excrement, and thrown into a pile in the manure shed, where it was sprinkled daily with gypsum, and suffered to decompose by itself. In this way, several cords were made. The solid voidings were wet daily with dilute sulphuric acid, and covered with fine loam and gypsum. A little charcoal dust was added daily, and the whole protected from the action of the sun and air by an efficient covering.

I have made many experiments in agriculture, but none that resulted more satisfactorily than this. There appears to me to be but one serious obstacle in the way of the general and universal adoption of the soiling system in this country, and that is the high price of labor. In Europe where the case is the reverse, the soiling of cattle is pursued on the score of economy, not only as regards the expense of feeding, or the materials used in feeding, but in the time required to supply the food.

Buckwheat, and various other kinds of grain are frequently sowed for soiling purposes, but we think that, taking into consideration the amount of yield, and the superior nutritiousness of the corn plant, it possesses a value superior to any other product for soiling purposes. Grass has been recommended and used with great success by many; but unless the land is very rich, the extent of surface, and the labor of cutting, carrying and feeding will be great. Green fodder, of all descriptions, is of great weight in proportion to its bulk; it should therefore be produced, when practicable, in the immediate vicinity of the barn where it is to be used, and no more should be cut at once than is required to suffice the immediate wants of the animals to be supplied. Clover is another article highly recommended for this purpose; but clover, although highly nutritive and salutary in its effects, lasts but a brief time, and when ripe, loses its value as a soiling article. It may do good service when used as a change; but to rely solely on it as the main material or resource of an entire season, would be preposterous in the extreme.

CULTIVATE WELL.

In the present and prospective season of scarcity, it is the duty of every cultivator—a duty which he owes alike to his country and his fellow man—to produce as large a surplus of grain and provisions as possible. In doing this his own interest will also be subserved. But we are not of those who believe the desired result will be best attained by planting largely, without abundant time and means to prepare the ground properly and fertilize and cultivate sufficiently to insure profitable returns in autumn. Neither do we consider it the duty or interest of farmers to raise large crops one year at the expense of succeeding ones: in other words, they should not impoverish the soil, or change an advantageous course of rotation, for temporary gain.

Nor is it wise to attempt to grow the more profitable crops on unsuitable, barren or unproductive soils. Because wheat, for instance, is now selling at a remarkably high figure, that is no reason why people should attempt to grow it on soils, or in sections, which experience has time and again demonstrated can not produce it profitably, even with all the accessories of improved culture and science. Hence, the course of those who wrongly and blindly, if not wilfully, advise what is certainly unprofitable, if not impossible, can not be too strongly deprecated. For example, a late number of the N. Y. Tribune—the largest circulated and

perhaps most influential newspaper in this country—boldly asserts that “there is not an old daisy field in all Connecticut that may not be made to produce wheat with more profit than usually arises upon the arable product of the West.” This manifesto is accompanied by the application to farmers of such expletives as “arrant nonsense,” “poor, pitiful brain,” and “stupid ignorance”—all which, we greatly fear, properly belong to the impudent perpetrator of such unreliable assertions as the one quoted.—*Rural New-Yorker*.

CULTURE OF CARROTS.

I was much interested and I doubt not instructed, with your article last week, headed, “Seed Time and its Labors”—more particularly that portion of it referring to carrots, as I have been attempting the culture of them for two or three years recently. And without claiming anything like proficiency in my own knowledge of their cultivation, and being perfectly aware that in this, as well as all other branches of agriculture, we are in comparative ignorance—allow me to take exceptions to one or two of your suggestions in the article above mentioned.

And first, as to the time of sowing. You say they “should be sown as early in May as the season will allow.” My own limited experience teaches me, that in ordinary seasons, the first week in June for our vicinity is preferable, for the reason that if put in before the earth is fully warmed, the seeds are so long in germinating, that the weeds are very apt to get the start of the plants and completely choke them, more especially if the season happens to be at all wet.

I plow in a heavy coat of manure as early in the spring as possible, to the depth of 14 inches, using your directions as to raking the manure in the furrows, and completely covering the manure. I let the land lie in this state until 25th of May, when the manure will have become quite rotten—then cross plow same depth, and harrow thoroughly with a harrow specially prepared for this business, teeth being of wood and 15 inches long, and thus pulverizing the soil its whole depth—then take a common 28 tooth square harrow, and thoroughly pulverize the surface—then take my roller and pass once over the land—this is to crush the small lumps of earth, which, in soils at all inclined to clay, are greatly in the way, especially in sowing the seed—then again after rolling, give a light harrowing to loosen the surface of the soil. Don't be afraid of working the soil too much and getting all the small lumps to pieces, as it is, I conceive, of much more importance in root crops than with grain.

When prepared in this manner, I take a cord and draw across the lot to be sown on one side, which gives a straight line for the first row. Then take a marker made so as to make the marks 14 inches apart, which I think is about right for soil made sufficiently rich, and no other should be ever put to roots. Let the outside tooth of the marker run by the line, and thus you have a straight row to commence with. Next time across, let one outside tooth of the marker run in the last row, and so on. If your rows get crooked, draw your line across the field again, which will soon straighten matters. When a few rows are thus marked, take your machine, (and every one who raises roots in any quantity will need one,) and follow the marks—allowing the marker to be only a few rows ahead, so the rows can be readily distinguished.

I consider the great secret of success in raising carrots successfully, is in weeding them the first time, in season. A day or two delay, at this period, will certainly be the means of losing the entire crop, especially if

the season be wet. I have seldom known a man but failed in this respect, on his first trial. I sowed carrots two years before I harvested any. In 1852, I harvested 550 bushels—in 1853, 1,200 bushels—the last season at the rate of 800 bushels per acre—by actual measurement.

As you remark, I consider the raising of roots, and feeding them on the farm, one of the most successful means of raising our land in our power. If 15 to 20 tons of good feed can be raised from an acre, which for all feeding qualities, is as good as that amount of hay, (is it not?) why ought not this to satisfy any intelligent farmer of the practicability of the thing? W. M. J. PETTEE.
LAKEVILLE, Conn., [*Country Gentlemen*].

EXPERIMENTS WITH CARROTS AND TURNIPS IN SHEEP FEEDING.

The J. B. R. correspondent of the *German-town Telegraph* details interesting experiments made to test the relative value of carrots, turnips and beets for sheep. The beets were discontinued, because the animals refused to eat them, except upon the compulsion of the sharpest hunger. His method with carrots and ruta-baga turnips he describes as follows:

Three sheep were confined in a yard, in which there was a close shed for feeding, with plenty of water supplied from a cistern. Three more were placed in a similar inclosure, the fixtures of which were in every respect precisely the same, and that there might be no discrepancy whatever in the management of the two parcels, even their water was supplied from the same source. All the animals were of the same age, and nearly of the same weight. In the morning chopped ruta-baga was given to the sheep in one pen, and chopped carrots to those in the other. This feed was regularly repeated at noon, and again at sundown; the quantity allowed each animal being one peck (by weight) of each. Salt and common house ashes were kept constantly in both apartments, mixed in the proportions of one of the former to three of the latter. Good, clean leaves from the woods were scattered daily over the shed bottoms, and a few handfull of fine clover hay kept by them to supply the cud.

The experiment commenced on the 12th of November, and was brought to a final close on the 12th of the ensuing March. Both sets did remarkably well, as indeed might be expected from the careful and systematic manner in which they were tended and fed; but those kept on carrots, gained each eight and three-fourths pounds more than those fed on ruta-bagas. In April the six sheep produced six lambs—fine, healthy ones, which have grown to maturity, and are by far the most valuable animals to be found in the flocks to which they belong.

A NEW OIL.—The small tree (*Castigliona lobata*) known in Peru under the name of “Pioncello,” and Surco, Huacho, and Samba-gue, also growing wild in considerable abundance in those regions, it has been ascertained, yields a valuable oil, well adapted to the purposes of illumination. Its bean-like fruit, or seeds, when roasted, have an agreeable flavor, preferable to that of the olive. When eaten raw, the ethereal oil generated between the kernel and the outer skin is a strong cathartic, the effects of which can only be counteracted by drinking cold water. It has been ascertained that the seeds will grow in Baltimore; and, doubtless, plantations of this tree might be formed in many parts of the South, from

which vast quantities of oil might be produced, and thus add another link to the great chain of our national wealth. The Patent Office has taken measures to procure some of the seeds of this tree for trial in the South and southwest.—*Scientific American*.

MILLET AND ITS CULTURE.

From one season's experience, I think that millet is peculiarly adapted to light, warm soils, but will grow on almost any soil which is not too wet; that the soil should be plowed deep and well pulverized; that the time to sow the seed, if intended for hay, is any time during the month of June—if intended to ripen, the last week in May; that the quantity of seed if intended for hay, should vary from 16 to 20 quarts—very rich soils requiring most seed to prevent the stalks from growing too rank—but, if intended to ripen, 8 to 10 quarts per acre will be quite sufficient; that the proper time to harvest if for hay, is when the grain is just filled and the top of the head or spike is beginning to turn yellow, but if intended for seed it should fully ripen; that the best mode of harvesting is to cut with the cradle or reaper and bind into sheaves when sufficiently dry; and that the yield per acre on good soils well cultivated, will be from 3 to 4 tons of hay, or 30 to 40 bushels of seed. It leaves the soil in a loose, friable state, consequently grass and clover seeds do well when sown with it.

As to nutritious qualities, it is a regular panacea for the craving of all hungry stomachs, whether of biped or quadruped. Horses will work hard and keep in fine condition by being fed on green millet, finely cut with a straw-cutter, and mixed with four quarts of ground millet seed per day, to each horse. Feed in the same way to milk cows; it will keep them fat and sleek, and cause an unusual flow of good rich milk. Colts, calves and sheep fairly luxuriate in the green fodder. The seed fed to hens will make everlasting layers of them, whether Dorkings, Shanghais, Poland, Spanish, or native—other necessaries being provided.—*Canada Farmer*.

NUTRITIVE QUALITIES OF MILK.—In the Medical Convention recently in session at Philadelphia, Dr. N. S. Davis, of Chicago, on Thursday presented a report on the nutritive qualities of milk, and also on the question whether there is not some mode by which the nutritive constituents of milk can be preserved in their purity and sweetness, and furnished to the inhabitants of cities in such quantities as to supersede the present defective and often unwholesome modes of supply. The report says that when railroads were opened into the interior of the country, it was said that milk would be furnished to the residents of cities in the purity that it was found on farm, but a sufficient time had elapsed to demonstrate that such is not the case. The conveyance of the milk from the farm to the cars, the transit on the railway, and the time lost in its delivery throughout the city, it was clearly shown, had the effect of making it unfit for the nourishment of a child. During the past half century experiments had been made with a view of preserving milk in its pure state, yet it was but recently that a discovery had been made by a gentleman in New-York, which was to evaporate the water and mix with it white sugar, which rendered it what is termed solidified milk. In his practice he had used this improved milk for the nourishment of infants with the most gratifying results, and after having kept it for three months; and he knew of its having been kept twelve months without any injury to its qualities.

THE DOG.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The favorite dog—the Newfoundland—is one of the largest of his race. He is said to have originated (though we can see no reason for the supposition) in the country bearing his name, where he is used and abused by the humbler classes of the inhabitants, in hauling carts filled with fish in the summer, and drawing sleds loaded with wood in the winter. They are ever faithful and good-natured; in fact the pleasantest, and one of the most useful animals to be met with in seaport towns. In England he is highly appreciated, and individuals have become quite celebrated for saving people from drowning in the Thames, or from ships wrecked at sea. A large portrait of a Newfoundland dog is quite popular even in this country. The dog is represented with a medal round his neck, upon which is inscribed "A distinguished member of the humane society." Illustrative of his usefulness in saving life, is the well-authenticated anecdote of a vessel that was driven on the beach of Lydd, in Kent. The surf was rolling furiously. Eight poor fellows were crying for help, but no boat could live in endeavoring to go to their assistance. At length a gentleman came on the beach accompanied by a Newfoundland dog. He directed the attention of the animal to the vessel, and put a short stick in his mouth. The intelligent and courageous fellow at once understood his meaning; springing into the sea he fought his way through the waves. He could not, however, get close enough to the vessel to deliver that with which he was charged; but the crew understood what was meant, and they made fast a rope to another piece of wood, and threw it toward him. The noble creature dropped the one in his mouth, and seized that which had been cast to him, and then, with a degree of strength and determination scarcely credible—for he was again and again lost under the waves—he dragged it through the surge, and delivered it to his master; a line of communication was thus formed with the boat, and all on board were saved.

THE SHEPHERD DOG.

But the most interesting and useful of all the class of dogs we have been describing, and of all dogs whatever, is the companion of the shepherd. As a guardian of sheep he is more perfect than in any other pursuit, for the shepherd dog frequently acts independent of his master, and takes at times the entire control of his helpless charge. Sheep are the favorite food of all wild dogs and of wolves; and it is also a fact, that the shepherd dog is nearer the original type of his race than any other. With this knowledge we can form some idea of the immense power the shepherd dog's education has over his original nature, to make him not only forego destroying the tender lamb, but also sacrifice his entire life to its protection. In Scotland and Spain, the shepherd dog forms a prominent object of rural life, and is appreciated as one of the greatest blessings of a beneficent Providence. In Scotia, Hogg and Burns both commenced their life upon their native bleak hills, watching their flocks, with no other constant companion than the faithful dog; it is not only truly interesting, but really affecting to read the passionate outpourings of these two sons of song in his praise. With all their imagination and heartiness, they never found language sufficiently strong to do justice to their feelings of admiration. Hogg acknowledges that he "never felt so grateful to any creature under the sun as he did to his honest Sirrah!" Burns, in equally passionate language, writes, "that the master is the soul of the dog; all the powers and faculties of its nature are de-

voted to its master's service; and these powers and faculties are ennobled by the intercourse." He concludes, "Divines tell us that it ought just to be so with the Christian; but the dog puts the Christian to shame."

That the shepherd dog was specially designed for the purposes to which it is devoted, is powerfully suggested in the singular trait of its history; that more than any other of its species it retains, in spite of every circumstance, its peculiar character. While other dogs degenerate or improve, or have their radical qualities obliterated, the shepherd dog seems to have innate energy enough to overcome every other blood, and ever remain the same, confirming the opinion, that the shepherd dog stock is the most perfect of the whole species.

It is safe to say that commerce is indebted for the wool which appears in so many costly fabrics to the watchful care of the shepherd dog, for the master could not raise the staple, so as to supply it at reasonable prices, without the animal's assistance. A single shepherd and one dog will do the work of twenty men; and yet, while thus occupying a position so important, absolutely feeding and clothing his protectors, the dog is satisfied with the hardest fare and more meager food, living and rejoicing alone in the approving smiles of his master's eye.

The shepherd dogs of Spain and Mexico are the finest in the world, and, armed with an iron collar covered with points, are a match for the most savage wolf. One thousand sheep require the attention of two men and two dogs. The manner of training them in the countries alluded to is interesting; the puppies, at their birth, are taken from their mother and suckled by a ewe previously deprived of her lambs. The consequence is, that the dogs associate at once with the sheep, become attached to particular flocks, and seem to feel a degree of affection that would naturally spring up in generous minds toward those to whose fostering care they were so much indebted.

Landseer—who devotes his great genius to painting the few domestic animals of England—has produced portraits of hounds, pointers, and shepherd dogs that vie favorably, in good looks and intelligence, with many of the representatives of another class of "the English nobility." His great triumph has been a picture of two shepherd dogs, lying on a rock, just beneath which is sheltered an ewe and twin lambs. These dogs are, indeed, the protectors of the flocks—one is gazing in the distance for his master, the other looks down, with silken eyelash and beaming eye, upon the helpless charge beneath, expressing a tenderness and concern that has rarely been surpassed in the thousand Madonnas which have been the pride of art, and considered the acme of human maternity.

A MONSTER IRON SHIP.—The Edinburgh Journal gives a detailed account of an immense iron ship which is now being constructed for the Australian trade, at the cost of over £400,000, (\$2,000,000). She will be 675 feet long, 83 feet wide at her greatest breadth of beam, and 60 feet deep in the hold. She will be furnished with paddle wheels and a screw—the former of a nominal power of 1,000 horses, but practically, the combined power may be estimated at 3,000 horses. The engines, when erected and put together, will be upwards of 50 feet in height. The weight of the entire machinery will be about 3,000 tons and of the hull 10,000 tons—making 13,000 tons. She will carry several thousand tons of coal and merchandise, 1,600 passengers, and her measurement capacity gives about 25,000 tons burden. Notwithstanding her draught of water will be but small, not exceeding

twenty feet when light, and thirty when fully loaded. She will carry enough for a voyage around the world and is built upon a model to insure great speed. Her ordinary speed is expected to be eighteen or twenty miles an hour. She is expected to make the voyage from England to Australia in thirty days and return by Cape Horn in thirty days more—thus making the circuit of the globe in two months.

WHY THERE IS NO RAIN IN PERU.—In Peru, South America, rain is unknown. The coast of Peru is within the region of perpetual southeast trade-winds. Though the Peruvian shores are on the verge of the great South sea border, yet it never rains there. The reason is plain. The southeast trade-winds in the Atlantic Ocean first strike the water on the coast of Africa. Traveling to the northwest, they blow obliquely across the ocean until they reach the coast of Brazil. By this time they are heavily laden with vapor, which they continue to bear along across the continent, depositing it as they go, and supplying with it the sources of the Rio de la Plata and the southern tributaries of the Amazon. Finally they reach the snow-capped Andes, and here is wrung from them the last particle of moisture that that very low temperature can extract. Reaching the summit of that range, they now tumble down as cool and dry winds on the Pacific slopes beyond. Meeting with no evaporating surface, and with no temperature colder than that to which they were subjected on the mountain tops, they reach the ocean before they become charged with fresh vapor, and before, therefore, they have any which the Peruvian climate can extract. Thus we see how the top of the Andes becomes the reservoir from which are supplied the rivers of Chili and Peru.—Lieut. Maury.

STATISTICS OF LARD.—The Cincinnati Price Current has some interesting statistics on the lard produce of this country. The number of hogs killed last season, packed for commerce, is three millions. The average amount of lard per hog is thirty-two pounds. The total amount of lard in commerce is estimated at ninety-six millions pounds. Of this amount twenty millions are shipped from Cincinnati. England and Cuba take more lard of us than all the rest of the world. Each of these countries buys over eight millions of pounds. In the West Indies lard is very generally used as a substitute for butter. Lard oil is made more extensively at Cincinnati than at any other point of the Union. Thirty thousand barrels of it are annually sent from that city. The demand for lard over the world is on the increase and prices will probably be sustained.

The following instance of remarkable sagacity of a dog is vouched for by the owner:

A gentleman residing in Lynn, Mass., has, for a long time, visited Boston daily on business, at times passing over the turnpike, and frequently over the Eastern Railroad, always accompanied by his dog. One day last week, he went to Boston, but during the day the dog became separated from his master, who returned home without him. A few hours after the gentleman reached home the dog also returned. A gentleman who went to Lynn in the afternoon train, states that he saw the dog enter the cars at the depot in Boston, and snugly ensconce himself under a seat as if to avoid the vigilant eye of the conductor. On the cars stopping at West Lynn, the dog jumped out and hurried home with all possible speed.

Horticultural Department.

NEW YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The members of the Society met again on Monday evening, May 28th, to make further arrangements for their exhibition. The members have been very generous in their offers of voluntary premiums, thus incurring no expense to the Society. A committee was chosen to appoint judges, make choice of speaker, and perfect other necessary business. It is proposed to have an Exhibition of high order, and to admit no plants except those worthy of careful inspection. The members of the Brooklyn Horticultural Society are invited to be present, and all the officers and trustees of the Hunt Botanical Gardens. The Exhibition will be held somewhere near the 19th of June.

Mr. Stephen Cranston, of Hoboken, exhibited some choice cut flowers, consisting of Pelargoniums, Tulips, Fuchsias, Spiræas, and a very novel green Rose. The Secretary, Peter B. Mead, exhibited also a fine bunch of Rhubarb.

JARRING CURCULIOS.

C. S., of Shelburne Mass., states in the Country Gentleman that he has fairly tested all the usual remedies prepared for the curculio, including lime, ashes, plaster, sulphur, cotton, &c., and proved them of no avail. He thinks that where they have been supposed to be successful, either the curculio has not been there at all, or in numbers so small as not seriously to effect damage. He says that this insect, like all others, is migratory, overrunning one locality and vacating another in close proximity. He has seen them rise in the air on the wing more than fifty feet, which contradicts the erroneous impression that they must necessarily crawl up the trunk of the tree and can be kept off by the cotton remedy. He advises, those who would be sure of a crop of plums, to commence, as soon as they are fairly set, jarring the trees over sheets once a day (at noon), and kill the curculios that fall off, continuing the operation for two weeks. This has secured him a bountiful crop where all other means have failed.

CARNATIONS.—Where it is desirable to have late flowering beds of these, this is a very good time to propagate them for that purpose. Neither knife nor dibber is required, either in preparing the cuttings or pricking them out where they are to strike, nor any artificial heat, further than placing a hand-glass over them when pricked out. Having fixed upon the stem from which you mean to draw the piping, take the former in your left hand, and the top of the latter, with four or more leaves between the two first fingers and thumb of your right, making a steady gentle pull; the stem will give way at the place most suitable for its making roots. Then, on a south border, where a place has been prepared for their reception by removing the surface equal to the area of the open end of the handlights destined to cover the cuttings, to the depth of two inches, and filled with pure sand neatly leveled, but not pressed with a spade or other instrument, the cuttings may be inserted, the sand settled with a gentle watering, and the hand-

light put over them. Treated in that way, one may safely calculate upon nine-tenths of them taking root. Plants so obtained will flower till the winter sets in.—H., in *Gardeners' Chronicle*.

CELESTIAL FLOWERS AT THE CAPITAL.

Our readers are aware that certain Chinese plants, procured by Commodore Perry, were some time ago forwarded to the public gardens and conservatory in Washington. It will afford them pleasure to know that these far-off products are in good condition. They are accompanied, with others since received from Japan, by a Chinese gardener, who is said to be well versed in the Eastern style of trimming shrubs and training of flowers. By this method of horticulture, almost any desired form of ornament is produced. A deer is made to be represented by plants so constructed that four stems look like the legs; while the branches and leaves, twined around a hidden bamboo or cane frame, suitably trimmed, bear resemblance to the head, horns, ears, back and tail of the animal. So adroitly is this art of the East displayed, that it would seem as if the deer lived again, shrouded in foliage, and filled with the juices of green and fragrant plants.

For the gratification of the curious in horticultural matters, we subjoin a list of these rare exotics: "Four yellow or tea roses; 4 light red roses; 4 pink roses; 4 lan fas, or flower; 4 blue magnolia; 4 qui fas; 4 China grafted black roses; 4 koco or small magnolia flower; 4 China yellow aram; 4 hymonicalus; 4 lungan; 4 guavas fruit; 4 Loquat fruit; 4 custard apple, fruit; 4 sweet whampee, fruit; 4 sweet carambolo, or China gooseberry; 4 acid carambolo, or China gooseberry; 4 acid Whampee; 4 pumbalos, fruit; 4 mangres, fruit; 4 large mandarin oranges, lace skins; 15 black tea, two varieties; 4 small mandarin oranges, lace skins; 4 China mandarin oranges, hard skins; 4 cumquats, fruit; 4 large yellow persimmon; 4 large round rose apples; 4 large round red persimmon; 4 small round red persimmon; 5 small myrtle; 4 large rose apple; 4 small long rose apple; 4 laichs, fruit and flower; 4 papayas, fruit; 4 very fine lace skin mandarin orange; 4 nondescript, blue lily; 4 red double-head star lily; 4 China red lily, many heads; 4 China yellow lily, many heads; 4 China, single head white lily; 4 cymbidium; 12 nondescript, white small flower; 20 lemon grass; 12 Peruvian cynam; 20 small hymonicalus; 20 yellow day lily; 20 Benjamin flower; 3 blue magnolia; 1 round rose apple, large; 2 China dates.

The country is indebted for care bestowed on these specimens from other lands to Dr. James Morrow, of South Carolina, the agriculturist and horticulturist to the Japan Expedition. Our friends who visit Washington should not fail to pay them a visit.

Saturday Mail.

TREATMENT OF THE CINERARIA.

This is a very interesting genus of showy greenhouse plants, growing from six inches to two and a half feet high; yet, common as they are, few manage them well. We too often see tall drawn-up plants, instead of dwarf bushes. Propagation is easily effected by dividing the young offsets from the old plants, and potting into small sized pots; but cuttings are preferable, which should be put in about the end of June, and placed in a cold frame; or, select seed from the best varieties, sow early in the spring, in wide-mouthed pots or pans, and place them where they may receive a gentle bottom heat; and when the seeds have germinated, and the rough leaves are making their appearance, move them carefully into small sized pots,

also continue them in a gentle heat, until the weather will permit them to be removed to a frame. Let their position be close to the glass—kept shaded and free from air for a few days; after which apply a little air, gradually increasing it until they become comparatively hardened. So that, after a short period, air may be applied without engendering any disorder to the plants. Water should be applied moderately—just enough to keep them moist. Never by any means allow them to become thoroughly dry, as an insufficiency of water is the sole cause of that destructive fungus called mildew, which gradually increases, consequently the plants get into an unhealthy state, and become next to useless. Then how important it is to be on the watch for this insidious foe; for prevention is better than cure, and it is much easier to expel the disease on its first approach than when he has usurped his destructive reign.

Three things have come under my observation, as regards excluding this encroaching fungus. First, by admitting a free circulation of air, which should be regularly attended to every day, and shut off at night. Secondly, as before stated, attending carefully to the watering. Thirdly, by removing the dead foliage from them, which is also a harbor for green-fly. By adopting the above treatment I have successfully kept this destructive parasite under. If green-fly appears, with which they are very apt to be infested, fumigate with tobacco. They should now require a shift into a larger sized pot, and let the following compost be used; turfy peat; fibry loam, leaf-mold, decomposed cow-dung, and drift sand, equal parts of each, beaten roughly together, mixing in a little silver sand. Prepare a six-inch sized pot, with a good drainage, over which place a thin layer of turfy-peat, to prevent the soil from intermixing with the sherds. Repot, and again place them in the frame. Water moderately, and the admittance of a good current of air will also have great influence on them. Let all possible care be taken not to have the roots coiled and cramped by their coming in contact with the side of the pot, which is generally the case after subsisting in the same pot too long. Then, as soon as the roots are penetrating through the soil, let the plants be again repotted into a larger sized pot, using the aforesaid admixture, and be replaced in the same position as heretofore described, keeping them thoroughly clear from aphides by occasionally fumigating. By this time they will have made great progress, and become good sized plants, and those which will not be likely to be overgrown by such a stimulant may have occasional waterings with liquid manure. Cow-dung is the best manure to use for this purpose, as a much brighter color is effected. About the end of October potting should be proceeded with, taking care to pot them into the same soil as that described. A change of soil at this period is highly prejudicial. Six or eight-inch pots should be devoted to the largest plants; and soil rougher than that formerly described. Place them into a greenhouse, close to the glass; thus they will be prevented from being drawn up too weakly. They may be also grown in a frame during the winter, if there is a fluc or hot-water apparatus, to prevent the frost from injuring them. Between this and the time of flowering let all means be taken to insure a vigorous growth, carefully tying out, so that the plants may assume a neat and compact form. About the end of February they will have expanded their bloom, then the varieties of color, long continuance in bloom, and the splendid show which will be performed by them, in the greenhouse or conservatory, at this period of the year, when there is lit-

tle else in bloom, will amply repay any person for the care which has been bestowed upon them, and any person, by practising the above, may calculate on success.

As soon as the bloom begins to decay, and the leaves are turning yellow, less water must be applied. Remove them into a frame, or, if not convenient, out of doors will suit them. As the plants are of a herbaceous habit, they require a period of rest.

G. G., *Kew.*

[We agree with our correspondent that few plants are worse managed generally than the *Cineraria*. We prefer, however, growing them entirely in a pit, with a command of heat, which should only be used in case of frost, removing them to the conservatory, or greenhouse, when in bloom. Tie the side shoots out, and give the plants plenty of room. This, with cleanliness, will make them grow in any soil.—ED. FLORIST.]

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

Until comparatively lately, few persons were aware of the perfection to which this plant could be brought by skillful cultivation. Being perfectly hardy it has often been permitted to remain in the open ground throughout the year. This has frequently been a cause of failure, amateurs forgetting that although the winters of its own climate are as cold as our own, yet the summer heat is much greater, and consequently the blooming season is accelerated. It is one thing to grow a plant well, and another to bloom it in perfection. In our variable climate it is impossible to calculate with any degree of certainty, upon having fine weather in October and November, without which the buds formed in September will not attain perfection, and frequently the early frosts of October cripple them altogether. In order to overcome this difficulty, it is necessary to place the plants under a glass as soon as the flower buds expand, but it must be borne in mind that air is as necessary as light or heat. By these means the blooming season may be made to last from October till January. The chrysanthemum exhibitions at Stoke-Newton and Highbury have done much to bring this beautiful autumnal flower into notice; in fact none but those who attend these shows can form any correct idea of the size, beauty, or symmetry to which under proper treatment it may attain. Such as intend growing specimen plants, or cut flowers for competition, should very soon now have well rooted cuttings. I am aware that many strike them much later, but I prefer having them early. I plant singly in five-inch pots in good rich soil, and plunge in a warm airy situation. By the middle or towards the end of May I stop them, and shift them into larger pots, and to insure dwarf bushy plants they should be again stopped in June, and then shifted into larger pots to bloom. During the summer months they are never allowed to flag; for if this once takes place the lower leaves will assuredly fall, and all hopes of fine specimens will be destroyed. Towards the middle of September the plants will have attained their full growth, and it will then be proper to put them under glass; but, at the same time, if the weather is fine, I give as much air as possible. The buds will now begin to show themselves; not more than one or two should be allowed to remain on each shoot; liquid manure may at this time be applied with advantage. Under such treatment a fine show of blooms may be confidently expected even in the most unfavorable seasons. Those who do not desire specimen plants or cut flowers for exhibition, I would recommend to plant their cuttings in the open ground now, to stop them in May, and again in June. By

the end of September they will be fine large plants, and as the buds begin to swell they may be taken up with a good ball of earth and planted in nine or eleven-inch pots, and plunged in the open ground for nine or ten days, during which time they should be watered every day, to prevent flagging; after that time they may be removed to the greenhouse or conservatory, which they will keep gay till January.—S. in *Gardeners' Chronicle*.

THE MIGNONETTE.

Common mignonette is so well known that it is superfluous to say a word about it. It is to the culture of it as standards for the winter decoration of the conservatory and greenhouse that I would now direct attention.

I generally sow in four-inch pots, about the end of March or the beginning of April, according to the number of standards required. The soil I use is maiden loam and leaf-mold in equal quantities, with a little well rotted manure and sand added. I drain and fill the pots in the usual way, but do not press the soil too firmly; I smooth the surface and put a pinch of seed in the center of each pot. I cover thinly with fine sifted soil; water gently; and remove the pots to the stove, or, if that is not available, to a hot-bed, and the plants soon make their appearance. As soon as they have grown a little, I pull out three of the strongest near the center of the pot. After all danger of their damping off has in a great measure passed, I remove the two weakest, and tie the other to a neat stake. I report as the plants require it, and remove the lateral buds as soon as they make their appearance on the axils of the leaves, at the same time preserving the leaves on the stem carefully. The flower will soon make its appearance on the top of the stem; I remove it at once, and allow the highest lateral bud to grow to form the next leader to be tied to the stake as soon as possible; I remove the lateral buds as before, and so on till the stem is the desired height.

When the stem is of the height required, I cut off the top, and allow four or five of the highest lateral buds to grow. As soon as they have pushed a little I pinch them, leaving only two buds each; I allow them to start a little, and then remove the plants to a cool greenhouse, where they get plenty of air; I continue to pinch regularly as the plants grow, till the heads are the desired size (which will be about the end of September or the middle of October), when they will require their final shift, using eight or nine-inch pots according to the size of the plants. I procure some iron wire for supports, or neat wooden stakes. After being inserted into the pots they must stand two or three inches above the head of the plant, to allow all the laterals forming the head to be suspended from them with small pieces of bast. If they are not tied up carefully they will, as they grow, droop down and break, as Mignonette is a plant of straggling habit.

Treated in the above way, mignonette will flower freely till the time when there is plenty to be had out of doors, when the plants may be thrown away. I prefer growing from seed every season. The little extra trouble required is amply compensated by the neat compact form of the heads of the young plants.

Amateurs will soon find that there is a great difference in the habit of individual plants of mignonette when growing for standards. Some of the heads will assume a neat compact form, with fine broad foliage, while others will be of an opposite character. Seed should be saved from the

plants having the best habit for next season's growth.

I have little doubt that the common mignonette will be superseded, so far as the growth of standards is concerned, by the new variety, named *grandiflora*. It appears to be a very robust grower, with fine broad foliage, and will consequently require time in forming a standard.—ALPHA, in *Gardeners' Chronicle*.

ABOUT "DOMESTICS."

One of the most frequent sources of trial to an American housekeeper, is the kitchen help. Either no help can be obtained, or it is of very poor quality. In the country, the first of these perhaps is the greater evil, in the city, the latter. So long as immigrants from other lands continue to swarm to our shores, help of some kind will doubtless be abundant, but the aversion of foreigners generally to a farming life, and their desire to congregate together, make it difficult to place them where most needed—in our small villages and rural districts.

In our treatment of domestics, we should be careful not to be too exacting, but remember that like yourselves they are liable to become weary or ill.

Do not consider a part of your business to find fault with them whenever any occasion will warrant. The same principle which *should* govern us in the care of children is applicable here—manifest your approbation for everything that will bear it, and censure as little as possible. Treat them perseveringly as though you supposed they *intended* to do right, even though you know it be not the case, and instead of finding fault when a thing is done wrong, wait, if possible, till it is to be done again, then remind them of their previous forgetfulness, and explain your wishes anew, and you will be far more likely to accomplish a permanent improvement.

Never raise your voice or speak in an angry or excited manner—speak deliberately and calmly, however great the annoyance, or if you can not control your voice, *be silent till you can*, and you will not only have obtained a great victory over yourself, but remedy the evil far more surely. Add praise for something well done at the same time that you censure, if possible.

A "fresh hand" is often little help to an overworked housewife, but exercise patience, go about with them, and show them a few days if necessary, and under *proper* management even the most stupid will improve.

Frequent changes are often a great annoyance, but the privilege of change is as great for the housewife as the girl. If they can do better elsewhere, they have the same right to go that persons employed in any other relation have. Always treat them kindly and considerately, and do them a favor when you can, and they will be less inclined to leave.—*Ohio Farmer*.

A FORMIDABLE UNDERTAKING.—A contemporary puts the tobacco question into the following shape: "Suppose a tobacco chewer is addicted to the habit of chewing tobacco fifty years of his life, and that each day of that time he consumes two inches of solid plug, it amounts to six thousand four hundred and seventy-five feet, making nearly one mile and a quarter in length of solid tobacco, half, an inch thick and two inches broad. Now what would the young beginner think if he had the whole amount stretched out before him, and were told to chew it would be one of the exercises of his life, and also that it would tax his income to the amount of two thousand and ninety-four dollars?"

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, May 31.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

A POST MORTEM ON HENS.

When a specimen of the genus homo is taken off by any unusual or mysterious cause, a jury is summoned and responsible men patiently investigate the causes that led to his death. But when that gallinaceous biped, that keeps him company, is found unaccountably defunct, fallen dead from the roost, stark cold upon her brooding nest, or stretched out a stiffened corse in the yard, nobody asks why, and no coroner is called. It is taken for granted that the owner is guiltless, and that biddy came to her untimely end from some strange fatality. It is presumption for mortals to pry into the inscrutable mysteries of gallinaceous life. Yet we were summoned lately to sit in jury upon a pile of these departed bipeds. Whether it was upon the supposition that editors know every thing, that we were called in upon so grave an occasion, or upon the suspicion that we had had the hen fever and been initiated into the mysteries of fowl management, we are unable to say. We took it as sure indication that the world moves, and obeyed the summons.

The owner of this poultry yard was a professional gentleman, somewhat accustomed to the investigation of facts, and supposed—to have an eye to their moral quality. We felt assured that we should have in him an intelligent witness of the circumstances attending the death of the subjects, and a clear statement of the facts in the case. The yard was spacious and airy, shaded with apple trees and carpeted with a velvet turf that would have been called a lawn by a gentleman of more pretension. We thought surely hens ought to be immortal in such quarters for their own sake, if not for their owner's. Death by the block could be the only justifiable cause of departure in such luxurious accommodations. But there in one corner lay the feathered worthies whose strange exit from this bird paradise had called us thither. Age and youth lay there in promiscuous ruin. The solemn countenance of our friend as he led us out, showed that he was no butcher by instinct or profession. Whether he inwardly mourned some de-

parted favorite who had picked corn from his hand as he counted "her chickens after they were hatched," or sighed for the visions of roast chicken and broils so unceremoniously vanished, we are unable to say. He broke the thread of his meditations, whatever they were, by the exclamation, "There are the hens! Now if you can tell how they come to die I should like to learn. They have had enough to eat and drink—and plenty of room to range in." We divined the cause in a moment, and immediately led the astonished owner to the quarters where his hens had been obliged to spend more than half of their time for the last six months. There under the poles in a small house lay the accumulated droppings of a whole winter, without plaster, muck, or mold, to absorb the deadly gases continually exhaling. The warm weather, dissolving the frosts of winter, had released the ammonia in unusual quantities, and had taken off his hens. The salutation which greeted his olfactory as we opened the door was a demonstration that he could not resist, and of course we brought in as the verdict of the jury, "That the said hens came to their death by the inhalation of ammoniacal gas, administered by the carelessness of the owner."

The coroner's fees were light, but the public will profit by the examination. Hens never die without cause, and we believe foul and neglected roosts are more frequently the occasion of their death than all other causes united. An animal that pays its way upon the farm better than any other kind of stock, ought not to be suffered to die without an inquest. The interest if not the humanity of the poultry keeper should induce him to look well to the health of his fowls. A dry, airy lodging place, and plenty of absorbents for the droppings, are essentials in the poultry yard.

FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE NEW-JERSEY STATE AG. SOCIETY.

This Society organized on the 10th of January last, have already made complete and full arrangements for holding a State show, at the city of Camden, on the 19th, 20th and 21st days of next September. The premium list issued embraces offers of nearly \$5,000 in cash premiums, besides valuable diplomas, &c. It is expected that all the Railroads in the State will transport articles for exhibition *free*, and carry passengers to and from the show at reduced fares. With the experience of neighboring States as a guide, and an excellent and efficient board of officers and executive committee, we doubt not every effort will be made, and all needed arrangements be perfected to make this one of the most effective and successful shows of the season. Every farmer and every citizen should feel a personal interest in the enterprize, and at once inquire what each may do to promote its success.

All information relating to the Fair, Lists of Premiums, Members' Tickets, &c., can be promptly obtained, on application, by mail or otherwise, to the Corresponding Secretary, J. Hatfield Frazee, at his office in Somerville, Somerset County, N. J., until one

week previous to the 18th of September; after which time, he will be at the Fair grounds in Camden.

THE AGRICULTURE OF MASSACHUSETTS IN 1854, as shown in returns of the Agricultural Societies. Edited by CHARLES L. FLINT, Secretary to the State Board of Agriculture. This valuable ANNUAL has been upon our table for some time awaiting a thorough and full reading and review, which we have not yet found time to give it. We wish our Massachusetts friends would publish for the benefit of other State Societies, an explanation of the secret of their getting out their volume of Reports at so much earlier a period than their neighbors. Perhaps the principal credit is due to the energetic labors of their Secretary. If so we wish he could be, at least, the publishing officer of some half a dozen State Societies we have in mind, whose reports will be issued not till after they have lost their chief value for the present season. Such reports contain much valuable information in reference to spring and summer crops, and they should be in the hands of farmers at the earliest possible moment. We respectfully suggest that it would be well for the various State Societies to issue about the close of each year, that portion of their Reports which contains the more important and instructive articles, and afterwards put into a supplementary pamphlet such financial and documentary matter as could not be got ready at so early a date. But this by the way. The volume before us, like its predecessor, is exceedingly valuable as a practical guide to farmers. The selection and arrangement of the articles exhibits the good taste and skill of the Editor. The frequent selections we shall give from its pages hereafter will best show our appreciation of its contents.

THE RENSSELAER COUNTY (N. Y.) Agricultural Society hold their next annual show at Lansingburg, on the 18th, 19th and 20th of September. The officers of this Society for the current year are—President, Amos Briggs, of Schaghticoke. Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Geo. Vail, Jno. J. Viele, Hugh Rankin, and Henry Warren, of Troy, and Mr. H. W. Knickerbacker, of Lansingburg. Secretary, Wm. Hagen, of Troy. Treasurer, Abram Van Tuyl. Directors, Benj. Starbuck, of Troy; Joseph Hastings, of Brunswick; Wm. Newcomb, of Pittstown; J. E. Stearns, of Schodack; Fred'k B. Leonard, of Lansingburg; Isaac Tallmadge, of Schaghticoke; Jacob Minick, of Poestenkill; E. M. Van Alstyne, of North Greenbush; Jno. Tilley, of Grafton; R. J. Knowlson, of Sandlake; Jos. Haswell, of Hoosick; Seth Hastings, of Nassau; Joshua S. Lewis, of Petersburg; Wm. Jones, of Stephentown; John Whitford, of Berlin; Fred'k R. Rockafeller, of Clinton; Jonas Whitney, of Greenbush.

A TRIAL OF MOWERS is to take place June 15th on the farm of Judge Jay, in Bedford, Westchester Co., N. Y. This will be under the auspices of the Society of Agriculture and Horticulture of Westchester County.

Our Miscellaneous Drawer.

WHEAT WEEVILS—TO PREVENT.—A paragraph is going the rounds under the head of "Important to Farmers," which states that the ravages of the weevil have been entirely prevented by using lime, in the following manner: About the time the wheat is going into head, go through the fields just after a rain, or while a heavy dew is on, and scatter newly slacked lime broadcast, so that it will adhere to the heads and stems, applying about a bushel of lime to the acre. Good lime should be selected, and as little water as possible used in slacking it. The remedy is said to have been so successful in many parts of Vermont, and in Muskingum Co., Ohio, that strips left without the application have been entirely destroyed, while the grain on each side, treated with the lime, was all saved. We have no great faith in this remedy, and give it for what it is worth. The expense is not great, and it may be well to give it a trial.

BUTTER FROM GREEN RYE FEED.—Benjamin Garrigues, one of the most respectable farmers of Montgomery County, Pa., who has had over forty years of practical experience, writes to the Germantown Telegraph, under date of Upper Dublin, May 16th, that he has been mowing fall-sown rye for over three weeks; and the result has been that he has had as much milk, and of as good quality, as could have been obtained from the best of pasture. He sends a sample of spring made butter, which the editor pronounces "excellent, high-flavored, and of a deep golden tint." Mr. G. sows rye for pasture upon ground designed for potatoes, manuring it well with stable-manure or guano, the latter of which he prefers.

LITTLE SAVINGS.—If each of only five millions of men in the United States who wear two coats a year, having four buttons upon the skirts, would leave off these entirely useless appendages, there would be an annual saving of forty millions of buttons. If these buttons cost only ten cents a dozen, the saving would amount to \$333,333 33. Think of that, three hundred and thirty-three thousand, three hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents, for skirt buttons! How much do the useless coat-skirts themselves cost? Look over your wardrobe, gentlemen, and you too, ladies, and see how many useless and even inconvenient appendages might be profitably dispensed with. It is a low estimate to say that each of five million of ladies wear five dresses a year, every one of which contains three unnecessary yards of material. This is 75,000,000—seventy-five million—of yards, which, at an average of fifteen cents a yard, amounts to \$11,250,000—eleven and one-fourth million of dollars. This is only a small item in the expensive sacrifice offered at the shrine of Fashion. A large volume would not suffice to enumerate the sums expended for gewgaws which are put upon the "human form divine" to disfigure it. To obtain these, one-fifth of all of human toil and labor is undergone.

PRESERVING A GREEN COLOR IN VEGETABLES WHILE COOKING.—It is recommended to add a small quantity of soda to the water in which "greens," &c., are being cooked, to preserve their beautiful green color—say an even teaspoonful or less, to two quarts of water. It appears reasonable that this result should be produced, since the alkali (soda) will neutralize any vegetable acid present which would redden the green color. As the soda would mostly remain in the liquor, and this is thrown away, no harm can result from its use.

CABBAGES FOR COWS.—The editor of the Agricultural Gazette (Eng.) estimates one acre of cabbages to be worth three acres of turnips for cows. He recommends sowing seed in beds, either in autumn or spring, and transplanting toward the end of May, at the rate of 8,000 plants to the acre. One pound of seed will produce about 2,400 plants.

PIGEON'S DUNG.—Prof. Apjohn, of Ireland, estimates fresh pigeon dung to be worth about one-fourth as much as Peruvian guano, and six times as much as moist farm-yard manure. He recommends making it into a compost of clay and peat charcoal while fresh, and to use this compost on green and other crops, precisely in the manner in which guano is applied.

TASTE IN BUTTER.—The surest way of getting rid of the taste of roots in milk, is to keep it quite warm or hot for a length of time, which will evaporate the disagreeable aroma.

GREAT SALE OF SHORT HORNS IN ENGLAND.

Last week we noticed Mr. Tanqueray's sales of Short Horns, at Hendon, on the 24th of April. It would seem hardly possible, had we not facts and figures, that from a single herd there should be sold, at one time, 101 animals—consisting of 77 cows and heifers and 24 bulls—at an average price of nearly \$400 each. Some of the English journals attribute the high prices to American buyers who, they say, are getting away their best stock. They add, that we have the advantage of them in the associations formed here, by means of which the expense is divided, and the influence of superior animals more widely extended.

At the Hendon sale, however, the competition was chiefly between Messrs. Morris & Becar and Mr. Spencer, of New-York city, and Mr. Gunter, a young grazier of Brompton, England. Mr. Gunter obtained the highest priced animal (500 guineas), after which the American buyers seemed to have their own way, as they secured a majority of the best animals, and Mr. Gunter's name appears afterwards only as the purchaser of one of the bulls. However, Mr. G. now owns more of the Duchesses and Oxfords—the highest priced families of the Short Horns—than any other breeder in England, and English breeders now turn to him as being responsible for keeping at home any of these better animals.

The complete tabular list of the animals, buyers and prices, which we place on record for future reference, will save us the necessity of any further remarks.

We give, in the same connection, the result of the sales of Short Horns from the celebrated herd of the late John Bolden, Esq., of Hynning, which took place at Springfield Hall, Lancaster, April 27th.

SALE OF MR. J. S. TANQUERAY'S HERD OF SHORT HORNS, AT HENDON, ENGLAND, ON TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1855.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

When Sold.	Name.	Buyer.	Price in Guineas.
1849	Oxford 11th	Mr. Gunter	500
1853	Oxford 16th	Becar & Morris	480
1850	Hope	Mr. Spencer	200
1850	Minerva 2d	Becar & Morris	180
1846	Lady Barrington 8th	Lord Burlington	170
1853	Victoria 26th	Becar & Morris	160
1854	Hopeful	Mr. Spencer	140
1853	Minerva	Becar & Morris	140
1846	Minstrel	Lord Burlington	110
1848	Janetta	Mr. Amble	105
1854	Lady Bates	Mr. Combe	105
1850	Lady Blanch	Mr. Barthropp	100
1850	Silence	Mr. Barthropp	94
1850	Iris	Becar & Morris	90
1854	Oak Leaf	Lord Feversham	81
1854	Surprise	Becar & Morris	80
1850	Jardine	Mr. Stanhope	80
1851	Narcissus	Prince Albert	72
1847	Oakapple	Mr. Simpson	71
1845	Daphne Gwynn	Mr. Townshend	70
1854	Jewel	Mr. Hook	70
1845	Olive Leaf	Mr. Blythwaite	66
1849	Mary	Mr. Calvin	65
1849	Angela 2d	Mr. Topham	65
1854	Delia	Becar & Morris	65
1851	Fancy	Mr. Fisher	63
1854	Oak Bud	Mr. Grenfell	61
1854	Sprightly	Mr. Crawley	60
1851	Dolly Gwynn	Mr. Jonas Webb	60
1849	Hyacinth	Mr. Marjoribanks	58
1851	Dolly Gwynn	Mr. Fisher	56
1847	New Year's Day	Mr. Blythwaite	55
1847	Jenny Lind	Mr. Cartwright	55
1851	Boquet	Mr. Stanhope	55
1853	Julietta 6th	Mr. Carrington	53
1854	Honesty	Mr. Guest	53
1853	Camilla	Brooks & Fuller	52
1844	Minna	Mr. Townshend	52
1854	Fanciful	Lord Feversham	51
1853	Garland	Mr. Stanhope	51
1851	Arabella 3d	Mr. Walters	51
1851	Cynosure	Mr. Combe	50
1850	Dorcas	Mr. Kirkham	50
1852	Olive Branch	Mr. Angas	47
1851	Carmine	Mr. Abbott	47
1852	Sympathy	Mr. Cruickshank	46
1854	Surmise	Mr. Sartoris	45
1853	Dorinda	Brooks & Fuller	45
1848	Lady Emma	Mr. Slatter	45
1848	Duchess 3d	Mr. Walters	45
1844	Delia Gwynn	Mr. Blythwaite	42
1852	Astræa	Mr. Jonas Webb	42
1852	Dorothea	Mr. Field	42
1854	Statira	Mr. Sartoris	40
1854	Alice	Mr. Hallet	40
1853	Magic	Mr. Amble	40
1852	Foisette	Mr. Lawford	40
1852	Blushet	Mr. Kirkham	40
1850	Trinket	Mr. Fisher	40
1850	Cleopatra	Lord Burlington	40
1848	Fidelia	Mr. Field	40
1852	Mystery	Mr. Drake	38
1853	Wildair	Mr. Atherton	38
1855	Junia	Mr. Cartwright	36
1847	Joan	Mr. Cartwright	36
1852	Stately	Mr. Woodward	35
1852	Clemastis	Mr. Hook	35
1851	Ann Gwynn	Mr. Dormer	35
1854	Louise	Becar & Morris	34
1854	Lady Bell	Mr. Sartoris	31
1854	Nerissa	Mr. Robinson	31
1844	Duchess of Cornwall	Mr. Pinder	31
1854	Rosamond	Mr. Simpkins	30
1854	Darling	Mr. Topham	30
1847	Jennette	Mr. Topham	30
1843	Honest Mrs. Gwynn	Mr. Duckworth	29
1851	Cleopatra 2d	Mr. Tracey	26

BULLS.

1852	Duke of Cambridge	Sir C. Knightley	280
1854	Sixth Duke of Oxford	Mr. Gunter	200
1854	Barrington	Mr. Fisher	200
1853	The Baron	Mr. Cruickshank	155
1854	Duketom	Earl Radnor	110
1855	Marmaduke	Mr. Marjoribanks	100
1854	Macdonald	Mr. Morris	81
1854	Autoerat	Mr. Simpson	67
1854	Noble	Mr. Cator	66
1854	Dundas	Mr. Guest	65
1854	Governor	Brooks & Fuller	60
1854	Aaron	Mr. Bostock	50
1854	Fitz Derby	Mr. C. Abbott	50
1854	Friar John	Mr. Hall	50
1854	Dauntless	Mr. Hallett	50
1855	St. David	Mr. Bramston	45
1855	John of Glo'ster	Mr. Dodwell	42
1854	Douglas	Mr. Tracy	35
1854	Nelson	Mr. Jepson	34
1855	Captain	Mr. Duckworth	24
1855	Napier	Sir J. Lubbock	23
1854	Harry of Glo'ster	Mr. Robinson	18
1855	Fidelio	Mr. Crump	17
1855	Alliance	Mr. Chambers	15

Aggregate of the 77 Cows and heifers.....£5,915 14 0

Aggregate of the 24 Bulls.....1,928 17 0

Total of the 101 lots.....£7,844 11 0

Being an average of £77 13s 4½d. per head.

THE LATE MR. BOLDEN'S HERD.

When Calved.	Name.	Buyer.	Price in Guineas.
1852	Lady Hopetown	Mr. Torr	220
1848	Gertrude	"	100
1852	Prune	" Bland	100
1845	Florence	" Adcock	86
1850	Pearlette	" Alexande	70
1848	Pearl 2d	" Cartwright	65
1853	Pearl Powder	"	52
1850	Roan Twin	Miss Dalton	50
1850	Red Twin	Mr. Vernor	50
1854	Prunella	" Bland	50
1851	Isabella Howard	" Bromley	46
1854	Lisette	" Whalley	40
1854	Isabella 2d	" Knowles	37
1853	Burletta	" Bromley	36
1845	Linda	" Hetherington	34
1842	Dowager Queen	" Carr	27
1855	Miss Wharton	" Knowles	20

BULLS.

1853	Duke of Bolton	Mr. Adcock	105
1854	Vocalist*	" Bland	63
1854	Cherry Duke*	" Jefferson	62
1855	Brilliant	" Cartwright	62
1854	Viadot*	" Blackstock	57
1855	Blucher*	" Bland	52
1854	Hymen*	" Douglas	51
1855	Third Duke of Bolton	"	40
1855	Bonaparte*	" Bland	30
1855	Petterill	" Whalley	21
1855	Hyning	" Dalzell	20

DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK.—We desire to call attention to Mr. Morris's advertisement of the forthcoming American and English edition of this valuable work, for which see page 189 of this number of our paper. This is another evidence of the rapidly increasing interest of the farmers of our country in the improvement of their domestic stock. We look upon Devons as one of the most servicable and valuable breeds of cattle; and they have deservedly been great favorites among us for many years. Whatever tends to multiply and improve them, and gives a correct history of the same, can not but meet with approbation.

THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NEW-JERSEY is progressing finely. Mr. E. F. Baldwin, Assistant Geologist, and Mr. S. A. Conrad, Paleontologist, have been added to the original corps. The investigations made will not be in a condition to be published at present. When the observations are completed and compared and arranged, we shall have a large addition to our present knowledge of the mineral and agricultural resources of the State.

THE MONMOUTH COUNTY (N. J.) Agricultural Society will hold their next annual show September 27th, on the farm of Mr. Hudson Bennett, at Freehold.

KEEPING FURS IN SUMMER.

About the 1st of April, or on the approach of warm weather, lightly whip, comb and brush your furs till they are perfectly free from dust, sprinkle them with a little spirits of any kind, and wrap them in clean linen. Put them in a tight box or drawer, and keep them from the air as much as possible. In this situation they may remain ten or fifteen days, when they ought to be examined, and the whipping, combining and brushing repeated.

The insects most destructive to furs, are, first, the black bug which infests smoked meats, &c. It appears and deposits eggs early in the spring. This kind of moth does not eat the fur, but preys altogether on the skin. Next, the small ash colored miller, which produces the moth that destroys all kinds of woolen stuffs, and may be seen hovering about the candle on a summer evening. This kind particularly preys upon and destroys the furs, and ought to be most guarded against, also the mite, which are very nu-

merous. They appear like dust, and are scarcely perceptible to the naked eye. They subsist upon and destroy the fibrous membrane which attaches the fur to the skin. Hence the practice of sunning and airing furs is highly prejudicial, for as insects fly about in the air, it not only affords them an opportunity of getting in and breeding, but the warmth of the sun nourishes and supports them, and at the same time spoils the color and destroys the life and beauty of the fur.

Coarse furs—such as bear and buffalo skins—may be preserved by heating them well in the spring, and heading them up in an air tight spirit cask, which had been recently emptied. Especial care must always be taken to have furs, woolens, &c., clean and free from insects when they are put up for the season—and no means are adequate to the preservation of furs that are badly dressed and not cleansed of the natural grease.—A *Troy Furrier*.

We have found no difficulty in keeping furs and wollens, by simply packing them away in a trunk or chest and putting in a few large pieces of camphor gum. Let these pieces be as large as walnuts or eggs so that some portion of them will remain during the entire summer. Camphor can be purchased by the pound for 50 to 75 cents. It is well to whip or shake furs or woolen clothes before putting them aside.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then, Is relished by the best of men."

REAL WIT.—An old doctor and a young one were conversing together upon the subject of flogging children. The young man insisted that in most cases it did more harm than good, and was often done without a cause, while the old gentleman as strongly insisted that it was highly beneficial in correcting the morals of youth. At last the young doctor said: "Why, doctor, I promise you on my honor, my father never flogged me but once in his life, and that was for telling the truth." "Well," replied the gruff old doctor, "it cured you, sir, didn't it?"

LONG-DATED BILL.—It chanced one gloomy day, in the month of December, that a good-humored Irishman applied to a merchant to discount a bill of exchange for him, at rather a long, though not unusual date; and the merchant having casually remarked that the bill had a great many days to run, "That's true," replied the Irishman, "but then, my honey, you don't consider how short the days are at this time of the year!"

A MODEL VERDICT.—The following verdict, delivered at Rome, Georgia, in the case of Abe Johnson vs. Thomas Cameron, shows that Philadelphia does not monopolize all the intelligent "grymen" in the United States:

"We the jury choazen and swoarne agree that tom kamyron must pa abe gousing the ful amount of 20 five sents that the planetif pa over the won kwart of licker for the benefit of the jury and kosts will be roled out."

Praise, like gold and diamonds, owes its value only to its scarcity. It becomes cheap as it becomes vulgar, and will no longer raise expectation, or animate enterprise.

THE DIFFERENCE.—Glasses reflect without talking, lasses talk without reflecting. That's the difference between lasses and glasses.

ANOTHER SHANGHAI WORK.—At a dinner party last week, the conversation turned upon the fowl mania, recently developed in this country; one gentleman referred to the popular engravings of Shanghai monstrosities, another to Burnham's book on the hen fever, and a third to Melvill's story in Harper of "Cock-a-doodle;" "yes," observed another, better versed in cotton than literature, "the thing seems to be getting into books fast; I saw one advertised the other day, called 'Wolfert's Roost,' another Shanghai work, I suppose." The best of the joke was that Irving was at the table, and within ear shot.—*Boston Tran.*

"Mother," said a little friend of ours, the other day, "why doesn't Mrs. Simpson's canary bird sing now?" "Because he is dead, my dear," the mother replied. "No, mother," rejoined the prattler, "he isn't dead, for I saw him yesterday on the clock." "But he is dead, nevertheless," returned the mother; "he died a fortnight since, and because he was a pet, Mrs. Simpson had him stuffed, that she might have him with her still." "Well, mother," added the child, "if Mrs. Simpson's little baby was to die, would she have him stuffed, too?"

A SPECULATOR CURED.—Once on a time a country Dutchman early one morning went to town, where by chance he overheard some traders telling each other how much money they had made that morning by speculation; one of them had made \$100, \$200, \$500, &c. Hans's bump of inquisitiveness was so excited that he, without any reflection, forthwith concluded to leave his former business, which was labor, and try his hand at speculation, and on his return home made his intentions known to his faithful vrow. Early next morning he gathered his wallet containing his funds, amounting to five dollars, and off he goes post haste, and half bent to look up a speculation. He had not proceeded far when he met a wagoner, and accosted him thus:

"Good morning, Mr. Wagoner, I wants to speculate a leetle dish mornin wid you." "Well, say," said the wagoner, "how do you want to speculate." "Well," says the Dutchman, "I will bet fife dollars you can't guess what my dog's name ish." "Call him up till I look at him," rejoined the wagoner. *Dutchman*—"H-e-r-e V-a-tch, he-re V-a-tch, he-re V-a-tch," the wagoner eyes him for a moment and said, "I guess his name is Watch." *Dutchman*—"O besure, Mr. Wagoner, you has won him, de monish is yours," and Hans returned to his old occupation perfectly satisfied.

A colored servant sweeping out a bachelor's room, found a sixpence, which he carried to its owner. "You may keep it for your honesty," said he. Shortly afterwards he missed his gold pen-case, and inquired of the servant if he had seen it. "Yes sir," was the reply. "And what did you do with it?" "Kept it for my honesty, sir."

Home can never be transferred—never repeated in the experience of an individual. The place consecrated by paternal love, by the innocence and sports of childhood, and by the first acquaintance of the heart with nature, is the only true home.

The talents granted to a single individual do not benefit himself alone, but are gifts to the world, every one shares them, for every one suffers or benefits by his actions. Genius is a lighthouse meant to give light from afar? the man who bears it is but the rock upon which the lighthouse is built.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

The *Bank of England* must be seen on the inside as well as out, and to get into the interior of this remarkable building, to observe the operations of an institution that exerts more moral and political power than any sovereign in Europe, you must have an order from the Governor of the Bank. The building occupies an irregular area of *eight acres* of ground; an edifice of no architectural beauty, with not one window towards the street, being lighted altogether from the roof of the inclosed areas. The ordinary business apartments differ from those in our banks only in their extent, a thousand clerks being constantly on duty, and driven with business at that. But to form any adequate idea of what the Bank is, we must penetrate its recesses, its vaults, and offices, where we shall see such operations as are not known in Wall-street. I was led, on presenting my card of admission, into a private room, where, after the delay of a few moments, a messenger came and conducted me through the mighty and mysterious building. Down we went into a room where the notes of the Bank received yesterday were now examined, compared with the entries in the books, and stored away. *The Bank of England never issues the same note a second time.* It receives in the ordinary course of business about £800,000, or \$4,000,000 daily in notes; these are put up in parcels according to their denomination, boxed up with the date of their reception, and are kept ten years; at the expiration of which period they are taken out and ground up in the mill which I saw running, and made again into paper. If in the course of those ten years any dispute in business, or law-suit should arise concerning the payment of any note, the Bank can produce the identical bill. To meet the demand for notes so constantly used up, the Bank has its own paper-makers, its own printers, its own engravers, all at work under the same roof and it even makes the machinery by which most of its own work is done. A complicated but beautiful operation is a register, extending from the printing office to the banking offices, which marks every sheet of paper that is struck off from the press, so that the printers can not manufacture a single sheet of blank notes that is not recorded in the Bank. On the same principle of exactness, a shaft is made to pass from one apartment to another, connecting a clock in sixteen business wings of the establishment, and regulating them with such precision that the whole of them are always pointing to the same second of time.

In another room was a machine, exceedingly simple, for detecting light gold coins. A row of them dropped one by one upon a spring scale; if the piece of gold was of the standard weight, the scale rose to a certain height, and the coin slid off upon one side into a box; if less than the standard, it rose a little higher, and the coin slid off upon the other side. I asked the weigher what was the average number of light coins that came into his hands, and strangely enough, he said it was a question he was not allowed to answer.

The next room I entered was that in which the notes are deposited which are ready for issue. "We have thirty-two millions of pounds sterling in this room," the officer remarked to me, "will you take a little of it?" I told him it would be vastly agreeable, and he handed me a million sterling (five millions of dollars), which I received with many thanks for his liberality, but he insisted on my depositing it with him again, as it would be hardly safe to carry so much money into the streets. I very much fear that I shall never see that money again. In the vault beneath the floor was a Director and the

Cashier counting the bags of gold which men were pitching down to them, each bag containing a thousand pounds sterling, just from the mint. This world of money seemed to realize the fables of Eastern wealth, and gave me new and strong impressions of the magnitude of the the business done here, and the extent of the relations of this one institution to the commerce of the world.—*Prime's Travels in Europe.*

DIFFERENT CLIMATES ALIKE COMFORTABLE.

An erroneous idea generally prevails respecting climate, as effecting personal comfort. The dwellers in the sunny south pity the New-Englanders, because doomed to shiver in so cold a climate. They, in turn, bless their stars that they are not wading in the snows of Newfoundland.

I have been led, by observation and experience, to doubt whether the people of any one country have much, if any advantage, in the matter of climate, over others.

Our ideas of pleasure and pain are intimately connected with, if not based upon the principle of contrast. In our idea of temperature, we have less regard to the actual than to the comparative degree of warmth.

In the report of one of the exploring expeditions in the northern seas, it is said that, on a certain occasion the crew were greatly elated with signs of a thaw, the mercury having risen to within 40° below zero. Having been subject to a much intenser degree of cold, they felt, as did the boy, whose father had administered to him a severe flagellation, "greatly refreshed."

It may well be doubted whether the people of Maine suffer more from cold than do they of Virginia.

Touching the weather, it is much as it is with the tariff—all that the people want is to have the line of governmental policy settled—to know what can be depended upon. So of the weather. The down-easter, knowing that from the middle of November to the middle of April the ground is to be covered with snow, and uninterrupted cold weather is to prevail, he wraps his fur coat about him, inflates his lungs, braces up his nerves, and thinks no more of the cold than the "rugged Russian bear."

The dweller in the Old Dominion, on the other hand, regarding warm weather as the rule, and cold as the exception, makes no provision for the latter. But when the northern blasts come, as come they will, he wraps his fig-leaf coat about him, and seeks shelter within the inclosure of his airy mansion, so constructed as to exclude heat rather than cold.

Then there is another consideration which greatly favors dwellers in cold latitudes. While the earth is covered with snow, there is but little evaporation. The atmosphere is consequently dry, and storms are unrequent. Where there is no snow, it is far otherwise. The whole surface being covered with water, evaporation is rapid, and the atmosphere is surcharged with vapor, and the peculiar chillings which characterize a March wind in New-England, prevail during the winter months.

Agriculturally, the snowy region has many advantages. It is better for the soil to be covered during the winter months. That there is any *virtue* in the remark, "snow is the poor man's manure," I don't believe. But certain it is, that grasses and grains are benefited by being thus protected.

Snow is an imperfect conductor of caloric, consequently the surface being protected from the cold of mid-winter, the heat from within dissolves the frost, and when the snow disappears in spring, the frost is gone from the soil. It is not uncommon to find

the grass growing before the snow is off. Fields are ready for plowing soon after they are bare; so that stock will live, and seed may be gotten into the ground nearly as soon in Vermont as in Connecticut. Then, for doing business, the snowy regions have greatly the advantage. Lumbering is with great difficulty carried on where there is no snow. The lumber lands in Maryland and Virginia would be worth twice as much as they now are with northern winters for the removal of the lumber.

But I will say no more lest I get up an emigration fever towards Greenland.—R. B. H., in *Plow, Loom and Anvil.*

THE PRINTER.

The night grows late—the streets are hushed—the moonbeams fleck the deserted pavement, and strews its slumberous poppies over the inhabitants of the silent city. All are at rest save the printer at his case.

Dreams, lovely as the winged cherubs, hover about the repose of man and maiden; visions as pure as lilies, and beautiful as the sunset of early summer, haunt the couches of matron and child; but to the printer all is reality, toil and weariness.

How nimbly and cheerfully does he adjust the faithful types, as if he took no note of time—as if the duties that were wearing out his life were more a diversion than a laborious occupation. But amid their monotonous discharges, believe us, the printer thinks of home and sweet rest, and sighs within himself for the better lot of which others are possessed. And yet there is no repose for him, though the night tramps on, and the jocund dawn will soon appear.

Why do his motions grow less rapid—why move his fingers in so deliberate and mechanical away? Whence is the smile that lingers on his lip, like the first sunbeam of early morning? There is a gentle presence at his side; an eye blue as violets, glancing in at his own; an accent sweet as music, entrancing his ear, and reaching his heart. It is but a moment; it was but a reverie; it did not even win him from his occupation; it only caused his hand to falter, not to cease; the printer awakens to his busy toil again.

Ye who receive our weekly favor, and wonder, perhaps listlessly, over its pages, remember, that it is the fruit of toil, which was active and untiring, while you were quietly sleeping; that your convenience and comfort is bought with the price of weariness.

WELL EMPLOYED.

We heard a pretty good one the other day, which we think merits a wider circulation than it has yet got. The story runs that some rough-looking, honest-faced Hosier went into a fancy store in Cincinnati, in hunt of a situation. The proprietor or head clerk, was sitting in the counting room, with his feet comfortably cocked up on a table, and contemplating human life through the softening influence of cigar smoke. Our Hosier friend addressed him modestly, addressed him, as follows: "Do you want to hire a hand about your establishment, sir?" The clerk looked up indifferently, but seeing his customer, concluded to have some fun out of him, so he answered very briskly, at the same time pulling out a large and costly handkerchief and blowing his nose on it—"Yes Sir. What sort of a situation do you want?" "Well," says the Hosier, "I'm not particular; I'm out of work, and most anything'll do for me a while." "Yes; well I can give you a situation that will suit you," and he made another deposit in his magnificent handkerchief. "What is it? What is to be done, and what do you give?" inquired the other. "Well," was the answer, "I

want hands to chew rags into paper, and if you are willing to set in, you can begin to once." "Good as wheat," exclaimed Hoozier, "hand over your rags." "Here" was the rejoinder, "take this handkerchief and commence with that." Hosier saw the "sell" and quietly putting the handkerchief in his pocket, remarked as he turned to go out, "When I get it chewed, stranger, I'll fetch it back!"

THE GRAIN OF CORN AND THE PENNY.

BY JAMES MONTGOMERY.

A grain of corn an infant's hand
May plant upon an inch of land,
Whence twenty stalks may spring, and yield
Enough to stock a little field.
The harvest of that field might then
Be multiplied to ten times ten,
Which, sown thrice more, would furnish bread,
Wherewith an army might be fed.

A penny is a little thing,
Which e'en the poor man's child may fling
Into the treasury of Heaven,
And make it worth as much as seven.
As seven! nay, worth its weight in gold,
And that increased a million fold;
For, lo! a penny tract, if well
Applied, may save a soul from hell.
That soul can scarce be saved alone;
It must, it will, its bliss make known.
"Come," it will cry, "and you shall see
What great things God hath done for me!"
Hundreds that joyful sound may hear—
Hear with the heart as well as ear;
And these to thousands more proclaim
Salvation in the "Only Name";
Till every tongue and tribe shall call
On "Jesus" as the Lord of all!

TRUE ELOQUENCE.

We learn from the Prohibitionist that Paul Denton's celebrated Cold Water Rhapsody has been attributed to John B. Gough. It is a fine burst of eloquence, and we copy it, with a part of the prefatory remarks of the Prohibitionist:

Paul Denton, an eccentric, but eloquent missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church, advertised that on a certain day, there would be "a barbecue camp meeting" at the "Double Spring Grove," at which the people might expect, "a good barbecue, better liquor, and the best of gospel." A large gathering was the consequence of this singular announcement. The barbecue was provided, the people seated to partake of it, when one, known as a ferocious rowdy, duelist and lyncher, and who seemed bent upon having a quarrel with somebody, cried out in an insolent voice—"Mr. Paul Denton, your reverence has lied. You promised not only a good barbecue, but better liquor. Where's your liquor?"

"There!" exclaimed the missionary, in tones of thunder, and pointing his motionless finger at the Double Spring, gushing up in two strong columns, with a sound like a shout of joy, from the bosom of the earth! "There!" he repeated, with a look terrible as lightning, while his enemy was actually trembling at his feet; "there is the liquor, which God, the eternal, brews for his children!"

"Not in the simmering still, over smoking fires, choked with poisonous gasses, and surrounded with the stench of sickening odors and rank corruption, doth your Father in Heaven prepare the precious essence of life, pure, cold water—but in the green glade and grassy dell, where the red deer wanders and the child loves to play, there God himself brews it; and low down in the deepest valleys, where fountains murmur and the rills sing; and high upon the mountain tops, where the naked granite glitters

like gold in the sun, where the storm clouds brood, and the thunder-storms crash; and away, far out on the wide, wide sea, where hurricane howls music, and big waves roar the chorus, 'sweeping the march of God'—there He brews it, that beverage of life, health-giving water.

"And everywhere, it is a thing of beauty; gleaming in the dew-drop, singing in the summer rain, shining in the ice-gem, when the trees seem turned into living jewels—spreading a golden veil over the setting sun, or a white gauze around the midnight moon; sporting in the cataract; sleeping in the glacier; dancing in the hail-shower; folding bright snow-curtains softly above the wintry world, and weaving the many colored iris, that seraph's zone of the sky, whose warp is the rainbow of earth, whose woof is the sun-beam of even, all checked over with celestial flowers, by the mystic hand of refraction. Still, always is it beautiful, that blessed cold water. No poison bubbles at its brink; its foam brings not madness and murder; no blood stains its liquid glass; pale and starving orphans weep not burning tears in its clear depths; no drunkard's shrieking ghost from the grave curses it in words of despair! Speak out, my friends, would you exchange it for the demon's drink, alcohol?"

A shout, like the roar of the tempest, answered, "No! no!!!"

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour is about the same as last week, or say 12½ cents per bbl. advance, with no disposition exhibited to buy on speculation. The sales are principally made to meet immediate demands for consumption. Corn has declined several cents per bushel and owing to large supplies of western mixed coming forward is quite heavy at \$1 07a\$1 13 according to quality. 30,000 bushels western mixed were sold this week to be delivered in July and August, at \$1 04a\$1 04½. The export of wheat for the first 24 days of this month have been 986 bushels against 34,083 the last year, and of corn during the same period 32,091 bushels in 1855 against 256,485 bushels in 1854. Oats are scarce and high and have advanced about 50 cents per bushel.

Cotton has again advanced from ¼c. to ½c. per lb. Rice and Tobacco, not much change.

The weather continues very fine, with occasional slight showers, but not enough to hinder getting in crops. Highly favorable reports continue to reach us from nearly every part of the country in reference to the incoming crops. Appearances now are, that those holding back their grain for still higher prices, will be disappointed. California is now sending us some of her surplus wheat and flour, and bids fair to become an exporter of agricultural products.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, May 29, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The Potato Market is pretty fair to-day, with rather a short supply on hand. 80 barrels of new potatoes came in yesterday from Charleston. No more Bermudas have yet arrived. 100 bbls. new onions have just come in from New-Orleans, in fine order.

We notice, by the last steamer from Norfolk, Va., 40

bbls. of green peas, which sell for \$5 ½ bbl. Also, about 50 baskets of cherries, which sell from 10c. to 12½c. ½ lb by the basket. Also, 2,400 quarts of strawberries, bringing from 25c. to 50c., ½ quart. Some strawberries came in to-day from Philadelphia, which bring 50c. A few, also, came in to-day from near Keyport, N. J. Towards the latter part of the week they will begin to come in considerable quantities. We notice, also, a few barrels of beans and squashes from Charleston.

Green stuff, just now, goes off rather slow.

The Butter market is a little dull, except in firkins for shipping, which commands 25c. ½ lb. Cheese is lower, and of poor quality—as usually happens when butter is high. Eggs, no change.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas	½ bbl.	\$5 —@6 50
Charleston, new	do	4 50@5 —
New-Jersey Mercers	do	4 50@4 75
Western Mercers	do	4 —@4 25
White Mercers	do	3 75@3 87
Nova Scotia Mercers	½ bush.	1 20@1 25
New-Jersey Carters	do	— @ —
Washington County Carters	do	3 25@3 50
Junes	do	3 —@ —
Western Reds	do	2 75@3 —
Yellow Pink Eyes	do	2 75@3 —
Long Reds	do	2 50@2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes	do	— @ —
Philadelphia sweet	do	— @ —
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do	1 75@2 25
White	do	— @1 62
Onions—White	do	— @ —
Bermuda Reds, new	do	5 00@5 50
New-Greans Reds	do	5 —@5 50
Red, old	do	4 —@4 25
Yellow	do	4 25@4 50
Cabbage Sprouts	½ bbl.	— @1 —
Asparagus	½ 100 bunches.	8 —@10 —
Spinach	½ bbl.	— @ —
Water Cresses	½ basket.	— 50@ —
Rhubarb	½ 100 bunch.	4 —@6 —
Radishes	do.	25@ 37
Lettuce	do.	1 25@2 —
Apples	½ bbl.	\$3 75@4 50
Butter—new	½ lb.	22@24c.
Western, old	do	16@17c.
Cheese	do	9@11c.
Eggs	½ doz.	—@15c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY May 30, 1855.

We find 2,205 cattle in the yards to-day, being an increase of nearly 450 over last week. These are rather round figures for these times, and may be set down as a "full" supply. Indeed, it was rather more than full, if we may judge from the slowness of the sales, and the appearance of the brokers. It seems they had calculated on a tall strike to-day, and, consequently, had scraped to gether all the cattle possible; but as this strike was general, they rather overdid the matter. In fact the brokers owned nearly all the cattle in the yards, though as a general thing they preferred to keep it quiet. Some 400 which were wanted in Boston, were brought here and sold for \$5@6 ahead less than they were offered in Albany.

The prices were started early in the morning at 13½c.; but as this was a drag the brokers came down to 13c., which was the top of the market. And even at that the sales were slow, most of the good cattle not averaging more than 12c. It was pretty manifest that the closing sales would be much lower still; and doubtless many of the cattle will not find a sale at all this week. Some of the brokers, we know were determined to realise better prices, or, hold on to their cattle.

The quality of the animals was such as might be expected in a supply forced into market. It was made up of all grades and sizes, from the choicest beeves down to the merest serags. Nothing but high prices, and an utter contempt of good breeding, could induce men to offer such rag-tag brutes for beef cattle.

We present a few items:

H. O. Hary had 17 fair cattle from Cayuga Co., N. Y., selling by Geo. Ayrault for about 12c. Mr. Ayrault had also 74 choice still-fed cattle, belonging to Keenholts & Williams, of Jefferson County, which were bringing 12½c. These gentlemen were offered \$8 more a head in Albany than they will get here, and will take back 24 of the best. The cattle were fed at Angel's stall.

Geo. Toffey was selling 104 good four-year-old steers, of about 650 lbs., weight, and at 12½ and 13c. per lb.

Sam'l Uley was selling 103 fine Illinois beeves of his own, at 12½c@13c. per lb. They would average about 750 lbs.

John Merritt was selling 60 good Ohio cattle, owned by Wm. Snyder. He asked 13c. but didn't get more than about 12½c.

Mr. Merritt was selling another lot of 81 fair Iowa cattle

owned by S. M. Baker, for about 12c. Mr. Hoag was selling the remainder, 79.

John Murray was selling a good fair lot of Kentucky cattle, owned by Wm. Belden, for about 12c. They would weigh about 700 lbs.

Barnes & Wheeler were selling 87 pretty fair Illinois cattle at an average of 12c.

Merchant & Foot had 6 heavy cattle from Woodbury, Conn., for which they were offered \$690, which was no more than 12c.

James Tuttle, also from Connecticut, sold 6 for \$655, or 13c. 7/1b.

Barney had 110 choice cattle from Illinois, and owned by Geo. W. Reid. They sold for 12 1/2 @ 13c.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices: Extra quality 12 1/2 @ 13c. Good retailing quality 11 @ 12 1/2 c. Inferior do. do. 10 @ 11c. Cows and Calves \$30 @ \$65. Veals 4c. @ 6c. Swine, alive, 5 1/2 c. @ 6c. " dead, 7 1/2 @ 8c

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street. A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

Table with 2 columns: RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK, IN MARKET TO-DAY. Rows include Beeves, Cows, Veals, Sheep and lambs, Swine.

Table listing sales by location: Erie Railroad, Harlem Railroad, Hudson River Railroad, Hudson River Boats, New-York State furnished, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Connecticut.

The sheep market is about the same as last week, but a little slow. Good lambs bring from \$5 to \$6 per head. Mr. McCarty had none on hand to-day.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

Table of sheep sales: 68 Sheep \$385 75, 4 Sheep 32 00, 89 Sheep 578 50, 111 Sheep 687 50, 17 do. 104 00, 124 do. 659 00, 17 Lambs 36 00, 4 do. 27 50, 105 do. 526 75, 7 do. 34 50, 546 Average \$5 72, \$3,122 50

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Table of prices for various goods: Ashes, Bristles, Beeswax, Coal, Cotton Bagging, Cotton, Flour and Meal.

Table of prices for various crops and goods: Canada, Brandywine, Georgetown, Petersburg City, Richmond Country, Alexandria, Baltimore, Howard-Street, Rye Flour, Corn Meal, Jersey, Corn Meal, Brandywine, Corn Meal, Brandywine.

Table of prices for various crops: Grain - Wheat, White Genesee, Wheat, do. Canada, Wheat, Southern, White, Wheat, Ohio, White, Wheat, Michigan, White, Rye, Northern, Corn, Round Yellow, Corn, Round White, Corn, Southern White, Corn, Southern Yellow, Corn, Southern Mixed, Corn, Western Mixed, Corn, Western Yellow, Barley, Oats, River and Canal, Oats, New-Jersey, Oats, Western, Peas, Black-Eyed.

Table of prices for Molasses: New-Orleans, Porto Rico, Cuba Muscovado, Trinidad Cuba, Cardenas, &c.

Table of prices for Oil Cake: Thin Oblong, City, Thick, Round, Country.

Table of prices for Rice: Ordinary to fair, Good to prime.

Table of prices for Salt: Turk's Island, St. Martin's, Liverpool, Ground, Liverpool, Fine, Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.

Table of prices for Sugar: St. Croix, New-Orleans, Cuba Muscovado, Porto Rico, Havana, White, Havana, Brown and Yellow.

Table of prices for Tallow: American, Prime.

Table of prices for Tobacco: Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, St. Domingo, Cuba, Yara, Havana, Fillers and Wrappers, Florida Wrappers, Connecticut, Seed Leaf, Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing the month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK. NOW READY.

A large supply of both 1st and 2d Volumes bound in one book, and containing all the subject connected with the Devon records of both England and America up to the present time; also as a frontispiece the beautiful engraving of the celebrated picture known as the "Quarterly Testimonial" which is a full length portrait of Mr. Francis Quarterly, now living, at 91 years of age. It is also illustrated with two animals, prize winners in England. Price \$1 00, and can be had by inclosing the amount to B. P. Johnson, Cor. Sec. of N. Y. State Society, Albany, N. Y.; Luther Tucker, Ed. of Country Gentleman, Albany, N. Y.; Sandford Howard, Boston, Mass.; D. D. T. Moore, Ed. Wool Grower and Stock Raiser, Rochester, N. Y.; A. B. Allen, Ed. American Agriculturist, New-York; Sam'l Sands, Ed. American Farmer, Baltimore, Md.; A. M. Spangler, Ed. Progressive Farmer, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lee & Redmonds, Eds. Southern Cultivator, Augusta, Ga.; and Wm. McDougall, Ed. Canadian Agri., Toronto, Canada. It gives me pleasure to state that Mr. Davy has solicited Mr. S. Howard, of Boston Cultivator, to collect pedigrees and illustrations in this country, for the 3d volume, and has authorized Mr. H. to obtain information as to any and all mistakes which may have been made as to the recording of American animals in Davy's 2d volume, and such corrections will be made in the 3d volume.

The plan proposed is, that the pedigrees and illustrations collected by Mr. Howard, as the Editor in America, shall be forwarded to Mr. Davy, and a copy of those collected by Mr. Davy will be sent to Mr. Howard. The whole matter will be published in America for our use, and also in England for their use; by which means an American and English Devon Herd Book will be united, and the price reasonable, as the expense of English printing and duties will be saved. This concert of action has been brought about by Mr. Davy's good feeling and liberality towards this country; and I am only the instrument through which Mr. Davy acts, and from this time forth Mr. Howard will receive all communications on the subject, as will appear by reference to his advertisement.

All editors who will give the above three insertions will receive a copy of the 1st, 2d, and 3d volumes. L. G. MORRIS, American Agent for J. T. Davy's Devon Herd Book. 90-93n1203

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

Onion and Carrot Growers, READ!

THE NEW PATENT HAND CULTIVATOR, of which Hon. Wm. H. Conover, an extensive Onion grower, of Freehold, N. J., says: "I would not be without one for \$100, if it could not be procured for less,"—for sale by

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

GRIFFING & BROTHERS, 60 Courtland-st.

And JOHN GANSE, Manufacturer,

90-93n1202

134 Thompson-st., New-York.

BY JAMES M. MILLER & Co.

THIRD GRAND ANNUAL SALE OF SHORT HORNS, DURHAM AND CROSSES FROM THEM, with the best approved AMSTERDAM, DUTCH and Pure bred AYRSHIRES.

THURSDAY, June 14, 1855, at 12 o'clock,

on the farm of JAMES BATHGATE, Esq., one mile from Fordham, and 11 miles from the City Hall, New-York city, by Harlem Railroad cars, running hourly.

Being desirous of making my pledge good to the cattle owners to have an annual sale, and having the use again of Mr. Bathgate's capacious premises, I shall sell as above stated.

None but cattle of the well-known breeds or established character, will be received; and every animal offered must be sold without reserve.

The sale will come off rain or shine.

Every facility will be offered by the Hudson River, Harlem and New-Haven Railroads to those who choose to take stock to the sale.

For further particulars and catalogues, apply to the Auctioneer, 81 Maiden-lane, New-York. 89-92n1199

BLACK HAWK HORSE RAVEN.

This Horse will stand at the farm of the subscriber, in NORFOLK, Conn., called the Robbins Farm, the coming season, at ten and fifteen dollars. The oldest colts of this Horse are three years old. The stock is of extraordinary promise.

RAVEN is by Vermont Black Hawk—dam has the blood of Gifford Morgan and of Cock of the Rock. 85-86n1191

ROBBINS BATTELL.

SUPERIOR THOROUGHbred DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS FOR SALE.

The subscriber having purchased from Mr. W. P. Wainwright his interest in the herd of Devon Cattle hitherto owned conjointly by them, will continue to give his strict attention to the breeding and raising of this increasingly popular breed. Having now a herd of over twenty head, bred entirely from animals of his own importation, he is enabled to offer for sale a few young bulls and heifers of very superior quality.

Also, constantly on hand thoroughbred ESSEX PIGS, descended from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to price, age, pedigree, &c., address C. S. WALSHWRIGHT, April, 1855. Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y. 87-9n1195

KNOWLSON'S FARRIER OR HORSE-DOCTOR.

The greatest book for the treatment of diseased horses ever printed—containing also valuable hints for choosing a good horse, and directions for training horses. By J. C. KNOWLSON, F. Q. R. Price 25 cents.

This is a plainly written treatise on horses and horse diseases, by one of the most eminent English farriers ever known. Mr. Knowlson, the author, was none of your theoretical geniuses called gentlemen farriers. He was a plain, honest, hard-working man who doctored the horses with his own hands and his own preparations. He treated more than a hundred thousand horses in his life time, having practised fifty odd years; and he made a record of each case, so as to judge of other similar cases. This is the way he gained his popularity. He died a few years ago, leaving a property equal to \$150,000 in Yankee money; yet he was a hard-working man to the end of his life. This is the only Horse-Doctor book that can be relied on.

AGENTS WANTED in all parts of the United States and Canada, to sell this and other valuable works. Sample copies with catalogue of Maps, Books, Charts and Prints sent by mail (post-paid) upon receipt of price. Address

A. RANNEY, Publisher, No. 195 Broadway, New-York. N. B.—Editors copying the above shall receive a copy of the work (post-paid.) 89-92n1183

NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. PREMIUMS ON FARMS.

Premiums are offered for 1855, of \$50, \$30, and \$20, on farms of not less than 50 acres, exclusive of wood and water land, regard being had to the quantity and quality of produce, the manner and expense of cultivation and the actual products.

Questions to be answered by the applicants will be furnished by the Secretary, on application.

Notice must be given to the Secretary on or before the FIRST OF JULY.

by persons intending to compete, so that some member or members of the Executive Committee may visit and examine the farms entered for competition, and report on the same. Agricultural Rooms, } B. P. JOHNSON, Albany, May 16, 1855. } 88-91n1197 Secretary.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane,

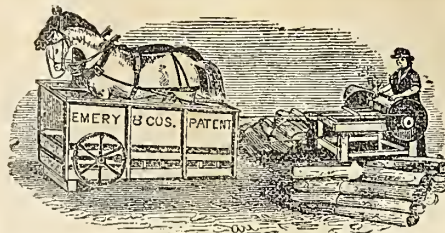
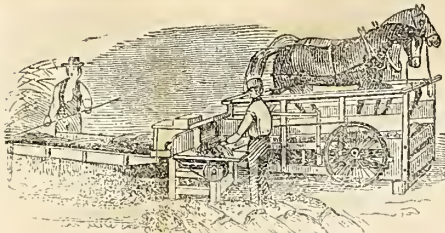
Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT.)

The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Copper-smiths, Gas Fitters, &c. &c. Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c. Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping. Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER, Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York. 85-136n1190eow





ALBANY AGRICULTURAL WORKS,
ON HAMILTON, LIBERTY, AND UNION STREETS;
WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE,
REMOVED TO
NO. 52 STATE-STREET ALBANY, N. Y.

The Proprietors of the above-named establishment being the sole owners and manufacturers of
EMERY'S PATENT HORSE POWER, &c.,

ALL ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER PARTIES FOR THEIR MANUFACTURE HAVING EXPIRED, have formed a new Copartnership, under the firm name of

EMERY BROTHERS,

And will continue the manufacture and sale of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY, as heretofore, at the old stands of EMERY & CO. By this arrangement the united efforts, and interest of the Brothers, long known to the public, are secured, and no exertions will be spared to meet the wishes of those dealing in and using the class of implements they manufacture—their leading branch being the manufacture of the justly celebrated

Emery's Patent Changeable Geared Railroad Horse Powers,

With the machines to be propelled by it, as Threshing machines, Saw Mills, and Machinery generally. These Powers having been submitted repeatedly to the most severe tests and trials to determine their relative merit and utility with those of every known manufacturer, have without exception been awarded the highest prizes for superiority—among which were the following:

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| N. Y. STATE AGRIC'L SOCIETY, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850. | MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. |
| OHIO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULT., 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851. | MISSOURI STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. |
| MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULT. SOCIETY, 1853, 1852, 1851. | AMERICAN INSTITUTE, - - - - - 1852, 1851. |
| INDIANA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. | NEW-YORK CRYSTAL PALACE, - - - - - 1853. |
| ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. | CANADA PROVINCIAL SOCIETY, - - - - - 1852, 1851. |
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WARRANTY, ECONOMY, CAPACITY, &c.

THE TWO-HORSE POWER and THRESHER, is capable, with three or four men, of threshing from 175 to 225 bushels, of wheat or rye, and the ONE-HORSE POWER from 75 to 125 bushels of wheat or rye; or both kinds of Powers, &c., are capable of threshing double that amount of oats, barley or buckwheat, per day, of ordinary fair yield. If the crops be extraordinarily heavy or light, greater or less results will follow.

These Powers, Threshers, &c., are warranted to be of the best materials and workmanship, and to operate as represented by our Circular, to the satisfaction of the purchasers, together with a full right of using them in any territory of the United States, subject to be returned within three months, and home transportation and full purchase money refunded if not found acceptable to purchasers.

The public may rest assured the reputation heretofore earned for our manufactures, shall be fully sustained, by using none but the best material and workmanship; and by a strict attention to business, they hope to merit and enjoy a continuance of the patronage heretofore so liberally bestowed, which we respectfully solicit.

N. B.—All articles bear the name of "EMERY" in raised letters upon the cast iron parts, and however much others may resemble them, none are genuine without this mark.

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Emery's Patent Changeable Horse Power Thresher, Separator, Bands, &c., for two horses.....	\$160	Set of Bands for Machine.....	\$5
Do. for one horse.....	128	Portable Circular Saw Mills, with 24 inch circular saw, for wood cutting, &c.....	37
Do. Two-Horse Power, with Thresher and Cleaner combined.....	245	Extra Table and saw for Slitting Boards, and Fencing Stuff, and general shop use.....	7
Do. Patent Two-horse Power.....	116	Cross-cut Saw, arrangements improved to attach to power for cutting logs.....	25
Do. One-horse do.....	85	Churn attachment, (for one or more churns).....	12
Do. Thresher and Separator, 14 by 26 inch cylinder.....	40		

ALBANY, N. Y., March 15, 1855. [90,2,4,6n1201] **EMERY BROTHERS.**

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS AND SEPARATORS.

Single Horse Power.....	\$85 00
Double do. do.....	116 00
Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator.....	160 00
Single do. do. do.....	123 00

Belts \$5 and \$10 each.

R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York. 189 and 191 Water-street.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO

can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the IMPROVED POUURETTE made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY:
Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUURETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure. (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN DANA.

79—12nd 1152

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Forham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86—11th 193

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskrat or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurry, Red and White Clover, Lucerne, Saintfoin, Alyske Clover, Sweet-scented Clover, Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties, Winter Rye, Oats, of several choice kinds, Corn, of great variety, Spring and Winter Vetches, PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed.

BARLEY—California and Two-rowed variety.

TURNIPI AND RUTA BAGA, of every choice kind.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Orange, Locust, Buckthorn, Tobacco, Common and Italian Millet, Broom Corn, Cotton, Flax, Canary, Hemp, Rape and Rice.

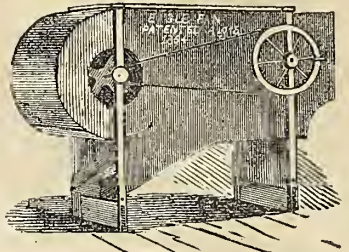
FRUIT TREES.—Choice varieties, including the Apple, Pear, Quince, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, &c., &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBBERY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

SHORT HORN BULLS.—I have for sale three young, thoroughbred SHORT HORN BULLS; ages—four months, seven months, eighteen months; colors—roan, red, chiefly red; the get of SPLENDOR, a son of Vane Tempest and imported Wolviston, JOHN R. PAGE, Sennett, Cayuga Co. N. Y.

73—

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists

First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

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ALL SENT FREE OF POSTAGE, on receipt of the price annexed.

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 - V. Prize Essay on Manures. By S. L. Dana. Price 25 cents.
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 - VII. The Pests of the Farm, with Directions for Extirpation. Price 25 cents.
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 - XXXVI. The American Florist's Guide. Price 75 cents.
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 - XL. Lindley's Guide to the Orchard. Price \$1 25.
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 - LVI. Norton's Scientific Agriculture—New Edition. Price 75 cents.
 - LVII. DADD'S MODERN HORSE DOCTOR. Price \$1.
 - LVIII. Diseases of Horse's Feet. Price 25 cents.
 - LIX. Guinon's Milk Cows. Price 30 cents.
 - LX. Longstroth on Bees. Price \$1 25.
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 - LXII. Gray's Text Book of Botany. Price \$2.
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LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON, 83-108th 1188 No 54 Wall-st., New-York.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.--Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do.
- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
- TRIMBLE'S do. do. for one to four do.
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- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine.
- ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do.
- KETCHUM'S Mowing Machine.
- HUSSEY'S Reaping do.
- McCORMICK'S do. do.
- ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

THRESHERS--

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
- do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
- EMERY'S overshot.
- EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES--For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles--and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS--A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power--a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

FAN MILLS--Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS--A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES--Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS--For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

WATER RAMS, SUCTION, FORCE and Endless-chain Pumps; Leather, Gutta Percha, India Rubber Hose, Lead Pipe, &c.

DRAINING TILES OF ALL FORMS and sizes.

SOUTHERN PLOWS--Nos. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 14, 15, 18, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$, 19, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$, 20, A 1, A 2, Nos. 50, 60, and all other sizes.

PLOWS--A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS--With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

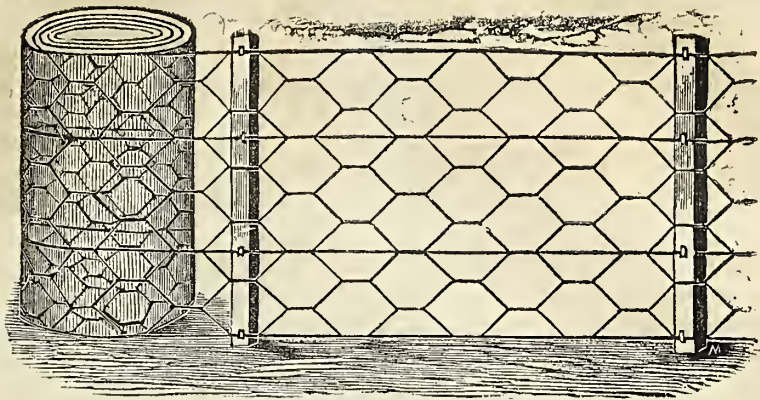
VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

- Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
- Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
- Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
- Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines,
- Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Corn and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.
- Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
- Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear,
- Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
- Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 66-6m



IMPROVED WIRE FENCE.

THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens. It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years.

Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the sunbeam, while it does not confine heat, and is withal ornamental.

This superior FENCE can be supplied at the following prices:

A--16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, 2 longitudinal wires,	\$0 95 per rod.
B--45 " " 6-inch " 2 " " "	1 25 " "
C--45 " " 6-inch " 4 " " "	1 50 " "
D--33 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	1 63 " "
E--33 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	1 75 " "
F--45 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	2 00 " "
G--45 " " 3-inch " 4 " " "	2 25 " "

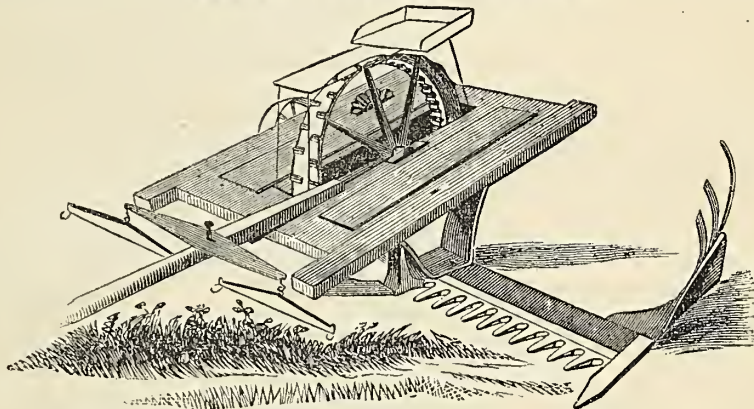
Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot.

The rod measures 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Each coil contains about 25 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

- 1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.
- 2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.
- 3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.
- 4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.
- 5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.
- 6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
- 7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle--consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals. Nearly the whole of them are IMPORTED, and their direct descendants.

Also, about seventy-five (75) SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few SUFFOLK HOGS, bred from the importation of J. C. JACKSON, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

TERMS OF SALE.

For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.
J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y.
March 20th, 1855. 81--92n1185

FARMERS ATTENTION.--Basket Willows are imported in large quantities from Europe, and yet the market is not supplied.

The Willows can be grown very profitably in this country; it is believed that more than one hundred dollars per acre profit, can be realized with proper attention.

WHY NOT TRY IT?

Cuttings can be had in any quantity upon early application to the subscriber, and instructions for planting &c.

Hitherto the labor of peeling willows by hand has been the great objection to their cultivation, but now a machine has been perfected, capable of doing the work of twenty men, and doing it well. 79--61

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.--L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm.

April 24, 1855. 86--tfn1194

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

When sending a subscription always state what number it shall commence with. The back numbers of this volume can still be supplied to new subscribers. Back volumes neatly bound can now be furnished from the commencement. Price of the first ten volumes \$1 25 each, or \$10 for the entire set of ten volumes. Vols. XI, XII, and XIII, \$1 50 each. Price of the thirteen volumes, \$14 00.

We can generally furnish back numbers. Where only one or two may be wanting, no charge will be made to regular subscribers, and all numbers lost by mail we will cheerfully supply.

Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can begin with any number, but it is preferable to commence the 15th of March or the 15th of September, as a half yearly volume of 416 pages, with a complete index, begins on each of those dates.

In sending money it is advisable to make a note of the name, number, letter and date of the bills sent, and then inclose them in presence of the Postmaster. Give the Post-office and the County and State. Write these very plainly.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT!

FOURTEENTH VOLUME OF
THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,
THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

A copious Index is weekly added, which will be fully amplified at the end of each half yearly volume, for the bound work.

COMPREHENSIVE IN ITS CHARACTER.

Each volume will contain all matter worth recording, which transpires either at home or abroad, and which can serve to instruct or interest the Farmer, the Planter, the Fruit-Grower, the Gardener, and the Stock-Breeder; thus making it the most complete and useful Agricultural Publication of the day.

CORRECT AND VALUABLE MARKET REPORTS.

The Markets will be carefully reported, giving the *actual transactions* which take place from week to week, in Grain, Provisions, Cattle, &c., thus keeping our readers *constantly and reliably* advised as to their interests. During the past year the knowledge obtained from these Market Reports alone, has saved our readers thousands of dollars, by informing them of the best time to sell or purchase.

SUCH A PAPER IS DEMANDED BY THE FARMING COMMUNITY.

The Publishers confidently believe that the Agriculturists of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow *monthly* issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and *reliable* character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

ESSENTIALLY AN AGRICULTURAL PAPER.

The *Agriculturist* will not depart from its legitimate sphere to catch popular favor, by lumbering up its pages with the silly, fictitious literature, and light, miscellaneous matter of the day; it has a higher aim; and a small part only of its space will be devoted to matters not immediately pertaining to the great business of Agriculture. The household as well as the out-door work of the farm will receive a due share of attention. The humbugs and nostrums afloat in the community will be tried by reliable scientific rules, and their worthlessness exposed. It is the aim of the publishers to keep this paper under the guidance of those who will make it a standard work, which shall communicate to its readers *only* that which is safe and reliable.

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

The *American Agriculturist* stands upon *its own merits*; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is *untrammelled* by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the *organ of any clique*, or the *puffing machine* of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

The *American Agriculturist* is under the control and management of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an experienced farmer, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness* and *reliability* of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

THE CHEAPEST PAPER IN THE COUNTRY OF ITS CHARACTER.

The *American Agriculturist* is supplied to regular subscribers at a cost of less than FOUR CENTS a number, of sixteen large pages; and to large clubs for a trifle less than THREE CENTS. Each number will contain suggestions for the treatment of soils, manures, crops, stock, &c., which will often be worth to the reader more than the cost of the paper for a year.

SPECIMEN COPIES.

Specimen copies will be forwarded gratis to any one sending their name and Post-office address to the publishers.

TERMS, &c.—The paper will be promptly issued on Wednesday of each week, and mailed to subscribers on the following liberal terms:

To single Subscribers	.....	\$2 00	A YEAR, \$2 00
“ Clubs of 3 do.	.....	1 67	“ 5 00
“ “ 5 do.	.....	1 60	“ 8 00
“ “ 10 do.	.....	1 50	“ 15 00

The money always to accompany the names for which the paper is ordered.

The Postmaster, or other person sending a club of ten, will be entitled to one extra copy gratis.

The Postmaster, or other person sending a club of twenty or more, will be presented with an extra copy, and also a copy of the National Magazine, Scientific American, Weekly Tribune, or Weekly Times, or any other paper or periodical in this City, the cost not exceeding two dollars per annum. The above are not given where book premiums are paid.

Subscriptions may be forwarded by mail at the risk of the Publishers, if inclosed and mailed in the presence of the Postmaster, and the name, number and letter of the bill registered.

Communications for the paper should be addressed to the Editors; Subscriptions, Advertisements and all matters relating to the business department, should be addressed to the Publishers,

ALLEN & CO., No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
ALLEN & CO., 189 Water-st., New-York.

VOL. XIV.—NO. 13.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 91.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

[SEE LAST PAGE.]

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

THE AMERICAN WHITE HEAD OR BALD EAGLE.

In whiling away an evening we shall be excused by our readers if we occasionally turn from the strict line of agricultural advancement, to give a notice of things not familiar, as of old, but still interesting to the lover of Natural History. Among the most prominent of these, is that truly American bird, adopted as our national emblem, the White Head Eagle.

This majestic bird is still found along the inhabited sea-shores throughout the United States, and on the great rivers, and lakes of the interior; but in numbers much less than in the earlier settlements, where it had long held its abodes. It is described with great eloquence, and at much length, by both Wilson and Audubon, in their American Ornithologies; and from them we learn that it is a predatory creature, preying chiefly upon the spoils of others, and possessing few of the noble qualities attributed to it by tradition, or that would recommend it as the national emblem of a magnanimous people. For many years a family of White Head eagles have held a domicile on our farm, just below Lake Erie, on the Niagara, where successive families of young have been reared and taken their flight. The Niagara has ever been a favorite resort of the Bald Eagle. Early travelers mention them as abounding, for miles, around the cataract. We have never, to our knowledge, suffered from their depredations; although often detecting them preying upon the dead fish which have floated to the shores of the river, or been left by the fishermen. We have always regarded them with complacency, as one of the interesting family of wild birds that for ages have dwelt around a spot which, from its peculiar accordance with their natural habits, has been their chosen home.

As no more than a single pair of eagles usually occupy a nesting ground, the bound-

aries of which may extend a mile, or more, either way, the family that hold dominion over our place have been in constant possession since we first knew it, near twenty years ago. The young hover about for the first year, and usually disappear for some other region the next spring, or at a year old. They seldom breed till they acquire the white head and tail, which is at about three years of age. At the approach of the pairing season, in April, they usually leave the river-shore for their nest in the woods, only going out for the purpose of food, until the young are large enough to leave the nest with them. They then loiter about their usual hunting-grounds, preying on the spoils of other birds, or the dead fish and carrion lying along the shores. After the first deep fall of snow in the winter, we have frequently found three or four, and sometimes more, of them sitting together on the high branch of a dead tree, where, if on horseback, or with a team of horses or oxen, they can be very nearly approached without alarm—indeed we have rode on horseback within an hundred feet of them, while they looked down upon us with great complacency. They will so sit for a whole day, and only move off at night to their roosting place in the woods. During the winter they hover about the river-shore continually, and in severe weather are often seen floating down the stream on a cake of ice, devouring a fish, the body of a gull, or duck, which they have captured or have found killed or wounded by some hunter. Almost every winter some of the young eagles have been shot by the hunters, and occasionally one has been caught from the nest and taken to the neighboring city, as a pet or curiosity.

The writer once had an encounter of this latter kind, and as it was, in its results, somewhat of an adventure, we shall record it. When about eighteen years old, spending some time in the vicinity of one of the great lakes, one fine May morning we went with a companion down to the shore where a fisherman had put up a shanty, and with his wife and an infant child had taken up their summer residence. On our way down, and about a hundred rods from the water, in the topmost branches of an enormous oak, we spied an eagle's nest, and as the old eagles were wheeling about it, we concluded that the nest had either eggs or young within it, and which of the two we soon determined to ascertain. As our companion was a middle-aged man, and had no special taste for climbing, the adventure was left for me alone.

The tree on which the nest was built had no limbs for thirty feet or more from the ground, but, fortunately, a smaller tree near it had been felled, and its top lodged midway up among the branches of the oak. Ascending the fallen tree, I soon reached the oak, and catching the huge limbs above me, I swung up on one after another until I stood on one a few feet beneath the trio of branches on which the nest lay. During my ascent one of the eagles, with vociferous cries, often wheeled within a dozen feet of my head; but, like other youngsters, as I had at the time quite as much courage as conduct, I stood in little fear of an attack. Well posted on a strong limb, with a near branch to hold on by, I looked into the nest. It was built of strong, heavy sticks, laid crosswise, perhaps two feet in thickness from bottom to top, and four or five feet wide on the surface, covered with long, dry grass, and leaves. About midway on the nest lay two young eagles, one somewhat larger than the other, about the size of half-grown goslings, and covered with the same sort of down, in color and appearance. Close by them lay two or three dead fish, half covered with blue-bottle flies, and giving off an intolerable stench. With a stick, which I drew out of the lower part of the nest, I tried to poke one of the young towards me; but they turned up their claws in defiance, with a sort of hiss, and edged further away. During this time one of the old eagles had left the premises altogether, while the other still kept wheeling and diving around, but approached no nearer than within a few feet of me, as before. After awhile my continued poking at the young ones so exasperated one of them, that he seized my stick so firmly with his claws that I drew him within reach. Determined to hold divided empire with the old eagles in the possession of their young, the next process was to get the bird to the ground without damage, as I had no sack or basket in which to deposit and let him safely down; but, like other youngsters, who are seldom at a loss for expedients in mischief, a plan was soon invented. Taking off my hat, coat, and vest, and laying them on the adjacent limb, my shirt was rapidly drawn over my head, the sleeves tied together at the wristbands, and thrown over my neck, the skirts bound into a knot, thus making a sack, and the open collar and bosom forming its mouth. Into this *con amore* receptacle our bellicose "Young America" was rapidly thrust, my outer garments replaced, and, flushed with victory, I made

a rapid descent down the tree. No triumphant plunderer ever felt prouder of his trophy than I, and like the kilted Highlander in Rob Roy, I could sing:

"The eagle, he was lord above,
And Rob was lord of all below!"

I took the eagle down to the fisherman's hut, and after spending an hour or two, began to consider what to do with the young ruffian I had so wantonly caught, for I had neither a suitable place nor provisions on which to keep him, and wisely concluding that the *second*, if not the better part of valor was discretion, I gave him to the owner of the hut for his own pastime.

I saw no more of the eagle for some weeks, when I again visited the fisherman, and found the young, tawny-looking thing an enormous bird, lounging about the door, and grown stout and saucy from generous treatment and the fish garbage on which he had been profusely fed.

The next report heard from the young savage, a few weeks after, was near being a tragic one. The wife of the fisherman having occasion one day to go to the shore, a few rods distant, after a bucket of water, while there she heard a scream from her child, which in her caution she had placed upon the bed when she left the room. Rushing back, she found the child prostrate on the floor, screaming in terror and agony, the eagle on its breast, with one claw transfixed into its face, and the other, as she approached, turned up, with open beak, in defiance at the mother's approach. With the quick energy of a woman in extremity, she struck the eagle off with her foot, and caught up the child, its face badly cut and bleeding, and deposited it at once in a place of safety. This done, an ax lay at the door, and that eagle *died*, probably as sudden a death as ever malefactor did on execution of any sort whatever. The little sufferer, after a few weeks' careful attention, recovered of its wound, but with a lasting scar on its temple.

That was the first and the last of the race that we ever attempted to tame, and long will the bald eagle "tower" over our homestead in his "pride of place," ere we shall seek to disturb his authority.

The quill of the bald eagle is peculiarly hard and elastic, and to those who prefer a quill to a metal pen, like ourselves, we commend their use, when they can be obtained. We have long used them.

CLEANING GUN BARRELS.—We have somewhere heard of spirits of turpentine as being good to use on the swab instead of water in cleaning out gun barrels. It strikes us that this is a good recommendation, as there would be no danger of rusting if this article be used. We think, however, that a mixture of one part of spirits of turpentine and two or three parts of strong alcohol (spirits of wine) well shaken together, would be preferable. Cleaned in this way, they will dry and be ready for use immediately.

The mere wants of nature, even when nature is refined by education, are few and simple; but the wants of pride and self-love are insatiable.

For the American Agriculturist.

TRIAL OF MOWERS—IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.

The undersigned Committee, appointed at the last meeting of the Society of Agriculture and Horticulture of Westchester County, to make arrangements for a "Trial of Mowing Machines" in said County, would respectfully give notice that said trial will take place on Friday, the 15th of June, inst., at precisely 1 o'clock, P. M., at or near the farm of Judge Jay, in the town of Bedford, 2½ miles east of Katonah Station on the Harlem Railroad, and probably the next morning, while the dew is upon the grass.

[Judges will be appointed in the manner described below:]

Proprietors and Manufacturers of Machines are generally invited to present specimen machines for trial and exhibition as above noticed, and farmers and all interested, of Westchester and adjoining Counties, are invited to attend.

Notices of entries of machines may be given by mail, to A. F. DICKINSON, Katonah, Westchester Co., N. Y., and machines may be shipped to the same direction, *via* Harlem Railroad. June 2, 1855.

HENRY KEELER,
D. W. SMITH,
CALEB MARTINE,
A. F. DICKINSON. } Committee, &c.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N. Y.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the Constitution of the Society of Agriculture and Horticulture of Westchester Co., a Special Meeting of said Society is called, to be held on the 15th of June, inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M., in the field with the trial of mowing machines, at or near the farm of Judge Jay, in the town of Bedford, for the purpose of appointing judges, voting the manner in which the sum of \$30, appropriated at the last meeting of said Society, shall be expended, and the transaction of such other business as the meeting may deem necessary. June 2, 1855.

A. F. DICKINSON,
Pres't Soc. Ag. and Hort. of Westchester Co.

PRIZES FOR MOWING MACHINES.

The Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, believing that the introduction of labor-saving machines in field operations, especially those employed in mowing, promises to effect a most beneficial change in the agricultural economy of New-England, are desirous of bringing this subject to the earnest and immediate attention of the farmers of Massachusetts. For the purpose of forwarding the movement now being made in this direction, they offer the following premium:

To the possessor of the mowing machine which shall cut during the present season, with the greatest economy and to the best advantage, not less than fifty acres of grass within the State, the machine to be worked by horse or ox-power,

SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS.

All other things being equal, the greatest number of acres cut by any one machine exceeding fifty, would entitle the competitor to the premium.

Every competitor must give notice to the Trustees of his intention to compete for the premium, on or before the seventeenth of June next. He must at the end of the season or before the tenth day of September next furnish satisfactory proof of the number of acres cut by the machine during the season. He must also keep a record of each day's work; the number of hours actually at work in each day; the number and kind

of animals employed, stating when any of the same, if any, are changed, and the reason therefor; the name of the maker of the machine; its cost; if new this season; any accidents or breakages which have occurred in working it, and the nature of them and how repaired, together with any suggestions which may seem useful in preventing a recurrence of them; which record shall be submitted to the Trustees at the close of the working season of the machine.

Competitors are not precluded from competing for any similar premiums offered by County Societies or individuals, nor are they confined to mowing on their own land. It is also to be understood, that all persons, procurers of a machine, whether as owner, lessor or maker, resident of the State or otherwise, are entitled to compete for this premium.

The Trustees reserve the right of dividing the premium among equal claimants or of withholding it altogether, provided they are of opinion that no competitor has by his performance with his mowing machine made so great a saving in labor and expense over the old method of scythe mowing as to enable them to recommend its general introduction and use, in which case, the premium will be renewed for the succeeding year's competition.

As a further incentive to the skill and ingenuity of the manufacturers of mowing machines, the Trustees offer another premium of

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS

to the maker and exhibitor of the best mowing machine, to be awarded in the year 1856.

To entitle any person to the premium, the machine, with full particulars of its principles of construction, weight and selling price, must be entered for competition with the Trustees on or before the first day of June, 1856. A general trial will be had of all the competing machines, due notice of which will be given, together with all needful particulars at the commencement of the season of 1856.

It is to be hoped that there will be a large competition for the premium offered this year, and that manufacturers who propose to compete for the one in 1856 will take pains to introduce their machines for this season's work. The Trustees in awarding the *one thousand dollar* premium will not confine themselves to the single trial which will be afforded to competitors to exhibit the powers of their machines, but they will also take into account the merits of each as displayed in competing for this year's premium and in its ordinary working both for this and the coming year, whenever and wherever an opportunity is afforded of seeing it in operation.

The County Agricultural Societies are earnestly invited to appoint Committees to aid the Trustees in awarding the prize offered for this year, who shall inspect the working of competing machines in their several districts, and in reporting the result of their observations to the Trustees. One or more of the Trustees, will endeavor to visit each county during the season to see some portion of the work be performed by each machine, but from the necessity of the case, great reliance must be had upon the cordial and hearty co-operation of the County Societies.

The Trustees have adopted the following Committee to attend to the details connected with the subject, viz:

THOS. MOTLEY, JR.
G. W. LYMAN.
C. G. LORING.
RICH'D. S. FAY.
W. S. LINCOLN.

All communications may be addressed to THOMAS MOTLEY, JR., Jamaica Plains, or RICH'D. S. FAY, Boston. Boston, May 28, 1855.

A WATER SONG.

Pure cold water bright,
All sparkling and white,
Will color your cheeks like the cherry;
A fine pearly hue,
Your skin will renew,
And make you light-hearted and merry.

Then powders and pills,
And doctors' long bills,
Just throw to the dogs, with their physic,
And if you can't sleep,
Why take a wet sheet—
'Twill cure both the cold and the tisc!

Their smooth anodynes,
And all their drugged wines,
Will fasten disease to you faster—
Ten chances to one,
If when you've "been done,"
Old Nature makes out to be master!

Then if you should reel,
From topmast to keel,
And hobble along on your crutches,
Let calomel tell
Who struck your death knell,
When he had you fast in his clutches!
TORSEY, in Life Illustrated.

NEW-JERSEY AS A FARMING STATE.

In an appendix to the Premium list of the New-Jersey State Agricultural Society, we find the following statements, which will be found interesting not only to our numerous readers in that State but to those residing elsewhere.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NEW-JERSEY:

The Executive Committee of the "New-Jersey State Agricultural Society" take this method of presenting to their fellow-citizens, and others interested, a few statistics connected with the growth and relative importance of New-Jersey, in its agricultural development.

They believe that too little is known of the resources and advancement of the State by its citizens, and therefore earnestly recommend a careful perusal of the following statements, compiled from the most authentic sources. And they do this not only because much is said against New-Jersey by those who ignorantly, or even maliciously, malign her, who can best be answered by statements they can not refute—although they can scarcely credit—but also that the importance of a State Agricultural Association, having already such a favorable basis for operation, and whose object is to more thoroughly develop its resources, may be apparent to, and thus receive the cooperation of, all.

Where comparisons are made, the States of New-York and Pennsylvania have been selected, for the purpose of showing still more forcibly the importance of New-Jersey, by contrast with States acknowledged the first in the Union. The reader is requested to remember the relative sizes of the States here given, while inspecting the tables.

	Sq. miles.	Sq. acres.	Area of acres in farms.
New-York has	47,000	30,080,000	19,114,088
Pennsylvania	46,000	29,440,000	14,923,347
New-Jersey	8,320	5,324,800	2,752,946

It will thus be seen that New-York and Pennsylvania are each over five times as large as New-Jersey—the ratio being thus:

New-Jersey	1.00
New-York	5.65
Pennsylvania	5.53

THE VALUE OF LAND

is the next important consideration.

	Total Vale of Farm Land	Average per acre.
New-York	\$554,546,642	\$29.00
Pennsylvania	407,876,099	27.33
New-Jersey	120,237,511	43.67

It will thus be seen that the value of farm

land per acre in this State exceeds, by \$14.67, that of the "Empire State;" and by the latest returns, it is rated higher than that of any other State!

POPULATION.

New-Jersey has rapidly increased in population since the census of 1840; also exceeding, in this respect, New-York, proportionately, thus:

	1840.	1850.
New-York	2,428,921	3,047,394
Pennsylvania	1,724,033	2,311,786
New-Jersey	373,306	489,555

The average ratio of increase being—

New-York	28.14
Pennsylvania	34.72
New-Jersey	32.40

STOCK.

The stock of New-Jersey is thus estimated:

	Number.
Horses, Asses and Mules in 1850	68,044
Neat Cattle	211,261
Sheep	160,488
Swine	250,370
Value of Live Stock generally	\$10,679,291
Value of Slaughtered Animals	2,638,552

CROPS.

The advance of New-Jersey in Agricultural matters will be clearly seen by the Crops of the years 1840 and 1850 compared:

	1840.	1850.	Increase.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat	774,203	1,601,190	826,987
Oats	20,835,24	33,780,63	2,945,39
Indian Corn	4,361,975	8,759,704	4,397,729

The yield in New-York for the same year (1850) was but 17,858,400 bushels; and Pennsylvania, 19,835,314 bushels.

Hay—Yield in 1840—334,861 tons.	1850—435,950 tons.
Increase	1,089 tons.

Potatoes.—The yield of this important crop for 1850 shows, in its increase over that of 1840, a very gratifying improvement. Exhibited in comparison with our sister States, as below, this may well be considered one of the most desirable articles for raising in New-Jersey.

	Irish Potatoes.	Sweet Potatoes.
	Bushels.	Bushels.
In 1850 New-York raised	15,398,368	5,629
" Pennsylvania "	5,980,732	52,172
" New-Jersey "	3,207,236	508,015

While New-York decreased in this crop 14,719,617 bushels in the ten years prior to 1850, and Pennsylvania also decreased 35,027,59 bushels in the same period, New-Jersey increased her yield in the same time 643,181 bushels.

It may be asserted that no other State has such facilities for "Market Gardening," and the raising of "Orchard Products," as this. The vast demand always existing in the markets of New-York and Philadelphia, as well as for home consumption, and the constantly increasing facilities for conveying articles of this perishable character to market, rapidly and cheaply, must combine to continue New-Jersey as the most prosperous State, proportionately, in this respect. That its citizens are awaking to the value of these matters, will be found from the following statement:

PRODUCE OF MARKET GARDENS.

	1840.	1850.
New-York	\$499,126	\$912,047
Pennsylvania	232,912	68,714
New-Jersey	249,613	475,243 — \$125,629

ORCHARD PRODUCTS.

	1840.	1850.
New-York	\$1,701,935	\$1,761,950
Pennsylvania	618,179	723,389
New-Jersey	464,006	607,268 — \$143,262

It is believed that enough statistics have now been given to convince all of the relative importance of New-Jersey as an Agricultural State. These statements, however, are not made to furnish evidence of sufficient excellence already attained, but that our fellow citizens may learn the feasibility of rendering this State in almost every respect as competent to excel, as it does already in some of the most important.

No means have yet been found more effective in securing, on the part of agricultur-

ists and others, a willingness to investigate and adopt the benefits afforded by the developments of science—whether exhibited in the more successful culture, by the application of new fertilizers, &c., or in a piece of mechanism, whereby labor is economized—than Agricultural Societies. The existence of such an Association depends entirely upon the interest evinced by the People, for whom alone its operations are carried forward.

Thus, fellow-citizens, stands at this time the Society in your own State. It must be that its 23,900 farms, with almost innumerable factories, workshops, &c., will furnish a noble list of active and interested members. Its officers claim for it public sympathy and support; and while its successful continuance depends upon that, it shall be the effort of those controlling its operations at all times to render it, in its operations, a benefit and honor to New-Jersey.

On behalf of Executive Committee,

J. H. FRAZEE, Cor. Secy.

GUANO—THE OTHER SIDE.

Col. David Moseley, an excellent farmer of Westfield, says, in the Springfield Republican:

In the spring of 1852 I purchased one tun of guano for \$56 when delivered. The land it was used upon was a gravelly pasture that was never manured; plowed in the fall; and in the spring what I called ridged, by plowing two furrows together. The guano was ca ted into the field in the sacks, and placed so as to be convenient for putting on 300 pounds per acre; then emptied from the sacks into the furrows, and mixed with about one-third earth, and then sowed broadcast from a bag or basket, saving out the hard lumps and pounding them fine and mixing with the same. It was sowed on a still, damp day, and harrowed three times in a place as fast as sowed to keep the ammonia from escaping. Then well brushed over with a good white birch bush so arranged as to take a sweep 12 or 14 feet wide, which I prefer to a good roller. The second week in May, planted the corn across the ridges, which made it three and a half feet apart each way. It required but a little hoeing. Good judges estimated it to increase the crop at least fifteen bushels per acre; which is also my opinion. We had a good opportunity of judging, as it was side by side of that which had no guano.

I made an experiment on my meadow land by sowing broadcast three hundred pounds of guano per acre and harrowed it in as before, and upon each side of said acre carted on and plowed in fifteen loads of good stable manure. The land was equally good and was planted and cultivated alike. The acre that was guanoed yielded from a quarter to a third more than the stable manured. In the fall sowed to rye, and when harvested the guanoed acre had the preference.

I have mixed the guano with from a quarter to a third earth, using plaster in the mixture at about a bushel per acre, with three or four hundred pounds of guano per acre, and sowed it as a top-dressing upon grass with good success. Sow in the rain or just before a rain.

In the spring of 1853, I was unable to purchase any; the price run as high as \$80 per tun, and was not to be had in our market by the tun. Last spring, 1854, I purchased of Messrs. Allen and Mason, of Springfield, early in the season, for \$53 per tun. In June I paid \$60 per tun for it. I put one tun upon eight acres of the gravelly pasture adjoining the first, and planted the corn the first week in May; the land prepared and cultivated as before. The corn was cut up and stacked

the last week in August, and husked in October. There were four hundred and thirty-six bushels of ears of corn, making two hundred and eighteen bushels of good shelled corn. I am confident that the tun of guano increased the crop more than one hundred bushels of corn, which, at \$1.05 or \$1.10 per bushel, amounts to \$110. I sold the stalks in the field for \$30, which, had it not been for the guano, would not have brought \$10. So that \$53 worth of guano gave me a profit of \$76. If I had paid \$100 for one hundred loads of manure, to say nothing about carting it one and a half miles, my opinion is that I should not have had as good a crop.

I made an experiment in my meadow by plowing in fifteen cart loads of good stable manure per acre; then sowing on five acres of it 140 pounds of guano per acre, and brushed it in as fast as sowed; also brushed the remainder of the field, but did not harrow for fear of disturbing the manure. Planted the corn the third week in May, three feet each way, and cultivated it both ways, which lets in the sun, and requires not more than half the labor in hoeing. It was cut up and stacked the first week in September, and husked in October. I weighed the husked corn from the same number of hills upon one rod of each, and made an estimate of the number of hills to the acre, and allowing seventy-four pounds to the bushel, and found the average increase per acre of the guanoed land was twenty-three bushels, so that \$19.87 worth of guano gave an increase of 115 bushels good shelled corn and was eight or ten days earlier than the two acres that had no guano upon it. The land was all the same, and I have cultivated the pieces together for years, so that there was no difference, except the guano.

I sowed half a tun of guano on my buckwheat land, and harrowed and bushed them in together at the rate of 100 to 150 pounds per acre. The drouth affected this crop so that some fields would not more than pay for harvesting. It was so with mine where I used no guano; but where it was applied the drouth had very little if any effect; cradled it about the 20th of September with the leaves all upon it; in raking to set it up, where the guano was used, it produced nine bunches to one where there was no guano used, on precisely the same land with the culture, and sowed and harvested on the same days. As soon as it was cured, it was carted and housed. I estimated there to be more than five tuns of straw which was fed to my oxen, cows and young stock, and by them eaten more readily than good corn stalks, and was worth \$6 per tun, enough to pay for the guano. It was well berried and weighed 50 pounds a bushel when well cleaned and screened.

I have used guano upon all soils from poor pine plain to good meadow land, upon rye, beans, potatoes, turnips, and from 100 to 300 pounds per acre, with grass-seed in August, and always with good success.

THE ART OF CATTLE FEEDING.

To the Editor of the Mark-Lane Express:

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 cattle and horses 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 economize its use.

It is universally admitted that when the grass is cut, the corn crushed, the 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 these several processes of cutting, bruising, steaming, &c., that he must look for the crowning of his labors with success. "PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE."

SALT-GUANO-POUDRETTE-SUPERPHOSPHATE.

"A Practical Farmer" details, in the Germantown Telegraph, experiments with the above fertilizers, from which we make the extracts given below. This is but one set of experiments, during one season—a dry one—upon a particular soil, and a repetition of the experiment on the same soil might produce an entirely different result another season. He does not describe exactly his method of applying the guano. If put on above the corn in the same manner as the salt was applied, probably the first shoots were injured by coming in contact with it. We do not offer these remarks however, to discourage the trial of salt. It is often a valuable fertilizer—when and where can be best known by trial. In this instance, as in others where corn is planted upon sod, some of the beneficial influence is to be attributed to its preventing the ravages of the cut wire worm.

In order that I might secure results which would be perfectly satisfactory—so far at least as the efforts of a single season might be deserving of reliance—I selected a piece of light, loamy land which had lain for several years—four, I think—in grass. It was perfectly level, with few stones and those few of small size, and without a single stump or bush on the whole piece. This land I broke up to the depth of ten inches in the fall, bringing to the surface a very small portion of the subsoil which was of a light, gravelly nature, with a slight admixture of sand. After plowing, the land was carefully harrowed and rolled, and in that condition it was left till the subsequent spring. The winter was a severe one, characterized by intense cold, but with very little snow till near the middle of January, so that the soil which was exposed without its usual winter covering up to that period, was maintained in an almost continual frozen condition, and in this state it remained till late the following spring.

As soon as the frost was fairly out, and the surface had become sufficiently dry to admit of its being worked, the land was cross-plowed—care being had not to disturb the turf—and reduced to a fine tilth by working with the cultivator and harrow. I think that, as a general thing, farmers do not pay sufficient attention to the pulverizing of their lands. Although every observing cultivator must be fully impressed with the conviction that the finer a soil is, the more favorable will it be to vegetation; yet very few who rest under this conviction bestow more than half the labor upon their fields that is essential to secure fertility.

The crop selected for my experiment, was Indian corn. No rotted manure was used, nor did I apply any substance whatever before planting the seed. The rows were drawn with a horse-plow, and checked off carefully so as to have the hills equi-distant with the rows running both ways. Commencing on one side of the piece, I dropped

five kernels of corn in a hill, and continued till I had dropped five rows, of forty hills each. Then with a common hoe I drew on one inch of fine soil, and compressed it very slightly over the corn with the back of the hoe; after which I applied one and a half table spoonfuls of common packing salt, and finished off with another half inch of soil. The next five rows were planted without any manure of any kind. The next five were dressed with *poudrette*, one half pint to the hill, under the seed, but with just sufficient soil over it to prevent contact. The five rows next succeeding, were dressed with half a pint of *guano*, and the next with one gill of *superphosphate of lime*—the same precaution to prevent contact with the seed being observed in the last two cases as were adopted in that of the *poudrette*. The corn throughout was covered one and a half inches deep, with the soil above it slightly compressed, and the whole was planted on the same day, and without any previous preparation by steeping or otherwise. The seed germinated readily, and the plants made their appearance above the surface on the same day, but from the very first there was direct and palpable indications of the superiority of the salt; and this superiority was demonstrated by the result.

At harvest the salted rows produced one-fifth more corn, *by weight*, than the rows manured with the guano, and one-quarter more than those manured with *poudrette* and superphosphate, while the yield compared with that of the five rows on which no manurial application had been made, was as nine to one! I do not think there was a single spear of the first five rows touched by the corn worm or any other insect, while the rows manured with guano and *poudrette*, were not by any means exempt from their ravages, though they suffered but little after the first week, and were not thinned sufficient as to abridge the yield. The five rows on which nothing was bestowed, were considerably thinned, probably one-fifth part of the whole was destroyed during the first two weeks. About the same difference was remarkable in the weight of the fodder on the several pieces, as in the weight of the grain. The cost of the salt was less than one-third of the cost of guano, *poudrette* or phosphate.

For the American Agriculturist.

MUSTARD GROWING—POTATO ROT.

In your paper of the 10th of May, is an article taken from the Mark Lane Express, on the cultivation of mustard. This article was written for England, and might lead some of our young farmers into an experiment which, in this country, might not be attended with profit.

The mustard grown in this country is the *Sinapis alba* or white mustard. This plant in its habits and growth very much resembles the *Sinapis arvensis*, or *charloc* which is never found growing wild, to any great extent, except upon deep alluvial soils; this should be a hint to farmers in selecting lands for sowing the white mustard. I have sown it upon upland dry soil several times, but never have succeeded in making it a profitable crop. I have seen crops of it upon deep alluvial soils that produced forty bushels to the acre, which sold at two dollars and a half per bushel.

At page 133 of same paper is an article on the *Potato Rot*, from W. Fugate, in which he ascribes the cause of this disease to a small insect. I believe the cause of disease is now ascribed by our most observing scientific men, to the growth of a small parasitic plant, or *rust*, which commences upon the tops of the plant. Cutting off, and removing the tops as soon as any *rust* appears, I have known in many instances attended

with beneficial results, and would recommend it in all cases where the disease makes its appearance. G.

For the American Agriculturist.

COST OF FENCES.

In the department of labor to which your publication is devoted, the *cost of fences* is a very important subject of inquiry and investigation. Will you please, sir, stir up some of your best correspondents in different places, and let us have a valuable fund of information on this subject—*reliable statistical facts* about the cost and durability of different kinds of fences in different parts of our country.

I have ascertained that in this country the cheapest plank fences and the commonest rail fences cost about the same; and never less than \$500 per mile. A good medium rail worm-fence costs \$600 per mile. A *first-rate* rail worm-fence and a good post and rail fence cost almost exactly the same, and not less than \$700 per mile. The most of the fences within ten miles of the city, now are made first-rate plank fences; and with the utmost *scheming*, purchases of material and plans of construction, I find they invariably cost by large quantities \$800 per mile.

The strings of plank fence (twenty miles each side) of forty miles on the Pacific Railroad are now being constructed, for which the company are to pay \$750 per mile.

These rates of *cost of fences* are continually coming nearer and nearer to the general average throughout the country as prairies become more occupied and railroads are extending.

Mr. Editor, I wish to elicit free communications from others on this subject. Let us hear from different persons and places all about the *cost of fences*. I close by adding some remarks of one of our city editors last week in noticing my card:

"The amount of capital employed in the construction and repair of fences in the United States, would be deemed fabulous, were not the estimates founded on statistical facts which admit of no dispute. Strange as it may seem, the greatest investment in this country, the most costly productions of human industry, are the common fences which divide the fields from the highways, and separate them from each other. No man dreams that when compared with the outlay for those unpretended monuments of art, our cities and our towns with all their wealth are left far behind.

LOGAN SLEEPER.

St. Louis, Mo., May 23d, 1855.

STEAM PLOWING.

Mr. Williams, of Baden, England, says:

When I first conceived the idea of putting my portable engine to such a purpose, after a great deal of consideration I came to the conclusion that if steam-plowing could be accomplished, it ought to be done by the simple 4, 5, or 6 horse-power engines which are generally used for farm purposes. I likewise discovered that such an engine would be quite sufficient to propel from three to six plows at a time, according to the nature of the soil, inasmuch as my engine (one of five-horse power), which drove a strap nearly at the rate of 20 miles per hour, by reducing the speed to about two miles per hour would increase her power exactly in the same ratio as the speed was diminished. The advantages appeared to me to be so great, that I immediately set about constructing a machine, to be driven by the engine, which will plow a twenty-yard land without moving, and draw the plows in furrow backwards, as well as to her, by means of a pulley fixed in a frame at the other end of the field. It will

not be a difficult task to prove to all practical men, that if steam-plowing is brought about, it should be done by the same engine that does the other work of the farm; and as a six-horse engine is the outside power that is generally required for that work, so it will be quite sufficient for all field purposes. I am certain that with a six-horse power engine driving a machine I am now about to make, considerably lighter than the one I have tried, I shall be able to draw at the rate of two miles an hour, from four to six plows at once at the ordinary depth which is plowed in the west of England, to plow both to and from the engine, draw out the spare rope, plow from 10 to 20 yards in width without moving the engine; and when required to move, the engine shall propel both herself and the machine on the next land.

THE WILLOW.

The Osier and the Bois d'Arc, are two plants which promise much value to Southern enterprise. That you concur with me in this belief, is evinced by several interesting articles in relation to each of them, which you have at different times published in your valuable journal.

I have been cultivating the Golden Willow, a variety introduced here many years ago by the French immigrants, and last year made a fair trial of it for cotton baskets. It proved a failure. This species of the Willow is the *Salix Vernalis*, and stands high in Europe. But the varieties which are valuable there are not necessarily so in this country, and there is doubtless a difference between the same varieties grown north and south. The *Vernalis* has long, slender and very flexible twigs, and works well into baskets; but when the baskets become dry, the material is very brittle, and the baskets are easily broken up.

A short time since, I wrote to Dr. C. W. Grant, of Newburg, N. Y., who I understood to be one of the first willow culturists of our country, if not the very first, requesting him to send me cuttings of what he esteemed the best willow for baskets, and for this climate, and he very obligingly complied with my request, by sending me the *Purpurea*, or Bitter Purple Willow—which he says is valuable in all respects as an Osier, and particularly for work that requires long, slender, unsplit wands, of great toughness. The intense bitterness of its bark and leaves, he further says, renders it exempt from beast and insects, and consequently adapted for making live fences. Lasting fences, very ornamental and profitable, made of it, producing one crop of Osiers annually.

He recommends three varieties, viz.: 1st, *S. Purpurea*; 2d, *Triandria*; 3d, *Forbyana*, as a complete assortment for basket makers, and such as will supply all their wants. He speaks highly also of a fourth species, the *Salix Beveridgii*, which he says is on trial by Mr. Anderson C. Armstrong, of Jackson, Mississippi. He has also sent to most, if not all the Southern States, and expects reports from them the coming autumn.

Dr. Grant says that a great discouragement arose at the commencement of the willow culture in this country, from the failure of the most vigorous growers of Europe to produce good Osiers. *Vernalis*, and the celebrated *Longskin*, of Nottingham, their most popular Osiers, are nearly worthless here, not being adapted to our climate. Dr. Grant imported all the European varieties of note, and by a comprehensive and careful experiment, ascertained which are best adapted to our climate, and also which are the most valuable. Among many which proved to be good, three have been found of surpassing excellence. These are the three Osiers before mentioned.

As a marketable commodity, nothing will compare with them in profit. In England the net cost per acre is from one to two hundred dollars, and frequently two hundred and fifty dollars, and although the business of the willow culture is extensively engaged in from the peasant to the lord, the Duke of Bedford having a plantation of 100,000 acres; the demand still keeps ahead of the supply.

There are annually imported into the United States, some four millions of dollars worth of this article, and it sells some twenty per cent higher here than in Europe. Statements have been published of profit as high as \$330 per acre, in the State of New-York, from willow twigs.

From 10 to 15,000 cuttings are required to the acre, and as to the best soils, culture and management generally, they may be all obtained from Dr. Grant, who will also furnish cuttings of the aforesaid three varieties at \$5 per thousand, making a discount to those wishing to plant by the acre, or to make a business of this culture. He will, besides, give such particular directions from time to time as will assure success.—*American Cotton Planter*.

USEFULNESS OF BIRDS.

From an address delivered before the Aquidneck Agricultural Society (Middletown, R. I.) last September, by J. Prescott Hall, Esq., we copy the following generous paragraphs, for which the birds ought to present their thanks to him *en masse*, as they once did to us, for having said a good word in their behalf.

There is an act upon your statue book, entitled "an act of preservation of useful birds." And which are the birds declared useful by law? "larks, robins, wood-ducks, grey or black ducks, partridges, quails, woodcocks, snipes, grouse, and plover.

The object of these laws, is to preserve those feathered races, during the time they are rearing their young, which of course every reasonable man would do, even if he were cruel. But why should birds of song be ever destroyed? Why should the migratory thrush, which is generally called the robin, be the object of slaughter? He is your companion throughout the year unless the winter be unusually severe; the first to greet you in the spring, your cheerful, social, confiding friend during the summer, and the last to desert you at the end of autumn. He builds his nest in your orchards and upon your fence rails. Why will you permit your children to tear it down in mere wantonness and the love of purposeless havoc?

The meadow lark makes vocal your fields during the whole month of October and November, when the blasts of the north have sent away the warblers, the vireos, the bob-o-lincolns, the finches, the catbirds and song thrushes to the milder climes of the south for warmth and protection. Even the payicious birds do little or no harm with us. The little screech-owl amuses our autumnal evenings with his mellow, though somewhat mournful notes. The graceful harrier, balanced on equal wing, sweeps over your meadows and swamps, seeking for rats, for frogs, for mice, snakes and other vermin of a like loathsome character. Gunner, why should you strike down this creature, which God has made so beautiful and brave, for the mere purpose of exhibiting your cruel skill? In winter, when pressed with hunger, he may take a chicken from your yard, or a pigeon from your dove-cote, but upon the whole he does you more good than harm.

And so all the worm eating and insect catching birds, including even the woodpeck-

ers who bore into your apple tree. They are seeking for food deadly to the tree, beneath the bark, and you may well allow them to pursue their useful employments. The black ducks, the woodcocks, the snipes, the Virginia rails, and the meadow larks all make their nests, in each returning summer, upon my lands, almost under my own eyes, and shall I most inhospitably refuse them admittance and give them over to the spoiler?—Forbid it, generosity; forbid it, all ye gentle elements of the human character.

But you say, the robins eat up all my cherries and destroy my strawberries. Well, let them, if we can not have the sweet songsters upon any other terms, let them eat up the cherries and strawberries and welcome, for they pay us in music. Welcome to the trees and vines which I intend to plant to entice them to my home. Come in and partake with us. Don't gather all if you please; but take without stint, and let me see you again as I have often seen you in former days, drop a ripe cherry into the mouths of your callow young.

Come; ye ospreys, and take your scaly prey before my eyes, and with your "sail broad vans" beat up into the wind's eye, to carry food to your nests in the wood. You have as good a right as I have, to take the treasures of the deep for your own use, and you disturb me not in my possessions of enjoyment. True it is, I once saw an envious eagle plunge down from on high and rob you of the fruit of your labor, while you affrightened fled to shelter of a tree. But the bird of Jove is an imperial robber and does not even say "by your leave," although he too is generally innocent of injury to man.

Come ye bob-o-lincolns, and poise yourselves on a single stalk of timothy, causing it to sway to and fro by the weight of your tiny bodies, yet giving sufficient support, while the full hearted song of your happiness comes gushing from your musical throats.

If no one else will protect you, come to Malbone Farm and we will give you shelter there—Come, all ye gentle songsters and harmless birds to us, and you shall be protected while within the boundaries under my control. The law is on our side, and where I have power "vainly the fowler's eye shall mark thy flight to do thee wrong."

Farmers of Rhode Island, will you join me in this pleasant employment of saving alive, instead of destroying? If you will not, I appeal then to your mothers, your sisters, your wives and your daughters, and to them I shall not appeal in vain; and if I can get the gentle sex upon my side, why, the men may be defied, and I will proclaim to all the birds in the air that they are safe.

GUINEA FOWLS vs. RATS.—A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer, who was very much annoyed by rats, tried shooting, poisoning, and everything he could think of; but they defied the whole category. He then heard that they would not remain where Guinea fowls were kept, and procured several, and now says that for over two years he has neither seen nor heard a rat about the premises.

We doubt the above rat remedy, and should be glad to hear from others who have tried it to know whether it is effectual.

TO STOP THE BLEEDING OF VINES.—When cut rather late in the season, take one-fourth of calcined oyster shells, beaten to fine powder in a mortar, and three-fourths of cheese, worked together until they form a sort of past; this pressed into the pores of the wood, either with the thumb or by any other means, will effectually stop the flow of sap. Sometimes a repetition, however, is necessary if not well forced into the pores,

or if the wound is not properly covered. Rubbing the cut parts well with candle grease also greatly assists in preventing vines from bleeding.—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

Horticultural Department.

RHODE-ISLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This Society will hold its June exhibition in Providence, on the 19th and 20th inst. The former exhibitions have been valuable and highly interesting. They invite those interested in this subject elsewhere to unite with them. Any communications or inquiries may be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. J. F. Driscoll, at Providence.

We suggest to our horticultural friends in this vicinity, that a visit to the above exhibition, either as exhibitors or as lookers-on, will well reward them for the short trip. Providence and New-York are but next-door neighbors, now that the facilities for daily intercourse are so great. The steamers by the Fall River or Stonington routes leave here late in the afternoon and land travelers in Providence the next morning. No other season of the year offers a better time for such a trip than the middle of the present month.

MANAGEMENT OF GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

BY AN EXTENSIVE PRACTITIONER.

Greenhouse plants should never be supplied with much water in wet or frosty weather, and none unless the soil in the pots becomes dry. This rule must be particularly attended to, from the beginning of November till the end of February.

In March, the plants may be occasionally syringed overhead to clean and refresh the leaves, but always select fine days for the purpose; and let this, as well as the general waterings, be done in the morning, from the middle of September to the beginning of May, and at all other times in the evenings.

As the season advances, and the weather becomes milder, increase the quantity of air, until, by the middle of May, a large portion of air may be left on all night, except in case of severe frost. And this rule of admitting air must be attended to throughout the winter at every convenient opportunity; but always make a practice of shutting up early in the afternoon.

Always keep the plants clean, and perfectly free from dead leaves and weeds; this must be particularly attended to in the winter season.

About the beginning of March repot all the plants that require it, and top-dress the remainder with good fresh soil. Some free-growing kinds may require potting two or three times in the course of the summer, but the last potting should never be later than the middle of September.

As greenhouse plants differ materially from each other in habits, so also the soil suitable for them must vary in proportion. For a general idea on the subject, the following, with some few exceptions, will probably be found pretty near the mark.

All plants whose branches are fragile, and roots of a fine thready fibrous texture, with general habits like *Erica*, as *Diosma*, *Andersonia*, *Epacris*, etc., will require the same soil (peat earth), and very similar treatment to Cape Heaths.

Those whose wood and general habits partially differ, and whose roots are of a stronger texture, as *Accacia*, *Ardisia*, *Steno-*

carpus, etc., will require a portion of sandy loam—in many cases about equal parts; and where the habits, etc. differ materially from the heath, only a small portion of peat earth will be required, and the compost may be made a little rich by the addition of well rotted dung.

Almost all Cape and other bulbs, as *Sparaxis*, etc., thrive best in a mixture of light rich sandy loam, leaf-mold, and a little peat. Shrubby and herbaceous plants, with luxuriant roots and branches, as *Myrtus*, etc., require rich loam, lightened with leaf-mold. Plants with powerful roots and but slender heads, as *Veronica*, *Senecio*, etc., require a light sandy soil, mixed with a small portion of leaf-mold and very rotten dung.

Never pot the plants in a soil too wet; it is better to keep the soil rather dry than otherwise. Nor ever sift the soil, but chop and break it as fine as possible, because sifting deprives it of the fibrous particles, among which the roots grow very rapidly. Always in potting give a good drainage with broken potsherds.

In the beginning of June the plants may be removed to their summer station, out of doors. Always place them in an aspect screened from the effects of the mid-day sun, but yet where they will be able to receive the sun morning and evening; while in this situation they must be supplied with water as often as they require it.

In the beginning of September again examine them throughout, and pot all that require it, and top-dress the remainder; by no means let this be done later than the middle of September, or the plants will not have time to recover before winter.

Not later than the first week in October, prepare to remove them back into the greenhouse. Clean and properly tie them up, previous to setting them on the stage.

After they are removed again to the house, give them abundance of air, day and night, and continue gradually to decrease it as the weather becomes colder.

Propagation.—The propagation of greenhouse plants must be performed at different times of the year, according to the nature and habits of the plants, and the state of growth in which the cuttings will strike with the greatest freedom.

Some grow the best when the wood is quite young and tender, as *Fuchsia*, *Andersonia*, *Adenandra*, etc.; others when it begins to assume a brownish color, called half-ripened, as *Heliotropium*, *Goodenia*, *Pumelea*, etc.; and others when it has become quite hard and ripe, as *Araucaria*, *Aulax*, *Melaleuca*, etc. But as a general rule, half-ripened cuttings will do the best. Some plants, however, will not grow from cuttings of the stem at all; these are propagated by cutting off large pieces of the roots, planting them in pots of soil, and plunging them in a little bottom heat, as some species of *Acacia*, etc.

All hard-wooded plants make roots best in clear sand, but soft-wooded kinds should be planted in a mixture of loam; therefore, after well draining the pots or pans intended to receive the cuttings, fill them, according to the nature of the plants to be propagated. On no account plant soft-wooded and hard-wooded cuttings in the same pot.

Some sorts will not grow readily without a little bottom heat. Plunge the pots in a cucumber frame, or pit of any kind, where they will receive the benefit of warmth.

After putting in the cuttings, give them a gentle sprinkling of water through a fine rose; keep the frame as closely shut down as can be until the cuttings are struck, which will be in about three weeks or a month, with some few exceptions. Look them over, and water as often as they require it.

Those sorts requiring to be covered with

bell or hand glasses will require to have the glasses taken off occasionally and wiped, to prevent the cuttings from being injured by damp.

When the cuttings have struck root and begun to grow, then pot them in small pots filled with soil suitable to their nature; replace them for a while in the frame, and gradually expose them to the air, until they bear the temperature and treatment of the other plants in the greenhouse.

Sow the seeds of greenhouse plants in pans or pots filled with a light soil, as early in the spring as possible; place the pots in a very gentle heat, keep the soil damp by covering with moss, and occasionally sprinkling with water; and when they are about an inch high, pot them off into small-sized pots, and treat them in the same manner as cuttings.—*Floricultural Cabinet*.

THE TALLOW TREE OF CHINA.

BY DR. MACGOWAN.

The *Stillingia sebifera* is prized for the fatty matter which it yields; its leaves are employed as a black dye; its wood, being hard and durable, is used for printing blocks and various other articles; and, finally, the refuse of the nut is employed as fuel and manure.

It is chiefly cultivated in the provinces of Kiangsi, Kongnain, and Chehkiang. In some districts near Hangehan, the inhabitants defray all their taxes with its produce. It grows alike on low alluvial plains and on granite hills, on the rich mold at the margin of canals, and on the sandy sea-beach. The sandy estuary of Hangehan yields little else. Some of the trees at this place are known to be several hundred years old, and though prostrated, still send forth branches and bear fruit.

In mid-winter, when the seed-vessels are ripe, they are cut off with their twigs by a sharp crescentic knife, attached to the extremity of a long pole, which is held in the hand and pushed upwards against the twigs, removing at the same time such as are fruitless. The capsules are gently pounded in a mortar to loosen the seeds from their shells, from which they are separated by sifting. To facilitate the separation of the white sebaceous matter enveloping the seeds, they are steamed in tubs, having convex, open, wicker bottoms, placed over caldrons of boiling water. When thoroughly heated, they are reduced to a mash in the mortar, and thence transferred to bamboo sieves, kept at an uniform temperature over hot ashes. A single operation does not suffice to deprive them of all their tallow, the steaming and sifting is therefore repeated. The article thus procured becomes a solid mass on falling through the sieve, and to purify it, it is melted and formed into cakes for the press; these receive their form from bamboo hoops, a foot in diameter and three inches deep, which are laid on the ground, over a little straw. On being filled with the hot liquid, the ends of the straw beneath are drawn up and spread over the top, and when of sufficient consistence, are placed with their rings in the press. This latter apparatus, of the rudest description, is constructed of two large beams placed horizontally, so as to form a trough capable of containing about fifty of the rings with their sebaceous cakes; at one end it is closed, and at the other adapted for receiving wedges, which are successively driven into it by ponderous sledge-hammers wielded by athletic men. The tallow oozes in a melted state into a receptacle below, where it cools. It is again melted and poured into tubs smeared with mud, to prevent its adhering. It is now marketable, in masses of about eighty pounds

each, hard, brittle, white, opaque, tasteless, and without the odor of animal tallow; under high pressure it scarcely stains bibulous paper; melts at 140 deg. Fah. It may be regarded as nearly pure stearine, the slight difference is doubtless owing to the admixture of oil expressed from the seed in the process just described. The seeds yield about eight per cent of tallow, which sells for about five cents per pound.

The process for pressing the oil, which is carried on at the same time, remains to be noticed; it is contained in the kernel of the nut. The sebaceous matter, which lies between the shell and the husk, having been removed in the manner described, the kernel and the husk covering it are ground between two stones, which are heated, to prevent clogging from the sebaceous matter still adhering. The mass is then placed in a winnowing machine, precisely like those in use in western countries. The chaff being separated, exposes the white oleaginous kernels, which, after being stemmed, are placed in a mill to be mashed. This machine is formed of a circular stone groove, twelve feet in diameter, three inches deep, and about as many wide, into which a thick solid stone wheel, eight feet in diameter, tapering at the edge, is made to revolve perpendicularly by an ox harnessed to the outer end of its axle, the inner turning on a pivot in the center of the machine. Under this ponderous weight the seeds are reduced to a mealy state, steamed in the tubs, formed into cakes, and pressed by wedges in the manner above described; the process of mashing, steaming, and pressing being repeated with the kernels likewise. The kernels yield about thirty per cent of oil. It is called *Ising-yu*, sells for about three cents per pound, answers well for lamps, though inferior for this purpose to some other vegetable oils in use. It is also employed for various purposes in the arts, and has a place in the Chinese Pharmacopœia, because of its quality of changing grey hair black, and other imaginary virtues.

Artificial illumination in China is generally procured by vegetable oils; but candles are also employed by those who can afford it. In the religious ceremonies no other material is used. As no one ventures out after dark without a lantern, and as the gods can not be acceptably worshipped without candles, the quantity consumed is very great. With an unimportant exception, the candles are always made of what I would designate as vegetable stearine. When the candles, which are made by dipping, are of the required diameter, they receive a final dip into a mixture of the same material and insect-wax, by which their consistency is preserved in the hottest weather. They are generally colored red, which is done by throwing a minute quantity of alkanet root (*Anchusa tinctoria*), brought from Shantung, into the mixture. Verdigris is sometimes employed to dye them green.—*Floricultural Cabinet*.

PERFUME OF FLOWERS.—The Philadelphia Ledger, gives the following simple directions for extracting the perfume of flowers; an additional interest is thus given to their cultivation:

"Gather the flowers with as little stocks as possible, and place them in a jar three parts full of almond or olive oil. After being in the oil twenty-four hours, put them into a coarse cloth, and squeeze the oil from them. This process, with fresh flowers, is to be repeated according to the strength of the perfume desired. The oil being thus thoroughly perfumed with the volatile principle of the flowers, it is to be mixed with an equal quantity of pure rectified spirit, and shaken every day for a fortnight, when it may be poured

off, ready for use. As the season for sweet-scented blossoms is just approaching, this method may be practically tested, and without any great trouble or expense.

We give the above for what it is worth. It is not so simple a process after all. Would not the alcohol applied at once to the flowers be as effectual?

CULTURE OF LUCERNE.

We have been informed by Mr. Lewis Mabry of this city, that he has cultivated lucerne regularly for more than forty years with the most satisfactory success. It has invariably supplied him with the greatest abundance of green food of the richest quality for soiling cows, and it makes a hay in all respects equal to clover. There are plants now in Mr. Mabry's yard which have been there for forty years. He has usually had about two acres of ground in lucerne, and his mode of cultivation is as follows:

The land should be well and deeply prepared, as the plants send down their tap roots to a great depth. The soil should be dry and rich. The time for sowing the seed is in September, and they should be sown broadcast. They soon vegetate, and the plants continue to grow vigorously during the fall, and acquire sufficient strength to withstand the severity of the coldest winters. In the spring, they start off to grow in advance of all other vegetation, and take entire possession of the ground. If the seed is sowed in the spring, the grass will overtop and smother the lucerne, unless it is drilled, in which case it requires frequent and careful workings. It should not be sowed with any other crop. When sowed in the fall, it will furnish two cuttings the next season. The second season it will be fully established, and yield as many as four cuttings, which it will continue to do for four years. By the expiration of that period, it will begin to die out in patches, and another sowing should be made. The plants should not be suffered to bear seed any further than is necessary for new sowings.

On the whole, Mr. Mabry considers lucerne as invaluable, particularly on small farms, from the great quantity of food it supplies; thus enabling the possessor of only a few acres to keep a number of cows, which, in their turn, furnish abundant means of enriching the land, besides affording the owner the luxury and the profits to be derived from a good dairy. We would especially recommend to our farmers in the neighborhood of the city to make the experiment. With milk at sixpence a quart, and butter at 50 cents—never less than 37½ cents—a pound, the advantages to be derived from a dairy appear to us to be very decided.

Mr. Mabry informs us that the *Alfalfa* clover, about which we made some inquiry a few weeks ago, is nothing else than lucerne.—*Southern Farmer*.

UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS.

Great Washington was number one;
Then senior Adams next came on.
Jefferson made the number three;
Then Madison, the fourth was he.
Monroe, the fifth, just here came in;
Then, sixth, an Adams came again;
Then, seventh, Andrew Jackson came;
And, eighth, we count Van Buren's name.
Then Harrison made number nine;
And, tenth, John Tyler filled the line.
Polk was the eleventh, as we know;
And twelfth was Taylor, in the row.
Fillmore, the thirteenth, took his place;
And Pierce is fourteenth in the race.
Now let us stop until we see
Who our next President will be.

Sunday School Visiter.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, June 7.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE AMONG FARMERS.

AN AMERICAN MECHANI GATHERING.

From time immemorial a standing and valid objection to a "farm life" has been, that it is unsocial and lonely. Separated each from the other, as farmers usually are, by the broad, cultivated acres intervening, there is indeed a lack of frequent, daily and hourly intercourse, unknown to those following other avocations, where considerable numbers are thrown together under the same roof, or where, at least, their dwellings are contiguous. Mechanics and other occupants of villages and manufacturing towns are generally more intelligent, and improve in their several callings faster, than farmers who come less in direct contact with those engaged in the same pursuit. Association gives mutual aid, and what is perhaps of higher importance, nothing ennobles our own profession more, and stimulates to increased exertion to improvement, than to mingle with a large company of those having the same aims, and seeking similar results by the same means as ourselves. The truth of this is exemplified in all public meetings of political associates, tradesmen, professional men, &c.

Latterly our annual agricultural shows have, in a measure, supplied this desideratum to farmers. But these are by no means all that is wanted. In some few towns farmers' clubs are established, where weekly or semi-monthly or monthly meetings are held, and great good has already resulted. We hail the establishment of farmers' clubs as one of the best things of our day; and shall do all in our power to greatly multiply them and increase their usefulness; both with our pen and by personally assisting in their organizations at as many points as our time will admit of.

Yet there is a step still beyond these. While the members of a local club may do much to improve each other, a systematic correspondence and interchange of experience between different organizations, will prove of great value. Last week we witnessed an excellent illustration of what may be done. As this is the first instance of the

kind that has come under our observation in this country, we speak of it more particularly as an example for others. For some time past a farmers' club has been in operation at Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y., and last spring one was organized in the town of Washington, in the same county.

The latter club appointed a *day* meeting for Friday last, for discussion on farm topics and for an address from one of the editors of this journal. Subsequently they sent a formal invitation to the Amenia Club to come over early in the day, and unite with them in examining some of their best stock, &c., to partake of a social dinner, and participate in the discussions and other exercises of the afternoon. In acceptance of this fraternal invitation, some twenty-five members of the Amenia Club arrived in Washington at 9½ A. M., and with a number of the other Club they proceeded to the farm of Mr. Samuel Thorne, and spent three hours in critically examining one of the best collections of Short Horn cattle, Southdown sheep, Suffolk swine, Poultry, &c., to be found in this or any other county.* An examination of these animals, as they were feeding in their stalls and pastures, &c., a chance for minute inquiries into their history, breeding and keeping, thus afforded, was far more instructive and satisfactory than we generally get at our annual shows, where a few choice animals are collected and no opportunity is given for particular inquiries. A special vote of thanks was afterwards tendered to Mr. Thorne, for his kind attentions to the company visiting him.

From Mr. Thorne's the company proceeded to the village hotel, where a dinner had been prepared, in the discussion of which, and in social intercourse, the time passed pleasantly and profitably until 3 o'clock, the time appointed for the public exercises. As we took a prominent part in these, we shall be excused from describing them further.

We will, however, record a proposal made, by one of the members, which for want of time was laid over until the next meeting for consideration, and we hope for adoption in some form. It was, that a premium be offered to boys between 12 and 18 years of age, for the best cultivated small plot of ground under their own care. Such a course will do more than anything else to interest boys directly in the labors and improvements of cultivation, and divert their thoughts from that almost universal desire to leave the farm and crowd into cities and villages.

We look upon the meeting of the Clubs alluded to above, as one of the most interesting agricultural gatherings we have ever witnessed, and we earnestly hope that many such social reunions will hereafter take place, not between the agricultural clubs of Dutchess County only, but that they will speedily become general throughout this country.

*For a full description of these superb animals, see Volume XII, page 369, of the American Agriculturist.

DEVON CATTLE FOR SALE.—We call attention to Mr. Tredwell's advertisement, page 205 of this number of our paper.

PLANS FOR THE HUNT BOTANICAL GARDEN.—We call special attention to the advertisement of the Trustees of the above Garden. This is one of the most interesting and important enterprises of the kind in our country. At the earliest opportunity we shall visit the grounds, and give our readers a description of the plan and progress of the enterprise.

KEEP PLANTING.—The Illinois Journal advises its farmer-readers to keep planting. The editor says that the best corn he has ever seen in the State, was planted on the 9th of June.

CATALOGUES of Col. J. M. Sherwood's Short Horn cattle, offered for sale on the 20th inst., (see advertisement) can be had by applying at this office.

IMPORTATION OF ALDERNEY COWS.—We had the pleasure of looking at some beautiful Alderney cows, recently imported by Mr. John Giles, of Woodstock, Conn. Mr. Giles has several times previously imported choice Alderney stock, and has a very superb English prize bull, from which he is breeding. He has also imported largely of the most select fancy poultry, rabbits, &c., and we are sorry to learn from him, that some of the most expensive of his last summer's imported swans, pheasants, &c., contracted diseases on their voyage across the Atlantic that have resulted in their death.

The Alderneys last brought out, are of the most delicate limbs and graceful proportions consistent with stamina and constitution, which it is indispensable the breeder should always secure. We hope the neighbors of Mr. G. will appreciate his efforts in the introduction of these choice animals, and in due time avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded for the improvement of their own herds.

CAW! CAW!! CAW!!!

Just now the crows are making sad havoc with the young corn, and every one is anxious for the best contrivance for "keeping them off." There are a number of these, which have been successful for a time, but the difficulty is, that crows seem to be reasoning animals, and though shy at first of any new bug-bear, they soon ascertain its real character, and cease to be frightened by it. A friend tells us he placed an image, made by stuffing his own clothes, in a tree where it was partly concealed by the leaves. This was quite successful for one season; but the next spring he put it there again, and on one occasion removed it and seated himself in its place with a loaded gun in hand. Being weary and the day being warm, he fell asleep. He had not remained thus long before he was awakened by the loud caw of an old crow which had perched on a limb within two feet of him, and was calling to his companions to come to the clear field.

We think there is no single contrivance that will be long successful in one place. Probably the best plan is to change the scarecrow each spring, so that the same one

will not be used in the same locality oftener than once in three or four years. Among the simplest of these contrivances are long pieces of twine tied to stakes in different parts of the field; irregular pieces of bright tin attached by long strings to the top of high leaning poles; newspapers spread out in different parts of the field held down with small stones to prevent the wind from blowing them away; stuffed clothes placed not in the open field but partly concealed by bushes or a pile of rails, which gives them a more suspicious look to the reasoning depredators; the wings and feathers of dead crows or black fowls scattered over the field, &c.

THE DROUTH IN MISSISSIPPI.

Gen. Brandon, who resides near Fort Adams, Miss., writes us the following, under date of May 23d:

"We are still affected with this terrible drouth, and the springs, creeks and cisterns are all dry. Artificial ponds, which have never been dry since they were made, are now dry. I saw yesterday in the bed of a creek in my Arcole plantation—which never before to my knowledge was dry—weeds and grass knee high. There are thousands of acres planted to cotton on the hill sides and what is called 'buck-shot land' on the Mississippi river, where not a seed of cotton has sprouted. The stands of cotton here are very indifferent; it ought now to be in bloom, and yet it is not more than four inches high, and will not, as a general thing, be in bloom for a month. The corn at this period of the year is usually five or six feet high and in tassel. At this time, except on the river bottom, it is not knee high. If it does not rain in ten days, most of the planters will cut up their corn and plant again—which may make a half crop."

SUBSOILING VS. DROUTE.

Nearly all who have tried subsoil plowing, acknowledge that the crops planted do not suffer near so much from drouth, as on land not subsoiled. *Subsoil cultivation* also is very beneficial, and it will not be too late to do this on some crops for two months yet to come.

Mr. Saunders, of New-Brunswick, informs us that he planted his potatoes *level* last year, (we mean not in ridges,) and before hoeing, subsoiled between the rows, which made the ground very light, and raised it rather higher than at the rows. The potatoes grew well and yielded a much larger crop than where they were not subsoiled in cultivation. The same good effects followed in the cultivation of his corn.

A one-horse subsoil plow is sufficiently large for this purpose, the cost of which is trifling. It is our intention to make the experiment this season in the cultivation of a crop of potatoes which have been up about a fortnight, and see what the result may be.

SOMERSET COUNTY AGRICULTURAL FAIR.—The second annual exhibition of the Somerset County (N. J.) Agricultural Society will

be held the first week in October, Wednesday and Thursday, 3d and 4th.

A YEAR BEHINDHAND.—In May, 1854, the Philadelphia Ledger published an article, stating that the woodcock in New-Jersey were building their nests in low ground, which, together with other circumstances mentioned, indicated a dry season ahead. These prognostications proved too true; but the best (or worst) part of the story is yet to be told. A large number of our exchanges have recently fished up the same article and are now republishing it as applying to *this* year. We beg to set them right by informing them that the birds above alluded to have *this* year nested in their usual localities, and that an unusually dry summer is not looked for in 1855. During the past week we have had abundant showers of rain, and this, as we learn from a number of persons, has been the case over nearly all the northern States.

DOUBLING A CHAIN PUMP.

We noticed a simple contrivance in the barn of W. R. Hazard, of Washington, N. Y., which others may sometimes find convenient. The water from the roof is conducted into a cistern in the sub-cellar; and from this is carried as wanted into the cellar stables, or to those on the floor above, by a single chain pump. Instead of one chain tube, as usually arranged, there are two. One of them extends to the second floor, where the wheel and crank is placed, and the other reaches only to the first floor; both having a discharge-spout. The same chain goes up through one and down through the other, according to whichever way the wheel turns. By turning the crank from right to left, the chain ascends through the long tube and elevates the water to the second floor; while turning the crank from left to right, the chain ascends through the shorter tube and discharges the water on the lower floor.

CALF-PENS.

It is customary to keep calves in a small pen inclosed with rails, and located in the corner of a meadow or pasture lot. The best arrangement we have seen of this kind is made by nailing together boards twelve or fifteen feet or more long, in the form of a square movable pen. The four corner posts may be scantling or pieces of rails having two sides squared to each other. The lower ends of these corner pieces should be sharpened so as to enter the ground slightly, whenever the pen is set down. Two or three narrow boards will suffice for each side, and the whole may be strengthened by small perpendicular strips nailed between the corner posts. The whole can be put together in half an hour. Some boards should be placed across one of the south corners to afford a shelter against both sun and rain. A little straw for a bed, and a movable feeding trough, is all that is wanted. The advantage of a movable pen over a stationary one is, that it can be readily moved about every two or three days. The calf will thrive

much better by frequently giving it a new, clean plot of grass, than if confined for weeks upon the same spot, which soon becomes trampled, and filthy with excrements. This method is equivalent to feeding stock daily with what hay is actually needed, instead of giving them a week's supply at a time to be trampled and soiled.

CONVENIENT AND WHOLESOME FOOD.

A very cheap, convenient, and palatable dish may be prepared with the common pilot bread, which is a hard, dry cracker made of flour and water. These can be purchased by the barrel at a price but a little higher than flour, pound for pound, as they are generally made by machinery [and the cost of making and baking is but trifling when it is done on a large scale. We see the price of pilot bread is quoted in this market at less than half a cent per pound above good flour, and as they are nearly as dry as flour, they are about as nutritious. They will keep longer than flour without deteriorating or becoming stale. They can be used in a variety of ways, such as putting them into stews of meat, or meat and potatoes; they improve "hash" materially, and are a good substitute for "crust" in pot-pie, having the advantage of always being light and wholesome. For an ordinary, every-day dish, put them into an oven after the bread is removed, or into a stove oven, and let them dry thoroughly; then break them up and pour boiling water over them, and add a little salt, and butter, cream or milk. We know of no more easily prepared, more wholesome, and more palatable dish than this, for the breakfast, supper, or even for the dinner table.

SUNFLOWER SEED.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

You inquire for information of some one who has raised sunflower seeds for feeding fowls, as to their value. I have done so years ago, and tried the experiment thoroughly. I was induced to try it from the fact that I had often seen my fowls eating the seeds, during the fall of the year, in the garden, and from frequently reading in the papers that they were profitable as a crop for that purpose, and planted about an acre of them—two or three stalks in a hill, and the hills at the same distance apart as corn. The land was good—they were well tended, and produced a fair crop; but I became so disgusted with them before I got through, that I did not measure the product. When ripe, I cut them up at the roots, and scattered them in a grass lot near the outbuildings, and let my turkeys, hens, &c., feed upon them as they liked. They did not like them so well as they did corn, oats, or barley, and apparently received but little benefit from them. The shell of the seed covering the meat (which is soft and oleaginous) is thick, hard, and husky, of two or three times the weight of the kernel. This shell, of course, the fowls must swallow, and masticate in the crop, and it passes off without yielding any nutriment to them; consequently the

must eat a great bulk to get very little *real* food.

I never repeated the experiment, considering them, for such purposes as a crop, worthless. The stumps and roots of the sunflower are the worst possible of all crop offal to leave in the field. They are hard to plow out, and will not rot for years—as hard as wood, and always in the way. To get rid of mine, I had to gather and burn them. Cattle are fond of the leaves and stalks until they become quite dry and hard. But they possess so much woody fiber as to be of little value as fodder. The only use of the sunflower is, as an ornament in the garden, where they have a domestic, homebred look, as they throw their high, broad, glowing disc cheerfully up to the sun in pleasant weather. L. F. A.

LEAVES FROM MY CHINESE NOTE-BOOK.

Chinese Yam (Dioscorea Batatas).—This esculent seems to be attracting a good deal of notice in England as well as in France, and is apparently considered by some persons equal, if not superior, to the potato itself. It is very abundant in China, but is not a staple crop, like the sweet potato for example. Foreigners, as a body, prefer it when *roasted* to the sweet potato; but do not dream of putting it on a par with the common potato. However, I believe there is no vegetable of the kind at present known more likely than this to take the place of our old favorite, providing it should die out or become so diseased as to render its cultivation uncertain and consequently unprofitable. In making this assertion, I am taking for granted that the climate of England is suitable for the production of the Chinese Yam, which I must confess I have some doubts about. I dare say it will prove hardy enough to withstand an English winter, but are *our summers hot enough?* Or does not the want of summer heat account for Mr. Thompson's failure in the garden of the Horticultural Society? Experiments made in glass frames, or with bottom heat, or even in the open air in a summer which may be unusually warm, are all to be guarded against in deciding an important question of this kind. It ought to be kept in mind that the sweet potato, the *Arum esculentum*, the *Nelumbium speciosum*, and such like plants, are cultivated as esculents in the north-eastern provinces of China, along with the Yam. But should the summers of England prove warm enough for its cultivation, I have no hesitation in saying that it is more likely to suit the people than anything which has been brought forward since the commencement of the potato disease.

Mosquito Tobacco.—Some amusing correspondence has appeared upon this subject which I can not take as very complimentary to my last book, "A Journey to the Tea Countries," &c., or to the retentive memories of the readers thereof. Mr. Prideaux says (Sept. 9th), "In answer to 'R. A. H.' (see p. 565), respecting the passage referred to in Fortune's book on China, I have made the following note unfortunately without the reference. 'For keeping off mosquitos, the Chinese use the resinous saw-dust of the Juniper smeared upon Bamboo, which they find very efficacious.'" Dr. Hooker states "he has somewhere read or heard of the plant in question being a species of *Artemisia*." The following passage quoted from the book in question will assist the memories of both correspondents, although it will not add much to our information. "Various substances are employed by the Chinese to

drive away mosquitos. This which we had just purchased was made from the sawings of resinous woods—I believe procured from Juniper trees—and mixed with some combustible matter to make it burn. A piece of split Bamboo, 3 or 4 feet in length, is then covered all over with this substance. When finished it is as thick as a rattan or small cane. . . . Various species of wormwood are likewise employed for the same purpose." Since my arrival in China on this occasion I have been making further inquiries about this curious substance, but have been met with considerable jealousy on the part of the Chinese. One manufacturer, more communicative than his neighbors, gave me a good deal of information as to the substances employed, but when pressed as to the proportions of each, suddenly changed his tone, and coolly told me he knew nothing about it, that if I wanted to buy it he would supply me with any quantity, that it was cheap enough, and what could I want more. Patience is a *great* virtue in China, and if I can only exercise it, perhaps I may tell you something more—bye-and-bye about Mosquito Tobacco.—R. F., in *Gardener's Chronicle*.

A NOVEL MODE OF PAYING THE PRINTER.

I once had the pleasure of listening to a colloquy between an editor and a farmer, which struck me as being decidedly funny and unique. For the benefit of those who "can't afford to pay the printer," I conceive its relation not to be inappropriate as it is written.

Early in the spring of 18—, I casually happened up in the office of my friend C., whom I found earnestly engaged in a spirited conversation with farmer B. Just as I entered the office, the farmer, with a very vehement gesticulation, flinging his arms mid-air, then lowering them as if to pump out his words in the conclusions of a sentence, in answer to a question asked by an editor, "Can't afford it, sir; should like to take your paper, sir, but can't afford it; country is new, and expenses high! must provide for my family first, as I once read in the newspaper."

"I can," resumed the editor, "show you a novel way to pay the printer. I will cite you to it, not because I want to get your subscription money, but merely to convince you that you are perfectly able to take a paper, and can afford it, and after taking it, will be thoroughly convinced that it would be showing charity at home. You have hens at home, of course. Well, I will send you my paper for the proceeds of one single hen for the season, merely the proceeds. It seems trifling, preposterous, to imagine the products of a single hen will pay the subscription, perhaps it won't; but I make the offer."

"Done," said farmer B., "I agree to it," and he appealed to me as a witness in the affair.

The farmer went away apparently much elated in his conquest, and the editor "went on his way rejoicing."

Time rolled round, and the world revolved on its axis, and the sun moved in its orbit just as it formerly did; the farmer received his paper regularly, and regaled himself with the information obtained from it. He not only knew of the affairs of his own country, but became conversant upon the leading topics of the day, and the political and financial convulsions of the times. His children delighted, too, in perusing the contents of their weekly visitor. In short, he said he was "surprised at the progress of himself and family in general information."

Simtime in the month of September, I happened again up in the office, when who should step in, but our friend the farmer.

"How do you do, Mr. B.," said the editor, extending his hand, and his countenance lit

up with a bland smile, "take a chair, sir, and be seated; fine weather we are having."

"Yes, sir, quite fine, indeed," answered the farmer, shaking the proffered "paw" of the editor, and then a short silence ensued, during which our friend B., hitched his chair backward and forward, and twirling his thumbs abstractedly, and spitting profusely. Starting up quickly, he said, addressing the editor, "Mr. C. I've brought you the proceeds of that hen."

It was amusing to see the peculiar expression of the editor, as he followed the farmer down to the wagon. I could hardly keep my risibles down when at the wagon the farmer commenced handing over to the editor the products of the hen, which on being counted amounted to eighteen pullets, worth a shilling each, and a number of dozen eggs, making the aggregate at the least calculation, \$2 50, one dollar more than the price of the paper.

"No need," said he "of men not taking a family newspaper, and paying for it too. I don't miss this from my roost, yet I have paid a year's subscription and a dollar over. All folly, sir, there's no man but can take a paper; it's charity you know commences at home."

"But" returned the editor, "I will pay you for what there is over the subscription. I did not institute this as a means of profit, but rather to convince you. I will pay you all—"

"Not a bit of it, sir; a bargain is a bargain, and I am already paid, doubly paid, sir. And whenever a neighbor makes the complaint I did, I will cite to him the hen story. Good day gentlemen."

After his departure the editor and myself had a hearty laugh at the novelty of the idea, and the complete success of the enterprise. Many a subscriber did the farmer send in, and in the course of a number of years, during which he continued to take the paper, it was his wont to relate his novel mode of paying the printer to his guests, which were not a few, for his general information, for which he always thanked the editor, made him a desirable companion, both to old and young and of invaluable service to the community in which he lived. He became noted as a man of much reading and a man of extensive information. As he was courted by the wise, so did he court the company of the illiterate, and many are the individuals whose souls were lighted by the lamp of his knowledge. His motto was ever "My light is none the less for lighting that of my neighbors." Emulate it, kind reader.

A HINT OR TWO.—Never make use of an honest woman's name in an improper place, or at an improper time, or in a mixed company. Never make assertions about her that you think are untrue, or allusions that you think herself would blush to hear. When you meet with men who do not scruple to make use of a woman's name in a reckless and unprincipled manner, shun them, for they are the very worst members of the community, men lost to every sense of honor, every feeling of humanity. Many a good and worthy woman's character has been forever ruined, and her heart broken by a lie, manufactured by some villain and repeated where it should not have been, and in the presence of those whose little judgment could not deter them from circulating the foul and bragging report. A slander is soon propagated, and the smallest thing derogatory to woman's character, will fly on the wings of the wind, and magnify as it circulates, until its monstrous weight crushes the poor unconscious victim. Respect the name of woman, for your mother, your sisters, are women; and as you would have their fair names untarnished, and their lives

unembittered by the slander's biting tongue, heed the ill your words may bring upon a mother, sister or wife, of some fellow creature.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

AN AMERICAN MARSHAL IN PARIS.—Among the Americans who attended the late ball given at the Hotel de Ville, Paris, was Jack Spicer, of Kentucky. Jack rushed the dress somewhat strong and wore epauletts on his shoulders large enough to start four Major Generals in business. Jack was observed of all other observers, and got mixed up with a party that his friends could not account for. Wherever the Marshals of France went there went Jack; and when the Marshals sat down, Jack did the same, always taking the post of honor. The day after the ball Jack called on his old acquaintance, Mr. Mason, our Minister to France, who started up a little conversation in the following manner:

"I hear Jack that you was at the ball last night."

"I was, sir, and had a high old time."

"For which you are indebted, I suppose, to the high old company you got mixed up with? By the way, how came you associated with the Marshals?"

"How? by virtue of my office—they were marshals of France, while I am nothing else than a Marshal of the Republic, I showed my commission and took post accordingly."

"By right of your office; what do you mean?"

"Read that and see."

Here Jack presented Mr. Mason with a whitey brown paper, with a seal big enough for a four pound weight."

"What in the name of Heaven is this?"

"My commission of Marshal"—I received it in 1850, when I assisted in taking the census in Frankfort.

"You don't mean to say that you travel on this?"

"I don't mean anything else. That made me a Marshal of the Republic, and I intend to have the office duly honored."

Mr. Mason thought that Jack was doing a large business on a very small capital. We should not wonder if the reader did the same. A census marshal of Frankfort mixing in with the Marshals of France, is certainly rushing matters in a manner that requires as much brass as epauletts. Jack, we are happy to say, is equal to the requirements.

HOW TO IDENTIFY A DRAFT.—Barney Smith, a well-to-do Irishman at Chicago, Illinois, wished to return to swate Ireland, and take back his pile of \$3,000 by draft. The only difficulty was how to establish his identity at the bank in Ireland. The difficulty was overcome by taking daguerreotypes of Barney and his banker on one plate, and on a half sheet of paper, pinned on the banker's coat, was written in a bold hand, "The likeness on my left represents Barney Smith, of this city, now about to leave for Dublin, Ireland. R. K. Swift, banker." The Provincial Bank of Ireland are advised of the means by which they are to determine Barney's personal identity, and of course, when he presents himself at the bank with Col. Swift and his well-known sign manual, with his own phiz painted on the same plate by the sunbeams, there will be no hesitation about paying the draft.

"I say, Pat, isn't one man as good as another?" "Of course he is, and a great dale better!"

THE DRUNKARD'S WIFE.

Weary and sad I am sitting alone,
With a dying babe at a cold hearthstone;
And list to the sound of the drifting snow!
Oh, how unlike to long ago!

Those gilded dreams have passed away
That filled my heart on its marriage day,
And the trembling tear-drops' silent flow
Are the tribute pearls of long ago.

Oh, the hidden power of the sparkling wine
Can banish love from its holiest shrine,
And place in its stead a wreath of wo
In the faded hopes of long ago.

The crowning joy of a woman's life
Is breathed in the blissful name of wife;
And the deepest pang that her heart can know
Is the blighted love of long ago.

Wilmington Statesman.

THE SUMMER SONG.—We take the following beautiful and seasonable hymn from an ancient writer: "Thou makest, O Lord, the outgoing of the morning and evening to rejoice. Thou visitest the earth and waterest it; thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God which is full of water; thou preparest them corn when thou hast so provided for it. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly; thou settlest the furrows thereof; thou makest it soft with showers, thou blessest the springing thereof." Thou crownest the year with thy goodness and thy paths drop fatness. The drop upon the pastures of the wilderness; and the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

THE HEART GOES TO SCHOOL.—Think not that your work is done and your contract fulfilled when you have made your pupils expert arithmeticians and skillful grammarians; the heart has come to school to you as well as the head, and takes lessons as regular, and often far more imposing and abiding than those you assign to the intellect. You yourself feel the conviction daily stealing over you.

Why is it that you almost involuntarily suppress the careless jest, the look of levity, or the scurrility, you, alas, may elsewhere indulge in, and put on the air, at least, of candor and virtue in the presence of those little children? Is it not that you feel that eyes bright with faith and affection are scanning every moment your actions, and imitative and impressible hearts are continually drinking in the manifestations of your mind and spirit; that your breath, if laden with profanity, would stain their souls with quick and indelible pollution.

THE WAY TO WIN A SIMPLE WOMAN'S LOVE.—Let your hair hang in superfluous ringlets over your neck and shoulders; never suffer a razor to touch your face; squeeze yourself into a coat of mulberry cloth; put on a vest striped with green, yellow and red; pants checked with blue, crimson purple; shove your feet into a pair of boots with the heels at least three inches high; dangle a little black cane tipped with brass; a huge brass ring upon your little finger, and you will be the lion of the day, and win the heart of any simple flirt you meet with.

A Wag in New-York, standing at the corner of Oliver and Cherry streets, opposite to one of the "Catskill ice" carts, drew a piece of chalk from his pocket and marked M before the word "ice," which of course made it read, "Cats kill mice."

Money is like a hedgehog—very difficult to hold.

MARKING GEESE.—A woman in Buffalo accused a neighbor of stealing her geese. She said she could swear to them, having put her mark on their feet, to prevent them from wandering to the canal for a swim. The geese were brought into court and her mark was proved to be—placing their feet on a brick and then jaming them with another brick until the poor birds could not walk. She called this, *her mark*, and rather boasted that the geese felt no inclination to stray away, after she had put it on them! The Buffalo items man hopes that one day the cow-catcher will overtake her on the railroad and put a mark on her without any charge.

Adversity exasperates fools, dejects cowards, draws out the faculties of the wise and ingenious, puts the modest to the necessity of trying their skill, awes the opulent, and makes the idle industrious. Much may be said in favor of adversity; but the worst of it is, it has no friends.

Instead of saying things to make people stare and wonder, say what will withhold them hereafter from wondering and staring. This is philosophy; to make remote things tangible, common things extensively common, and to leave the least necessary for the last.

A Western writer thinks that if the proper way of spelling tho is *though*, and ate *eight*, and bo *beaux*, the proper way of spelling potatoes is *poughteighteaux*. The new spelling for softly is *psoughlleigh*.

Certainly in the day of Judgement we shall not be asked what we have *read*, but what we have *done*—not whether we have *talked* well, but whether we have *lived* well.

A PARODY.—A little thieving is a dangerous part, but thieving largely is a noble art. 'Tis vile to rob a hen-roost of a hen. But Schuylerising makes us *gentlemen*.

Dr. Charles Wilson, has written a volume of some hundreds of pages to explain the *pathology* of drunkenness. We could define it in two syllables—*zig-zag*.

What reason may be assigned for the three balls over a pawnbroker's door? Because if anything goes into it, it's *two to one* it doesn't come out again.

When an extravagant friend wishes to borrow your money, consider which of the two you would rather lose.

The idle are sorely put to it for means to kill Time, while Time very quietly proceeds to kill them.

Why is it dangerous to walk in the woods in early spring? Because the trees are shooting.

A bachelor, at a recent celebration, offered the following gallant toast: "Ladies—sweet-briers in the garden of life."

There is no music like the voice of a happy child, and no beauty like that in the face of an intelligent one.

A SHARP IDEA.—Sooner than marry a woman of fifty, I'd take two at five-and-twenty.

The storm spares the reed, and breaks the cedar.

AN UNFORTUNATE ROOSTER.—There are objections to Shanghais, no doubt, but we had never thought of this. It is very curious but it is true. The way of it was this; Mr. S—, an old resident of Stillwater, on the upper Hudson, introduced among his family of hens a few Shanghais, including a rooster, of formidable dimensions, who had "run to legs" a good deal. His crow was peculiar, and easily distinguished from that of other cocks. One morning he had waited to hear a repetition of the usual summons, after being aroused by the "shrill clarion" once sounded, but he heard it not again. The other roosters were doing their best, but the preëminent chanticleer was still. Mr. S—, went out to see what had caused the silence. He found the rooster lying on his back, with both legs out of joint. After an examination, he set both legs; the cock walked off, and gave vent to his satisfaction in a lusty crow. In the very act he dropped as if he had been shot. He had crowed his legs out again! He was kept three or four days, and then killed. "It was too much trouble," said Mr. S—, "to set him up every time he crowed!"—*Knickerbocker Magazine.*

A DELICATE LADY.—The Louisville Courier says, a lady who is staying at one of the hotels in that city, and who is an invalid, ordered for dinner a few days ago, chicken and vegetable soup, baked perch, boiled tongue, roast lamb, cold beef, cold lamb, boiled mutton chops, mashed potatoes, hot corn, peaches, grapes, cantelopes, water-melons, and percans. This, we should say, is doing pretty well for a sick individual.

COOL, IF NOT COMFORTABLE.—On one occasion, when Lord Metcalfe was sitting after dinner with his secretary in Jamaica, a shock of an earthquake was felt, so severe as to throw down the decanters on the table. Amidst the general alarm created by this convulsion of nature, Metcalf remained unmoved. "My good fellow," he said calmly to his secretary, with the placid smile, which was seldom absent, still upon his face, "don't be alarmed, it is only an earthquake!"

An old lady, while indulging a few evenings since in reminiscences of her girlhood, when she had lots of beaux, exclaimed—"Why, the truth is, that at one time I was so happy that I was fairly uncomfortable."

Markets.

REMARKS.

There has been a little fluctuation in flour during the past week, but prices are now about the same as per our last. The supply is becoming more liberal. The wheat harvest has already commenced in Georgia and Alabama, and promises an average yield. The general report from all parts of the country is favorable, though we hear of some localities where winter-kill, the autumn insects, the high winds prevalent in the early spring which blew the soil from the roots, and other causes, have greatly injured the crop. It has yet to run the gauntlet of rust and the summer insects. How far these will prevent an abundant yield, it is impossible yet even to guess. A very few weeks will determine.

In Corn there has been no important change from last week's quotations. From January 1st to May 31st, (five months,) the exports amount to—

	1854.	1855.
Wheat.....bushels,	1,413,464	46,170
Corn....."	2,726,252	1,467,411

Oats have fallen off in price again several cents per bushel. The printer made us to give an advance of 50 cents per bushel last week. It should have been 5 cents.

Cotton has made a great advance during the past week, equal to fully one cent per pound on all grades, or about *ten per cent.*, and the telegraph news from the steamer just arrived at Halifax from Liverpool, reports another great advance there, with the largest sales on record—amounting to 150,000 bales for the week preceding May 23. This is more than our entire exports for five months preceding the 1st instant, which amount to only 130,000 bales.

Rice, unchanged. Tobacco, a slight advance and supply short.

The weather continues cool, hardly warm enough to promote very rapid vegetation. On Friday and Saturday we were blessed with very opportune showers, which were abundant and extended over a large portion of the country. On Saturday we conversed with persons who had come directly through from St. Louis, and they stated that they had rode all the way in a rain storm. The rain apparently commenced in the far West, and progressed eastward over the northern and middle States.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, June 5, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

With the delightful weather of yesterday and to-day we find the market much improved. The supply of old potatoes is rather light, and the tendency for good potatoes upward. 3,600 bbls. of new Bermudas have arrived since our last, and 80 bbls. to-day from Charleston, S. C. We notice also 500 bbls. of new Onions from Bermuda. 400 bbls. of Yams came in to-day from the West Indies, selling at \$4 per bbl., though they find a rather dull sale in this market.

About 200 bunches of new Turnips came in this morning from near Shrewsbury, N. J. Green Peas begin to be very abundant. To-day 1,200 bbls. came in from west Jersey. They bring \$3 50@4 50 per bbl., as they come, though the barrels usually fall short a half bushel. We notice also, to-day, about 10 bbls. of green gooseberries—the first of the season—bringing \$3 50 per bushel. This is very high, but they will be down in two or three days. 1,500 boxes of Tomatoes came in market this morning from Charleston, which sell from first hands at \$1 a box. We noticed, also, a few Cucumbers, Beets, String Beans, some Green Corn, &c., mostly from Charleston.

Light produce of all kinds is very plentiful. Apples are higher and scarce. Good Russets bring \$5 per bbl. We observed no further changes of any importance.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas.....	per bbl.	\$6 50@7 —
Charleston, new.....	do	5 —@5 25
New-Jersey Mercers.....	do	4 50@4 75
Western Mercers.....	do	4 —@4 25
White Mercers.....	do	3 75@3 87
Nova Scotia Mercers.....	per bush.	1 25@1 30
New-Jersey Carters.....	per bbl.	— @ —
Washington County Carters.....	do	3 50@3 75
Junes.....	do	3 —@ —
Western Reds.....	do	2 87@3 25
Yellow Pink Eyes.....	do	2 75@3 —
Long Reds.....	do	2 50@2 75
Virginia Sweet Potatoes.....	do	— @ —
Philadelphia sweet.....	do	— @ —
Turnips—Ruta Baga.....	do	1 87@2 25
White.....	do	— @1 62
Onions—White.....	do	— @ —
Bermuda Reds, new.....	do	5 00@5 50
New-Orleans Reds.....	do	— @ —
Red, old.....	do	4 —@4 25
Yellow.....	do	4 25@4 50
Cabbage Sprout ^s	per bbl.	— @ 75

Green Peas.....	"	3 50@4 50
Asparagus.....	per 100 bunches.	12 —@16
Spinach.....	per bbl.	— @ 75
Water Cresses.....	per basket.	— 25@ —
Rhubarb.....	per 100 bunch.	4 —@7 —
Radishes.....	do.	50@ —
Lettuce.....	do.	1 —@1 50
Apples.....	per bbl.	\$4 —@5 —
Butter—new.....	per lb.	22@24c.
Western, old.....	do	16@17c.
Cheese.....	do	9@11c.
Eggs.....	per doz.	—@15c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 6, 1855.

There are 1,968 cattle in market to-day, which is 237 less than last week. We have to notice a still further decline in the market of fully 1c. per lb. The average sales, we think, are no higher than 11c., and it has been estimated by others at no more than 10½. This result was anticipated in consequence of the recent high prices, but now the market has doubtless reached its minimum, at least for the present. It is hardly possible for it to go lower, while the general impression is that we shall soon experience a reaction. For a week or two, now, the cattle business has been anything but profitable. Last week the losses fell on the brokers, who thought to put in an extra finger; but to-day, as a general thing, the owners suffer.

It is evident that, as things go, owners will not plunge very deeply into business, and that we shall soon see shorter supplies and higher prices. Many of the cattle will be left over for next week.

We present a few items: I. W. Alvord had 29 fine still-fed Durham grades, from Syracuse, N. Y., fed by Parker & Norton, and sold by Culver, Hurd & Co. They would average about 950 lbs., and sold at 10@12c.

Mr. Gurney was selling 49 rather green Ohio cattle, owned by C. Pomeroy. They were selling from 25 to 10c. and probably they will wind up at 9c.

Henry Eckstein, had 30 good still-fed cattle from Syracuse, N. Y., selling by W. W. Hoag, at a range from 10c. @12c. They would weigh near 900 lbs. per head. Mr. Hoag, had also 13 other good cattle owned by Mr. Moore of Connecticut.

S. M. Baker & Co., had 118 fair Ohio cattle which would average nearly 10½c. or \$75 per head. They were sold by John Merritt.

Barney Bartam, was selling 97 good beeves from Pratt Co., Illinois, owned by Read & Thompson. They would weigh about 800 lbs. and brought from 11c.@12c.

Mr. Ford, had 52 fine young Illinois cattle, sold by Mr. Murray. They would average 775 lbs. weight and brought from 11c.@12c.

Joseph Williams, was selling a pretty good lot of 70 Illinois cattle, at prices ranging from 11 to 12c. 4 sold for \$110 per head, and 5 for \$96. The tail end will probably go off at 10 cents.

Daniel Barnes, was selling 80 rather slimpy animals, from Rockingham, Va., at an average of 10c. 7 sold for \$80 per head. They were owned by Mr. Harlan.

David Belden, was selling a mixed lot of animals, of every size and quality. Some were fed in this State and others in Michigan. They would range from 9c. to 12c.

G. Toffey, was selling 113 fair Ohio cattle owned by W. Florence. 6 sold for \$600. They would range from 10c. to 11 cents.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality.....	11½@12c.
Good retailing quality.....	10@11½c.
Inferior do. do.....	9@10c.
Cows and Calves.....	\$30@565.
Veals.....	4c.@6c.
Swine, alive.....	6c.@6½c.
" dead.....	7½@8c

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.		IN MARKET TO-DAY.	
Beeves.....	1968	Beeves.....	1968
Cows.....	17	Cows.....	17
Veals.....	751	Veals.....	751
Sheep and lambs.....	582	Sheep and lambs.....	582
Swine.....	287	Swine.....	287
Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—			
beeves.....		650	
Sheep.....		—	
Swine.....		—	
By the Harlem Railroad—			
Beeves.....		30	
Cows.....		17	
Veals.....		751	
Sheep and Lambs.....		582	
By the Hudson River Railroad—			
Beeves.....		750	
Sheep.....		—	
By the Hudson River Boats—			
Beeves.....		450	
Swine.....		287	

New-York State furnished—beeves.....	213
Ohio, ".....	760
Indiana, ".....	110
Illinois, ".....	711
Texas, ".....	69
Kentucky, ".....	—
Connecticut, ".....	—
Michigan, ".....	45
Virginia, ".....	80

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	3881
Beeves.....	260
Veals.....	62
Cows and Calves.....	49

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:
 204 Beef Cattle.....10@12c.
 109 Cows and Calves.....\$25@\$65
 4,165 Sheep and Lambs.....\$2@\$7.
 148 Veals.....4@6c.

The sheep market is over-supplied, and rather dull. The total receipts for last week have been something over 8,000. We find at Browning's about 1,000 on hand, and 7 or 800 at Chamberlain's. The sheep are mostly shorn, and of fair quality. Mr. McGraw sold a fine lot of 53 Kentucky sheep at an average of over \$8 per head. The average is about \$4 75. The principal supplies come from this State and Ohio. The lambs are mostly from New-Jersey, and quite common.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

232 Sheep.....	\$1106 63
180 Sheep.....	928 71
64 Sheep.....	306 75
252 Sheep.....	939 38
15 Sheep.....	81 50
53 Sheep.....	435 75
10 do.....	44 50
37 do.....	242 53
156 do.....	743 00
47 do.....	166 75
20 Lambs.....	103 25
8 do.....	37 00
32 do.....	143 50
20 do.....	81 75
2 do.....	10 00
14 do.....	67 00
82 do.....	357 25
41 do.....	46 12
1238 Average.....	\$4 72.
	\$5,840 87

Average.....\$4 72.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Ashes—				
Pot, 1st sort, 1855.....	100 lb.	—	@	5 75
Pearl, 1st sort, 1855.....		6	12@	—
Bristles—				
American, Gray and White.....		45	@	—50
Beeswax—				
Coal—				
Liverpool Orrel.....	1/2 chaldron	—	@	7 50
Scotch.....		—	@	—
Sidney.....		5 75	@	6
Pictou.....		5 25	@	—
Anthracite.....	2,000 lb.	6 50	@	—
Cotton Bagging—				
Gunny Cloth.....	1/2 yard	—	@	12 1/2
American Yellow.....		26	@	—27 1/2
Cotton—				
Ordinary.....	Upland.	Florida.	Mobile.	N. O. & Texas.
Middling.....	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Middling Fair.....	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Fair.....	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Coffee—				
Java.....	1/2 lb.	—	@	13
Mocha.....		—	@	14
Brazil.....		—	@	10
Maracaibo.....		—	@	11
St. Domingo.....	(cash)	—	@	9
Flax—				
Jersey.....	1/2 lb.	—	@	8
Flour and Meal—				
State, common brands.....		9 75	@	10
State, straight brands.....		10 13	@	—
State, favorite brands.....		10 25	@	—
Western, mixed do.....		10 12 1/2	@	—
Michigan and Indiana, straight do.....		10 25	@	37
Michigan, fancy brands.....		10 56	@	—
Ohio, common to good brands.....		—	@	10 37
Ohio, fancy brands.....		—	@	10 50
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.....		—	@	10 75
Genesee, fancy brands.....		10 50	@	—
Genesee, extra brands.....		10 75	@	13
Canada.....		10 37	@	—
Brandywine.....		11 43	@	—
Georgetown.....		11 43	@	11 50
Petersburg City.....		11 43	@	—
Richmond Country.....		—	@	11 37
Alexandria.....		—	@	11 37
Baltimore, Howard-Street.....		—	@	11 37
Rye Flour.....		7 75	@	—
Corn Meal, Jersey.....		5 12	@	—
Corn Meal, Brandywine.....		5 37	@	—
Corn Meal, Brandywine.....	1/2 punch	—	@	21 50

Grain—				
Wheat, White Genesee.....	1/2 bush.	—	@	2 75
Wheat, do. Canada, (in bond).....		—	@	2 50
Wheat, Southern, White.....		2 50	@	2 70
Wheat, Ohio, White.....		2 50	@	—
Wheat, Michigan, White.....		2 62	@	2 65
Rye, Northern.....		1 64	@	—
Corn, Round Yellow.....		—	@	1 15
Corn, Round White.....		—	@	1 14
Corn, Southern White.....		—	@	1 15
Corn, Southern Yellow.....		—	@	1 15
Corn, Southern Mixed.....		—	@	—
Corn, Western Mixed.....		—	@	1 14
Corn, Western Yellow.....		—	@	—
Barley.....		1 15	@	—
Oats, River and Canal.....		90	@	—
Oats, New-Jersey.....		85	@	—
Oats, Western.....		95	@	—
Peas, Black-Eyed.....	1/2 bush.	2 37	@	—
Hay—				
North River, in bales.....		—	@	—
Lime—				
Rockland, Common.....	1/2 bbl.	—	@	90
Molasses—				
New-Orleans.....	1/2 gall.	—	@	33
Porto Rico.....		—	@	32
Cuba Muscovado.....		—	@	26
Trinidad Cuba.....		—	@	26
Cardenas, &c.....		—	@	24
Oil Cake—				
Thin Oblong, City.....	1/2 tun.	—	@	42
Thick, Round, Country.....		—	@	—
Provisions—				
Beef, Mess, Country.....	1/2 bbl.	10 50	@	12
Beef, Mess, City.....		10	@	—
Beef, Mess, extra.....		16 25	@	16 50
Beef, Prime, Country.....		—	@	9
Beef, Prime, City.....		—	@	—
Beef, Prime Mess.....	1/2 pec.	21	@	24
Pork, Prime.....		15 12	@	—
Pork, Clear.....		19	@	—
Pork, Prime Mess.....		15	@	—
Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels.....	1/2 lb.	10	@	—
Lams, Pickled.....		—	@	9 1/2
Shoulders, Pickled.....		—	@	7 1/2
Beef Hams, in Pickle.....	1/2 bbl.	—	@	21
Beef, Smoked.....	1/2 lb.	—	@	—
Butter, Orange County.....		30	@	31
Cheese, fair to prime.....		10	@	12
Rice—				
Ordinary to fair.....	100 lb.	5 75	@	5 87
Good to prime.....		5 87 1/2	@	6 50
Salt—				
Turk's Island.....	1/2 bush.	—	@	50
St. Martin's.....		—	@	—
Liverpool, Ground.....	1/2 sack.	95	@	—
Liverpool, Fine.....		130	@	1 40
Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.....		1 50	@	—
Sugar—				
St. Croix.....	1/2 lb.	—	@	—
New-Orleans.....		5	@	6 1/2
Cuba Muscovado.....		5	@	6 1/2
Porto Rico.....		5	@	6
Havana, White.....		7	@	7 1/2
Havana, Brown and Yellow.....		5	@	7
Tallow—				
American, Prime.....	1/2 lb.	11 1/2	@	—
Tobacco—				
Virginia.....	1/2 lb.	—	@	6 1/2
Kentucky.....		7	@	13
Maryland.....		—	@	—
St. Domingo.....		12	@	15
Cuba.....		12	@	20
Yara.....		35	@	43
Havana, Fillers and Wrappers.....		20	@	1
Florida Wrappers.....		15	@	60
Connecticut, Seed Leaf.....		6	@	18
Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf.....		—	@	12
Wool—				
American, Saxony Fleece.....	1/2 lb.	38	@	42
American, Full Blood Merino.....		36	@	37
American, 3/4 and 1/2 Merino.....		30	@	33
American, Native and 1/2 Merino.....		25	@	28
Superfine, Pulled, Country.....		30	@	32
No. 1, Pulled, Country.....		23	@	25

LITTLE GIANT
 CORN AND COB MILL.
 PATENTED 1854.

THIS MILL has doubtless attained a more sudden celebrity for doing its work with rapidity and ease, than any other article of labor-saving machinery ever presented to the Agricultural world; the merit of which consists chiefly in the peculiar arrangement of first breaking, then crushing and crumbling the cob at the center of the mill. Thus lessening the strain upon both mill and team, the chief work of crushing being thrown upon the central parts of the judicious application of leverage power.

For portability, simplicity of construction, and convenience of use, the LITTLE GIANT has no equal. It weighs from three to five hundred pounds, according to size, and can be put in operation by the farmer in twenty minutes, without expense or mechanical aid.

These MILLS are guaranteed in the most positive manner against breakage or derangement, and warranted to grind feed from ear corn, and grits or fine hominy from shelled corn, with a degree of ease and convenience for farm purposes never attained before.

Will grind from 10 to 15 bushels per hour, according to degree of fineness, and can be worked advantageously with one or two horses.

Sole Agent for New-York and vicinity,

R. L. ALLEN,
 91— 189 and 191 Water-street.

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Onion and Carrot Growers,
 READ!

THE NEW PATENT HAND CULTIVATOR, of which Hon. Wm. H. Conover, an extensive Onion grower, of Freehold, N. J., says: "I would not be without one for \$100, if it could not be procured for less."—for sale by

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.
 GRIFFING & BROTHERS, 60 Courtland-st.
 And JOHN GANSE, Manufacturer,
 90, 93n1202 134 Thompson-st., New-York.

By JAMES M. MILLER & Co.

THIRD GRAND ANNUAL SALE OF SHORT HORNS, DURHAM AND CROSSES FROM THEM, with the best approved AMSTERDAM, DUTCH and Pure bred AYRSHIRE.

THURSDAY, June 14, 1855, at 12 o'clock, on the farm of JAMES BATHGATE, Esq., one mile from Fordham, and 14 miles from the City Hall, New-York city, by Harlem Railroad cars, running hourly.

Being desirous of making my pledge good to the cattle owners to have an annual sale, and having the use again of Mr. Bathgate's capacious premises, I shall sell as above stated.

None but cattle of the well-known breeds or established character, will be received; and every animal offered must be sold without reserve.

The sale will come off rain or shine. Every facility will be offered by the Hudson River, Harlem and New-Haven Railroads to those who choose to take stock to the sale.

For further particulars and catalogues, apply to the Auctioneer, 81 Maiden-lane, New-York. 89—92n1199

SUPERIOR THOROUGHBRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS FOR SALE.

The subscriber having purchased from Mr. W. P. Wainwright his interest in the herd of Devon Cattle hitherto owned conjointly by them, will continue to give his strict attention to the breeding and raising of this increasingly popular breed. Having now a herd of over twenty head, bred entirely from animals of his own importation, he is enabled to offer for sale a few young bulls and heifers of very superior quality.

Also, constantly on hand thoroughbred ESSEX PIGS, descended from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to price, age, pedigree, &c., address April, 1855. C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
 87—94n1195 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK. NOW READY,

A large supply of both 1st and 2d Volumes bound in one book, and containing all the subject connected with the Devon records of both England and America up to the present time; also as a frontispiece the beautiful engraving of the celebrated picture known as the "Quarterly Testimonial" which is a full length portrait of Mr. Francis Quartly, now living, at 91 years of age. It is also illustrated with two animals, prize winners in England. Price \$1 00, and can be had by inclosing the amount to B. P. Johnson, Cor. Sec. of N. Y. State Society, Albany, N. Y.; Luther Tucker, Ed. of Country Gentleman, Albany, N. Y.; Sandford Howard, Boston, Mass.; D. D. T. Moore, Ed. Wool Grower and Stock Register, Rochester, N. Y.; A. B. Allen, Ed. American Agriculturist, New-York; Sam'l Sands, Ed. American Farmer, Baltimore, Md.; A. M. Spangler, Ed. Progressive Farmer, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lee & Redmonds, Eds. Southern Cultivator, Augusta, Ga.; and Wm. McDougall, Ed. Canadian Agrl., Toronto, Canada. It gives me pleasure to state that Mr. Davy has solicited Mr. S. Howard, of Boston Cultivator, to collect pedigrees and illustrations in this country, for the 3d volume, and has authorized Mr. H. to obtain information as to any and all mistakes which may have been made as to the recording of American animals in Davy's 2d volume, and such corrections will be made in the 3d volume.

The plan proposed is, that the pedigrees and illustrations collected by Mr. Howard, as the Editor in America, shall be forwarded to Mr. Davy, and a copy of those collected by Mr. Davy will be sent to Mr. Howard. The whole matter will be published in America for our use, and also in England for their use; by which means an American and English Devon Herd Book will be united, and the price reasonable, as the expense of English printing and duties will be saved. This concert of action has been brought about by Mr. Davy's good feeling and liberality towards this country; and I am only the instrument through which Mr. Davy acts, and from this time forth Mr. Howard will receive all communications on the subject, as will appear by reference to his advertisement.

All editors who will give the above three insertions will receive a copy of the 1st, 2d, and 3d volumes

L. G. MORRIS, American Agent for J. T. Davy's Devon Herd Book.

90-93n1203

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TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion.
 Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.
 Advertisements standing three months one-third less.
 Ten words make a line.
 No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

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A premium of TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS will be paid for such a Design as may be approved of and adopted.

Sixteen acres are contained within the limits of the Garden, the profile and boundaries of which, together with the grades of the streets which are to inclose it, may be obtained by application to the undersigned, who will also furnish any information in his power about the undertaking.

All designs must be handed in by the 1st of July, to JOHN MAXWELL,
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THOROUGHBRED DEVONS.—I have for sale Thoroughbred DEVON Yearlings and two-year old Bulls, the get of imported REUBENS, and yearling Heifers, the get of WINCHESTER, who was sired by imported ALBERT 2d. Being descended from different sources, they are well adapted for breeding from.

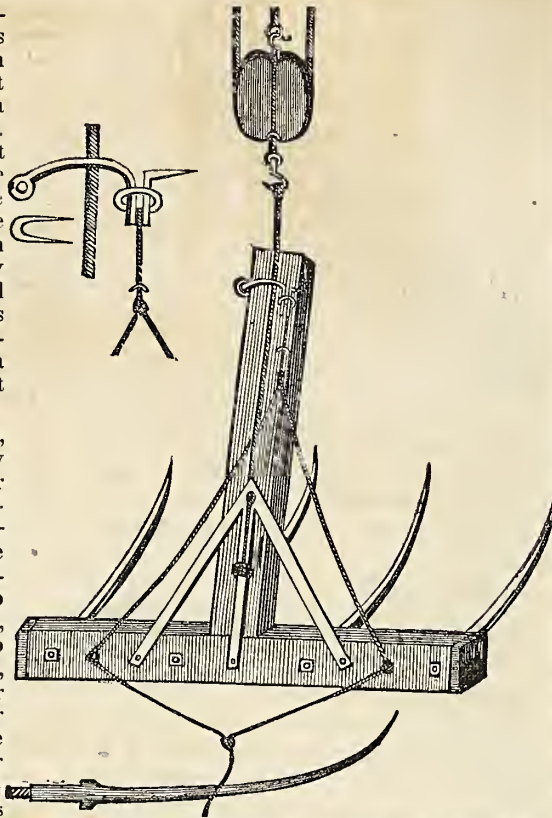
ALFRED M. TREDWELL,
 91, 93, 7n1205 Madison, New Jersey.

IMPROVED UNLOADING HAY FORK.

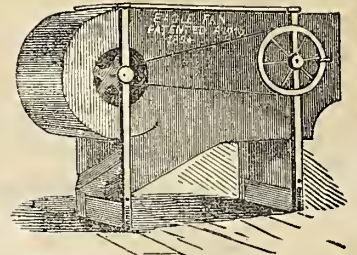
This is a great labor-saving implement, in a situation where labor is most oppressive, and at a time when it is most difficult to be procured. It is intended for unloading hay from a wagon upon a scaffold or into a mow. This is generally done in the sultriest weather, in a close barn, when the dust from the hay and the oppressive heat are almost stifling, and when the team and hands connected with it can be spared with least convenience. By the use of this simple and economical instrument, the same team that draws the load into the barn, or any supernumerary horse at hand, may unload a tun of hay in a few moments, without any effort at pitching.

The fork, as represented by the cut, is suspended from the roof directly over the load, by a tackle and fall, or by a single pulley and rope, the drawing end of which passes through a pulley on a level with the horse, to enable him to lay out his strength to advantage. The iron teeth are pressed into the hay, and the horse at a word, draws up some 400 to 600 pounds to the required height, when a light cord, attached to the fork and passing over another pulley suspended in the proper direction, in the hands of one of the operators swings it horizontally over the place to be deposited, and the sudden jerk of a strong twine, removes the ketch, and the forkful drops where required. A few forkfuls remove the entire load, when the men and team, refreshed by their few moments of rest, are off for another load.

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The superiority of this Fan consists
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 Single Horse Power \$85 00
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 Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator, 160 00
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FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the **IMPROVED POUDETTE** made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the **LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,** No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY:
 Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of **POUDETTE** per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.
 I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,
 Your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN DANA.

70—121n152

KNOWLSON'S FARRIER OR HORSE-DOCTOR.—The greatest book for the treatment of diseased horses ever printed—containing also valuable hints for choosing a good horse, and directions for training horses. By J. C. KNOWLSON, F. Q. R. Price 25 cents.

This is a plainly written treatise on horses and horse diseases, by one of the most eminent English farriers ever known. Mr. Knowlson, the author, was none of your theoretical geniuses called gentlemen farriers. He was a plain, honest, hard-working man who doctored the horses with his own hands and his own preparations. He treated more than a hundred thousand horses in his life time, having practised fifty odd years; and he made a record of each case, so as to judge of other similar cases. This is the way he gained his popularity. He died a few years ago, leaving a property equal to \$150,000 in Yankee money; yet he was a hard-working man to the end of his life. This is the only Horse-Doctor book that can be relied on.

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A. RANNEY, Publisher, No. 195 Broadway, New-York.
 N. B.—Editors copying the above shall receive a copy of the work (post-paid.) 89—92n1183

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in **PAPER and STATIONERY** of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Out and Spurry.
 Red and White Clover
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ORNAMENTAL TREES and SHRUBBERY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated.
 R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$30 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86—tfn1193

NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PREMIUMS ON FARMS.
 Premiums are offered for 1855, of \$50, \$30, and \$20, on farms of not less than 50 acres, exclusive of wood and water land, regard being had to the quantity and quality of produce, the manner and expense of cultivation and the actual products.
 Questions to be answered by the applicants will be furnished by the Secretary, on application.
 Notice must be given to the Secretary on or before the **FIRST OF JULY,**

by persons intending to compete, so that some member or members of the Executive Committee may visit and examine the farms entered for competition, and report on the same.
 Agricultural Rooms, } B. P. JOHNSON,
 Albany, May 16, 1855. } 88-91n1197 Secretary.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine
 Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON,
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AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do. do.
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- WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
- TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

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- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine.
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- KEITHUM'S Mowing Machine.
- HUSSY'S Reaping do.
- MCCORMICK'S do. do.
- ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

THRESHERS—

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
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- EMERY'S overshot.
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DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

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AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

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PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

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CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

WATER RAMS, SUCTION, FORCE and Endless-chain Pumps; Leather, Gutta Percha, India Rubber Hose, Lead Pipe, &c.

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SOUTHERN PLOWS—Nos. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 14, 15, 18, 19, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$, 20, A 1, A 2, Nos. 50, 60, and all other sizes.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

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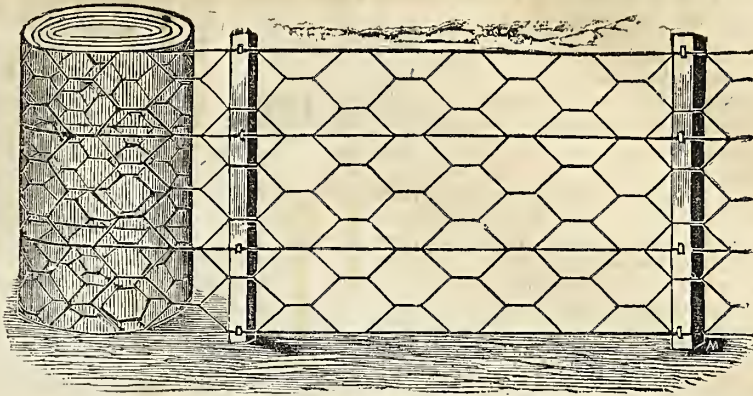
FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGERS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

- Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
- Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
- Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
- Seed and Grain Drills, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.
- Clover Hullers, Saws, Cotton Gins,
- Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear,
- Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
- Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.



IMPROVED WIRE FENCE.

THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens, Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens.

It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years. Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the sunbeam, while it does not confine heat, and is withal ornamental.

This superior FENCE can be supplied at the following prices:

A—16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, 2 longitudinal wires,	\$0 95 per rod
B—15 " " 6-inch " 2 " " "	1 25 "
C—15 " " 6-inch " 4 " " "	1 50 "
D—33 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	1 63 "
E—33 " " 3-inch " 3 " " "	1 75 "
F—15 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	2 00 "
G—15 " " 3-inch " 4 " " "	2 25 "

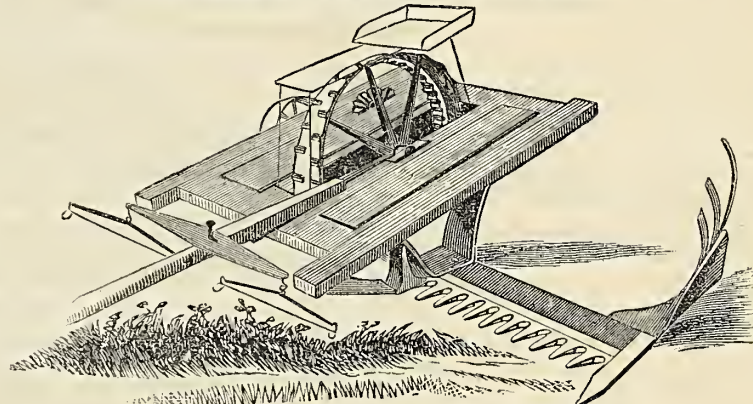
Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot.

The rod measures 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Each coil contains about 25 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER,



THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

- 1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.
- 2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.
- 3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.
- 4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.
- 5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.
- 6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
- 7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses, driver and raker.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st New-York.

Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

SALE OF IMPORTED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, AND SUFFOLK PIGS.

I will sell by auction, at my residence, on WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE next, my entire HERD of Short-Horned Cattle, consisting of about twenty-five (25) head of my choice animals. Nearly the whole of them are IMPORTED, and their direct descendants.

Also, about seventy-five (75) SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. These are imported from the flock of Jonas Webb, Esq., of England, and their descendants.

Also, a few SUFFOLK HOGS, bred from the importation of J. C. Jackson, Esq.

CATALOGUES, with the pedigrees and further particulars, will be ready about the 20th of April, and can be had at the offices of the different Agricultural Papers in this State, and Ohio Cultivator and Indiana Farmer, and by application to me.

TERMS OF SALE.

For all sums under \$100, cash; over \$100 to \$150, three months over \$150 to \$300, six months; and all over \$300, six and twelve months' credit, on approved notes with interest.

J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn, N. Y.

March 20th, 1855.

81—92n1185

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm.

April 24, 1855. 86—tfn1194

SHORT HORN BULLS.—I have for sale three young, thoroughbred SHORT HORN BULLS; ages four months, seven months, eighteen months; colors—roan, red, chiefly red; the get of SPLENDOR, a son of Vane Tempest and imported Wolviston.

JOHN R. PAGE, Scnectt, Cayuga Co. N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86—6m

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

WHEN sending a subscription always state what number it shall commence with. The back numbers of this volume can still be supplied to new subscribers. Back volumes neatly bound can now be furnished from the commencement. Price of the first ten volumes \$1 25 each, or \$10 for the entire set of ten volumes. Vols. XI, XII, and XIII, \$1 50 each. Price of the thirteen volumes, \$14 00.

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Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can begin with any number, but it is preferable to commence the 15th of March or the 15th of September, as a half yearly volume of 416 pages, with a complete index, begins on each of those dates.

In sending money it is advisable to make a note of the name, number, letter and date of the bills sent, and then inclose them in presence of the Postmaster. Give the Post-office and the County and date. Write these very plainly.

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FOURTEENTH VOLUME OF

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,

THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

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COMPREHENSIVE IN ITS CHARACTER.

Each volume will contain all matter worth recording, which transpires either at home or abroad, and which can serve to instruct or interest the Farmer, the Planter, the Fruit-Grower, the Gardener, and the Stock-Breeder; thus making it the most complete and useful Agricultural Publication of the day.

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SUCH A PAPER IS DEMANDED BY THE FARMING COMMUNITY.

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The *Agriculturist* will not depart from its legitimate sphere to catch popular favor, by lumbering up its pages with the silly, fictitious literature, and light, miscellaneous matter of the day; it has a higher aim; and a small part only of its space will be devoted to matters not immediately pertaining to the great business of Agriculture. The household as well as the out-door work of the farm will receive a due share of attention. The humbugs and nostrums afloat in the community will be tried by reliable scientific rules, and their worthlessness exposed. It is the aim of the publishers to keep this paper under the guidance of those who will make it a standard work, which shall communicate to its readers *only* that which is safe and reliable.

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

The *American Agriculturist* stands upon *its own merits*; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is *untrammelled* by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the *organ of any clique*, or the *puffing machine* of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

The *American Agriculturist* is under the *control and management* of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an *experienced farmer*, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness* and *reliability* of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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The *American Agriculturist* is supplied to regular subscribers at a cost of less than **FOUR CENTS** a number, of sixteen large pages; and to large clubs for a trifle less than **THREE CENTS**. Each number will contain suggestions for the treatment of soils, manures, crops, stock, &c., which will often be worth to the reader more than the cost of the paper for a year.

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Specimen copies will be forwarded gratis to any one sending their name and Post-office address to the publishers.

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To single Subscribers.....	\$2 00	A YEAR, \$2 00
" Clubs of 3 do.....	1 67	" 5 00
" 5 do.....	1 60	" 8 00
" 10 do.....	1 50	" 15 00

The money always to accompany the names for which the paper is ordered.

The Postmaster, or other person sending a club of ten, will be entitled to one extra copy gratis.

The Postmaster, or other person sending a club of twenty or more, will be presented with an extra copy, and also a copy of the National Magazine, Scientific American, Weekly Tribune, or Weekly Times, or any other paper or periodical in this City, the cost not exceeding two dollars per annum. The above are not given where book premiums are paid.

Subscriptions may be forwarded by mail at the risk of the Publishers, if inclosed and mailed in the presence of the Postmaster, and the name, number and letter of the bill registered.

Communications for the paper should be addressed to the Editors; Subscriptions, Advertisements and all matters relating to the business department, should be addressed to the Publishers,

ALLEN & CO., No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
ALLEN & CO., 189 Water-st., New-York.

VOL. XIV.—NO. 14.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 92.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON BUTTER AND CHEESE MAKING.

1. At this season there is perhaps no question of more interest to farmers, and to farmers' wives especially, than the proper treatment of milk and its products, butter and cheese. The subject is worthy of a volume, and we can but wonder that a large treatise devoted especially to this subject has not appeared ere this. Without attempting to take up the subject fully in all its parts, we will offer a few hints at this time, hoping to enlarge upon it in the future.

2. *Composition of Milk.*—If we take 1,000 ounces of milk, of about the average quality, and examine it, we shall find about 850 ozs. of pure water, about 43 ozs. of curd, 50 ozs. of butter, 43 ozs. of sugar, and some $3\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. of salts, consisting of phosphate of lime and magnesia, common salt, soda, &c. All of these substances are apparently mingled together. We can drive off the water by careful evaporation, leaving the other substances in a solid mass, and constituting about one-seventh of the whole. We will remember, then, that seven pounds of milk contain about six pounds of pure water. These figures are not designed to be strictly accurate, but to show something of the general average composition of milk.

3. If we allow milk to stand at rest in a moderately cool place, and in shallow dishes, for 40 to 60 hours, nearly all the oil or butter will rise to the surface, on account of its being less heavy than the other substances. This shows that the oil, or butter in the form of cream, is not chemically united with the water, but merely floats in it. Twenty pounds of milk contain on the average about one pound of oil or butter.

4. Remove the cream and keep the skimmed milk from souring, and the curd (casein) will not separate from the water. But add any sour substance to it, such as vinegar or any of the acids, and it will at once curdle—

that is, the curd will separate into a mass by itself. Take out this curd and put it into pure water, and it will not be dissolved again, but add some soda or saleratus to the water, and it will then dissolve the curd. If we examine new milk, or uncurdled skimmed milk, chemically, we shall find that it contains a little soda. These and other experiments show that casein or curd is not dissolved in pure water, but that it is held in solution in milk by means of the free soda present. If milk is allowed to stand exposed to air for a time it sours of itself—that is, some of its own elements change to an acid, and this acid neutralizes or destroys the free soda existing naturally in the milk, and the water not being able to dissolve the casein or curd without the soda, the casein separates into a "curdled" mass, just as camphor in solution separates into a flocky mass when water is poured in to withdraw the alcohol. By adding soda to milk faster than it is used up by the acid formed in souring, we can keep milk from curdling for weeks or months. About 25 lbs. of milk will produce one pound of *dry* curd. Cheese is curd containing some water and more or less oil or butter.

5. Removing the oil and casein, or curd, from milk, we have left what is usually called whey. This is chiefly water containing sugar and a small quantity of the salts before described. Take the whey and carefully evaporate it to dryness, and we shall have left a quantity of sugar not unlike common white sugar, though a little less sweet to the taste. There will be a little more than one pound of this sugar to twenty-five pounds of milk or whey. Mingled with the sugar will be a little more than an ounce of soda, phosphate of lime, and other salts, which can be separated by chemical processes.

6. If the oil of milk, that is the butter, be separated from all other substances it does not easily decay or change. Indeed, perfectly pure butter may be kept for years entirely unchanged, and this, too, without the addition of salt. In this respect it is like pure tallow or lard.

7. The casein, or curd, on the contrary, contains an element (nitrogen) not found in oil or butter, and it decays very rapidly unless preserved by the addition of salt or other means. Separate it from the soda in the milk by washing it with water, and if exposed at common temperature it commences decomposition immediately.

8. This distinction between oil and casein (butter and curd) is an important one, and

upon a proper understanding of this depends success in butter making and butter keeping. The secret of *making* good butter lies in so raising the cream, so churning, and so working as to free it from the casein; the secret of *preserving* butter lies in counteracting the effects of any particles of casein remaining in the butter after it is made.

To the consideration of the *practical details* of butter and cheese making our next article will be devoted.

CALVES WITH SHEEP.—A farmer writing to the Germantown Telegraph strongly recommends letting calves run with sheep. Last season two of his spring calves came from a good pasture much debilitated, without any perceptible cause for their reduced condition. He put each one with a separate flock of twenty-five sheep, and they immediately recruited, and during the entire winter lived very harmoniously with their woolly companions; fed with them from the rack; often changed position at night to get a bed by the side of their warmer fleeces; and, in the spring, they were by far the healthiest and heaviest of his spring calves.

For the American Agriculturist,

ALFALFA.

The alfalfa, or Chilian clover, which Lieut. Herndon refers to, page 137 current volume, and to which you alluded to in some back number, is nothing but the old lucerne. I have had lucerne for some 15 to 20 years, from a small patch to four acres, and think I know it.

The alfalfa was sent me three or four years ago from the Patent office. The seed, when first seen, was pronounced lucerne; but I concluded to test. I did so, and lucerne it was. Fearing an accidental mistake, I procured another parcel from Florida, seed as the other, and lucerne it was.

I have it growing in my flower-garden, putting it there, supposing, from the newspaper accounts, that it would be more desirable than aught else, and I could be sure to watch it and do the nursing when in the flower department. I send you a twig from both lots.

Like Monsieur Tonson in the play, *this grass* (clover) pops in when one little expects it, and it expects to be paid for it; when if called lucerne, it would be regarded only as lucerne. P.

[THE above is from a reliable correspondent of extensive observation. The samples forwarded were kept over two weeks in the

mail bags, and were so much dried and broken by hard usage of the letter, that we found it impossible to examine them. We imagine there must have been some smash-up on one of the southern railroads.—Ed.]

For the American Agriculturist.

YOUNG HOUSEKEEPERS.

It has been customary of late to decry the present system of education for young ladies, as one peculiarly adapted to unfit them for the practical duties of life. I do not intend to deny a fact so palpable; but, permit me to say a few words in behalf, and for the encouragement, of the victims of this system. Among them are not a few noble, high-souled, intelligent women, whose natural energies, although misdirected, have not been cramped, and who, triumphing over the effects of want of early practical training, become of that band of glorious women whose price, Solomon tells us, "is above rubies." It is with the hope of assisting this class of my fair countrywomen in the arduous task of becoming *good housekeepers*, that I now address them.

The first difficulty from which you suffer is, your utter ignorance of the minutæ appertaining to every-day work. Your previous education (or want of it) having almost entirely unfitted you for the task of properly governing and directing a household, you are in danger of exacting either too much or too little of your domestics—both of them grave faults.

Again, there is the physical disability under which you labor when you attempt assistance occasionally, and the constantly recurring feeling that you are doing that which is of very little importance to any one, accompanied by a half-suppressed sigh of contempt for the occupations in which you are engaged; and last, though not least, is the feeling of humiliation with which you regard your ineffective efforts when,

"Night and silence overshadowing all,"

you review the failures of the day. You feel exhausted, mind and body, by labors which any well-trained or strong-armed domestic would have accomplished in one-half the time with one-fourth the effort, and naturally wonder whether the sum total of them all has recompensed you for the loss of valuable time and the irritation of temper consequent upon the inefficiency of both leader and subordinates. It will seem harsh, perhaps, to remind you that there is no "royal road to learning" here, any more than elsewhere, and that good housekeeping is not learned in a day, a month, or a year.

The desire, natural to every high-minded woman, to fulfill perfectly the duties of her station, impels you to efforts beyond your endurance, and the exhaustion which succeeds leads you to undervalue your own labors and the effect which they have upon the comfort and happiness of those around you.

I will suppose you animated by one of the holiest feelings of woman's nature—the desire of proving, under all circumstances, a ministering angel to *him* to whom at the altar you vowed unswerving and unchang-

ing affection. Actuated by such motives, failure is hardly possible.

You have unconsciously imbibed the idea that *all* employment which does not directly tend toward mental improvement, is a waste of valuable time and beneath the dignity of an intellectual woman; while, at the same time, conscience tells you that nothing which adds to the comfort or pleasure of your household can, of itself, be trifling or unimportant.

It is these conflicting views of duty which render you irresolute and inefficient. You doubt whether time devoted to study may not possibly be stolen from other and more onerous duties; or you are disturbed by the harassing fear that your mind, by dwelling too much upon the details of your *menagé*, may lose those habits of studious application which you have been successfully cultivating.

You are upon both sides of the question. A few moments given to mental relaxation, even on "busy days," will send you back to the performance of homely duties with a keener relish for your employment, and give greater zest to your desire for improvement in the practical education which you have but just commenced.

An accomplished friend of mine once said, that her early married life was rendered miserable by her permitting the cares of her household to interfere so entirely with her mental culture, that she was conscious of daily losing some portion of the carefully hoarded treasures of intellect. But that now, experience had convinced her that she gained instead of losing, by devoting a few moments every day to study—that her needle moved none the less swiftly when timed to the spirit-stirring strains of Korner, and that the menial offices of sweeping and dusting were none the worse performed, when the same hands varied their employment by drawing forth the inspired music of Mozart and Beethoven from piano or organ.

Let none of my fair readers be terrified into imagining that my remarks are only applicable to those of their own sex who have earned the reputation of being *blue-stockings*. Nothing can be farther from my intentions. There are many sensible parents who, while they pay due attention to the formation of the mind, the character and the heart of their daughters, yet so far neglect their duty to their children as never to instruct them practically in the ordinary household duties. In a country like ours, where fortune's favors are proverbially fickle, the beggar of to-day not unfrequently becomes the millionaire of to-morrow, or *vice versa*; and in view of these facts, it is self-evident that the charms of finished manners, or the more exalted pride of a cultivated intellect, are not of themselves sufficient, in the hour of adversity, to sustain even a well-disciplined mind in the contemplation of those trials and cares which must now devote upon herself. At the same time, the consciousness of her ability to perform these duties in a manner worthy of her character as the loving wife and tender mother, will support her drooping energies and cheer her

flagging spirits, at a season when less solid acquirements are disregarded, or remembered only with a pang of regret at their uselessness.

ELIZA.

For the American Agriculturist

THE ROOT CROP.

I have always been of the opinion that farmers were "missing it" by paying so little attention to the raising of roots; and the high price of hay the past winter has impressed this subject on my mind with more force than usual. The high price of stock, and the value of any thing that will feed or fatten, must be a very strong inducement for the farmer to try raising root crops, and test their value.

There are quite a variety of roots which may be raised with profit, as food for horses, swine, sheep and neat cattle. I have tried the different varieties of turnip, and consider the Ruta-baga the best for feeding stock. For table use, the white French I think is best. But, in my estimation, no other roots are so profitable for stock feeding as the carrot and Mangel Wurzel, especially the latter, which I believe, with a fair trial, will stand at the head of the root family as food for neat stock and swine. I have fed swine on them during an entire winter, and they grew and did well, with no other food. For neat stock, and milk cows in particular, they are of much value in increasing the quantity and quality of milk.

If farmers would give their attention to this matter, they would be enabled to keep many more animals on the same farm than they now do. In England the root crop is of nearly as much importance as that of hay for wintering stock, and in many parts of the kingdom a field of turnips is considered indispensable for wintering sheep.

Ruta-bagas thrive well in almost any rich soil, and their yield is often enormous. I have gathered five bushels from a square rod of ground; and have thought that three bushels were of as much value for stock as 100 pounds of good hay. I am confident farmers will find it for their interest to give this subject more attention. And if they but once give it a fair trial, I am very sure that but few will be found without a goodly patch of ground devoted to raising roots.

Salisbury, N. H.

JAS. FELLOWS.

AGRICULTURAL ENTHUSIASTS.—Every profession has its enthusiasts; and agriculture in all its departments has them in abundance. Of those who are especially interested in cultivation we have teachers of deep and of shallow culture—of tith without manure—and of manure applied in the liquid form, or as top dressings in the solid form. In other divisions of the subject we have devotees of plant improvement and animal improvement. Poultry has absorbed the whole regard of many; and there is many an ill cultivated farm occupied by men celebrated as breeders of stock, to prove that it also too exclusively engages all the energy of the tenant. Agricultural improvement owes a great deal to enthusiasts. It makes progress piecemeal in the hands of those who are thus interested in but pieces of its whole extent. If it had not been for Bakewell, and for Collings, the one giving a lifetime to the improvement of the sheep, the other to the improvement of the Teeswater breed of cattle, not only would sheep and cattle not have been what they are, but British agriculture generally would not have attained its present powers of food supply of more than twenty millions. Amateurs as well as farmers

may therefore all feel well disposed towards agricultural enthusiasts.—*London Agricultural Gazette.*

FARM EXPERIMENTS.

We hold in high appreciation the practical experiments of practical men in their farming operations, and as intimated elsewhere, we shall be much pleased to make our columns the medium of their publication. We would, however remind correspondents that the successful result of a single experiment ought not to be satisfactory to themselves, and can not as a general thing, be beneficial to the community. The first experiment in almost any other direction, may be so entirely satisfactory as to preclude the possibility of a doubt of its complete adaptedness to public use, but in any occupation so varied in its attendant circumstances as farming, one trial is not enough. The man who builds up theory and recommends its application in practice, on so light a foundation, runs the risk not only of sacrificing his own reputation, but of seriously injuring those who adopt his suggestion. Our farmers although prudent men have much of the "go ahead" principle which is so striking a characteristic of the American people. They stand ready to adopt any system of culture which promises to be in a higher degree remunerative, than that last pursued.

We admire the men who, having the means, have the courage to test the value of a plausible theory. Such men are the pioneers of progressive farming. If the trial proves unsuccessful they are able and willing to meet the consequences; but unfortunately, this is not the case with all experimenters. Our young men are in an eminent degree imbued with this progressive spirit. The novelty and excitement attendant upon the introduction of new seed implements, or systems of culture, have too many charms to be resisted, and, as is often the case, these novelties are commended by writers who are either interested in their sale or adoption by the community, or whose experience in their use is limited to a single experiment. Is it wonderful then, that we hear of the failure of so many of the highly extolled novelties of farming. It is to guard against such errors as these, that we throw out our suggestions.

We are desirous of rendering our paper reliable in every particular, and in order to accomplish this end, must have reliable data upon which to build. A very general impression prevailed that an enormous product is necessary to render an experiment worth recording. Here we have another hurtful error. Such extraordinary results are not demanded by good husbandry, nor does experience as a general thing sustain them. If under peculiar circumstances and treatment, a much heavier crop than usual is obtained, such a result is certainly worth being made public; but the following season, if under the same treatment the yield is greatly lessened, that fact is equally valuable. It is not the successes of farming experiments only, with which the farmer should be made acquainted, the failures should also be brought to his notice, and that prominently, in order that he may be enabled to steer clear of the shoals upon which the hopes and expectations of others have been wrecked. We therefore repeat the request, that when results of experiments are furnished for publication, the writers will distinctly state during how many seasons trials were made, whether a single one, or two, or three, or more. If this course is pursued our readers will be enabled to form a more correct estimate of their value, and adopt or reject them as the circumstances seemed to justify.—*Progressive Farmer.*

PRIZES FOR MOWING MACHINES.

The Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, believing that the introduction of labor-saving machines in field operations, especially those employed in mowing, promises to effect a most beneficial change in the agricultural economy of New-England, are desirous of bringing this subject to the earnest and immediate attention of the farmers of Massachusetts. For the purpose of forwarding the movement now being made in this direction, they offer the following premium:

To the possessor of the mowing machine which shall cut during the present season, with the greatest economy and to the best advantage, not less than fifty acres of grass within the State, the machine to be worked by horse or ox-power,

SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS.

All other things being equal, the greatest number of acres cut by any one machine exceeding fifty, would entitle the competitor to the premium.

Every competitor must give notice to the Trustees of his intention to compete for the premium, on or before the seventeenth of June next. He must at the end of the season or before the tenth day of September next furnish satisfactory proof of the number of acres cut by the machine during the season. He must also keep a record of each day's work; the number of hours actually at work in each day; the number and kind of animals employed, stating when any of the same, if any, are changed, and the reason therefor; the name of the maker of the machine; its cost; if new this season; any accidents or breakages which have occurred in working it, and the nature of them and how repaired, together with any suggestions which may seem useful in preventing a recurrence of them; which record shall be submitted to the Trustees at the close of the working season of the machine.

Competitors are not precluded from competing for any similar premiums offered by County Societies or individuals, nor are they confined to mowing on their own land. It is also to be understood, that all persons, procurers of a machine, whether as owner, lessor or maker, resident of the State or otherwise, are entitled to compete for this premium.

The Trustees reserve the right of dividing the premium among equal claimants or of withholding it altogether, provided they are of opinion that no competitor has by his performance with his mowing machine made so great a saving in labor and expense over the old method of scythe mowing as to enable them to recommend its general introduction and use, in which case, the premium will be renewed for the succeeding year's competition.

As a further incentive to the skill and ingenuity of the manufacturers of mowing machines, the Trustees offer another premium of

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS

to the maker and exhibitor of the best mowing machine, to be awarded in the year 1856.

To entitle any person to the premium, the machine, with full particulars of its principles of construction, weight and selling price, must be entered for competition with the Trustees on or before the first day of June, 1856. A general trial will be had of all the competing machines, due notice of which will be given, together with all needful particulars at the commencement of the season of 1856.

It is to be hoped that there will be a large competition for the premium offered this year, and that manufacturers who propose to compete for the one in 1856 will take pains to introduce their machines for this season's

work. The Trustees in awarding the one thousand dollar premium will not confine themselves to the single trial which will be afforded to competitors to exhibit the powers of their machines, but they will also take into account the merits of each as displayed in competing for this year's premium and in its ordinary working both for this and the coming year, whenever and wherever an opportunity is afforded of seeing it in operation.

The County Agricultural Societies are earnestly invited to appoint Committees to aid the Trustees in awarding the prize offered for this year, who shall inspect the working of competing machines in their several districts, and in reporting the result of their observations to the Trustees. One or more of the Trustees, will endeavor to visit each county during the season to see some portion of the work be performed by each machine, but from the necessity of the case, great reliance must be had upon the cordial and hearty co-operation of the County Societies.

The Trustees have adopted the following Committee to attend to the details connected with the subject, viz:

THOS. MOTLEY, JR.
G. W. LYMAN.
C. G. LORING.
RICH'D. S. FAY.
W. S. LINCOLN.

All communications may be addressed to THOMAS MOTLEY, JR., Jamaica Plains, or RICH'D. S. FAY, Boston.
Boston, May 28, 1855.

VALUE OF FARMS IN DIFFERENT STATES.—The late Census shows the aggregate cash value of the farms in the several States. Distributing this aggregate according to the white population of each State, we find the following result: New-Jersey is the highest. The aggregate cash value of the farms in that State is \$120,537,511; the population is 489,555, which gives for each inhabitant \$245.60. The next of all the States is Vermont, in which the cash value of the farms is equal to \$201 for each inhabitant. Connecticut is next on the list, and nearly equal to Vermont, being \$196.41. Massachusetts is far below either Vermont or Connecticut. Her population is 994,514; the aggregate value of her farms is \$109,076,347, which is equal to only \$109.77 to each person. To be equal per inhabitant to the ratio of Vermont, Massachusetts should have an aggregate value of farms of \$299,897,314—a difference of more than \$90,000,000; and to be equal per inhabitant to Connecticut she should have a value in farms of \$197,272,494—a difference exceeding \$88,000,000. The average in Ohio, without fractions of a dollar, is \$181 to each inhabitant; in New-York \$189; in Pennsylvania \$172; in Virginia \$152. In Illinois and other Western States, although the aggregate intrinsic value is far greater, the cash value is far less. By referring to the compendium of the census any one can find the materials for the same calculations as to all the States.—*National Intelligencer.*

LIVINGSTON Co. (N. Y.) STOCK GROWING.—The Dansville Herald, says it can be demonstrated from the Census "that Livingston County stands in the front rank of stock raising counties of the State of New-York. The soil and climate of this section of the State is peculiarly adapted to the raising of stock. The grasses grown upon the hills are sweet and nutritious; the air is pure and healthful; the soil, though not liable to suffer greatly from drouth, is not marshy; the water is as pure as can be found in any quarter of the globe, and the winters are not generally long or severe. Timber and lumber are still plenty and comparatively cheap, and everything is favorable for the cultivation of stock."

CULTURE OF MADDER.

Mr. Russel Bronson, of Birmingham, Huron County, Ohio, a successful cultivator of madder, has published a communication upon this subject, which contains the following information:

"A location facing the south or south-east, is to be preferred. A sandy loam, not over stiff and heavy or light and sandy, or a good brown, deep, rich upland loam, free from foul grass, weeds, stones, or stumps of trees. Where a crop of potatoes, peas, corn, or wheat has been cultivated the past season, plow deep twice, once in September, and once in October, and if rather stiff, let it lie after the plow until spring. When the spring opens, and the ground has become dry and warm—say in Tennessee 1st of April, Ohio, 15th, and New-York, 25th, to the 1st of May, (I speak of the spring of 1836.)—plow again deep, the deeper the better; then harrow well and strike it into ridges with a one-horse plow, 3 feet wide and 4 feet vacant, or making a ridge once in 7 feet, raising it, if on rather moist ground, 8 or 10 inches, and dry land 6 or 8 from the natural level; then, with a light harrow, level and shape the ridges like a well-formed bed of beets, &c.

We will suppose you intend to plant one acre of ground, and that you have purchased eight bushels of tap roots in the fall, and buried them like potatoes on your premises; count the ridges on your acre, and take out of the ground one bushel of roots and plant it on one eighth of your ridges; you will then be able to ascertain how to proportion your roots for the remainder.

The following is the manner of planting, cultivating, &c., when the quantities of ground do not exceed three or four acres. One person on each side of the ridge to make the holes, (plant four inches below the surface of the bed, or thereabouts, when covered,) one on each side to drop the roots, and one on each side to cover, pressing the hill in the manner of planting corn; or three persons may be placed on one side, as the case may be, whether you have one or more acres to plant. Let the owner be the dropper of roots, and his most thorough assistant behind him. Make the holes from 12 to 10 inches apart, and about six inches from the edge of the ridge. As the plants are supposed to have been purchased in the fall, the roots may have thrown out sprouts, and possibly have leaved. In this case, in dropping and covering, you will leave the most prominent sprouts a little out of the ground, as where a plant has leaved, it ought not to be smothered.

When the plant gets up three or four inches, weed with the hoe, and plow with one horse between the ridges or beds, but not on them; this will take place two or three weeks after planting. When up 12 or 15 inches, many of the tops will fall; assist them with ten feet poles crossing the beds, covering with a shovel or garden-rake, throwing the soil from between the ridges. After loosening with the one-horse plow, you will, with a shovel, scatter the earth between the stalks, rather than throw it into heaps; of course we wish to keep the stalks separate, as they are to form new and important roots in the center of the beds. About the 20th of June you may plow between the beds, and scatter more earth on the fresh tops, (all but the ends,) and when you get through, you may plant potatoes between the beds, if you please. I do not recommend it if you have plenty of land, although I raised 1,070 bushels of pink-eyes on eight acres the first year, and sixty bushels of corn. If your land is perfectly clear of weeds, you are through with your labor on

the madder crop for this year, except in latitudes where there is not much snow and considerable frost; in this case, cover in October, two inches or thereabouts. Second year, some operations in weeding, but no crop between; cover once in June. Third year, weed only. Fourth year, weed in the spring, if a weedy piece of ground.

Begin to plow out the roots in Tennessee (3 years old) 1st of September; Ohio (4 years) same time; New-York 15th or 20th, after cutting off the tops with a sharp hoe. In plowing out the roots, use a heavy span of horses and a large plow. We ought to choose a soil neither too wet nor too dry, too stiff or light. Shake the dirt from the roots, and rinse or wash, as the soil may be stiff or light; dry in a common hop-kiln; grind them in a mill similar to Wilson's patent coffee-mill; this mill weighs from one to two pounds. The madder mill may be from sixty to 80 pounds weight. Grind coarse, and fan in a fanning mill; then grind again for market. The profit of this crop is immense; the exhaustion of soil trifling, and glutting the market out of the question.

Madder is used in whole, or part, for the following colors on wool, both in England, France, and America, viz.; blue, black, red, buff, olive-brown, olive, navy-blue, and many others; finally, it produces one of the most beautiful, durable, and healthy colors that is at this time dyed; as for calico printers, it enters greatly into their dyes.

As the tops of the plants spread very much, some advise placing them in hills, somewhat like Indian corn, four and even six feet apart each way, and two plants in each hill."—*New-England Farmer*.

CULTURE OF BROOM CORN.

Some inquiries received relative to the cultivation of broom corn, induce us to give a few items of information on that subject.

Broom corn will thrive on any land where Indian corn grows well. The preparation of the soil, the manures required, and the after cultivation are very much alike for each crop. One grower says that it always succeeds best on the inverted sod of an old meadow or pasture, and is a very sure crop, having never failed with him except from late frosts. In the Mohawk valley broom corn is raised on the flats very successfully. Stiff clay, such as one correspondent mentions, would not be the best soil which could be chosen—unless well drained and manured.

As early as the season will admit, the ground selected should be prepared and planted. The latter operation is performed with a seed planter, or drill, in rows about three and one-half feet apart. Some seasons it is delayed by unfavorable weather as late as the first week in June. As soon as the corn is fairly up, it is hoed, and soon after thinned so as to leave the stalks two or three inches apart in the row. If only hoed along the rows, the remaining surface is kept clean by the frequent use of the cultivator, and the working finished by running a shovel or double mold-board plow rather shallow between the rows.

It was formerly the practice to let broom corn stand until quite ripe, and also to break down the tops and let them hang for some weeks, so that the brush might straighten evenly. Now the tops are lopped while the brush is quite green and the seed yet in the milk, and then cut down by a second set of hands, while a third loads them into wagons and takes them to the factory, one of which is generally carried on by those who grow much broom corn. There they are parcelled into sorts of equal length and the seeds taken off by a hatching machine, carried by water, steam or horse power. It is then spread thin on racks under shelter, and will dry in

about a week, so that it may be packed in bulk.

An average yield is stated to be about one hundred brooms per acre—one hundred pounds of cleaned brush making about seventy brooms of the average size. The stocks are five or six feet high after the brush is cut off, and are generally left on the field to be plowed in the succeeding spring. It is said that the stocks are full of leaves which are very nutritive, and in case of need, would furnish a large amount of good food for cattle. They can be cut and dried for winter, or eaten green by stock on the ground. The seed is used as food for fowls, and sometimes as food for stock.—*Credit unknown*.

PATIENCE IN WHEAT GROWING.

The Mark Lane Express, of May 21st, in a review of the Corn Trade, makes the following observations which we extract:

We are glad to find that our theory of *patience* towards the wheat plant has been vindicated by a recent examination of some growing on the light lands of Surrey. It seems that "on the last days of April hardly a green blade was to be seen on a farm there to the rod, and that in a fortnight afterwards the plants, after being rolled, were reappearing." The whole is explained by an exhibition of the temperature of the surface, as compared with that of the soil to the depth of 18 inches; the mean temperature of the surface for the first fourteen days in May was 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ °, that of the soil 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ °, which is 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ ° warmer. On the 3d when the superficial temperature was only 21°, the soil was as high as 41°, or 20° warmer, and never went lower than 40° in the fourteen days. It must also be remembered that the roots were not only kept in heart by the higher temperature, but by the unusual dryness of the soil; and that the circumstance of the plant only showing a small head to the severe east winds was still more in favor of its recovery, for there was no less exhaustion of sap. This modern observations bring to light the soundness of old adages; for in some parts farmers were wont to say, in respect of great beneficial changes in the crop,

"I visited my wheat in May,
And then went sorrowing away;
I visited my fields in June,
And went away whistling a tune."

Let us, therefore, hope that, with finer weather over head, some of our patient agricultural friends will reap a better recompense than they once expected.

THE FEMALE MIND.—The influence of the female mind over the mind of man, is greater, perhaps, than many are willing to acknowledge. Its operations are various, and some men struggle fearfully to disengage themselves from it. But this we believe, that more or less, all men have felt its power; and those perhaps have experienced it to the greatest extent who would have it supposed they despised it most. A woman loses many of her charms, and consequently, much of her power in the opinion of many, when she ranges herself on the side of that which is wrong; while it is impossible to calculate the influence of virtuous women, when that influence is exercised with tenderness and modesty. The ruin produced by a bad woman may be sudden and violent, and compared to the bursting of a volcano, or the overflowings of the ocean; but the influence of a virtuous woman are like the gentle dew and morning showers, which descend silently and softly, and are known only by their effects in the smiling aspect of the valleys and the weight of the autumnal branches.

THE ROOSTER'S LETTER.

"Jerry, have the hens been attended to?" inquired Mrs. Preston, as the boys were about starting from home.

"I don't know—I haven't fed them," replied Jerry.

"You ought to know whether they are seen to or not; it's your business to take care of them," said his mother. "Don't you go off this morning till you have fed them. You ought to have done it an hour ago."

The care of the fowls had been committed to Jerry, but he did not feel much interest in them, and needed to be reminded of his duty pretty often. More than once the hens had been without food and water nearly a whole day, because he forgot to attend to them. Jerry now went back, in obedience to his mother, and gave the fowls their usual allowance of corn, and a vessel of fresh water.

He also looked into the nests to see if there were any new-laid eggs; and he was not a little surprised to find in one of them a small billet, neatly folded up, and addressed "To master Jerry." He looked at it a moment, and tried to imagine what it could be; then he opened it, and read the following, which was neatly written with a pencil:

"THE HENROOST, May 25, 1855.

"Master Jerry: I have determined to write you a few words in behalf of my dear suffering family.

"The sun is scorching hot to-day, and yet we have not got a drop of water to save us from parching up. My poor biddies have been walking back and forth all day, panting for water, and calling for it as plain as they could speak; but all in vain. We have received our food at very irregular times, too, and sometimes we have had to keep fast nearly all day. If I were the only sufferer, I would say nothing about it. But I can not bear to see my poor flock dying by inches in this way. Do take pity on us, and see that we have plenty of corn and water hereafter. Some of my family, who pride themselves on being good layers, complain that since you have kept us in such narrow quarters they can not find anything to make their egg shells of. Now, if you would give us some old burnt bones, pounded up fine, or a little lime, once in a while, I do not think you will lose anything by it. And as you will not let us go out to scratch for ourselves, what is the reason that you can not dig us a few worms occasionally? It would be a great treat to us. I hope you will heed my suggestions. If you do not, I can assure you of two things: you won't have many eggs this summer, and fat chickens will be a scarce article in this neighborhood next Thanksgiving time. But Mrs. Yellowneck has just laid an egg, and I must help her cackle over it; so I will not write anything more at present, but sign myself, Your faithful, but afflicted,

SHANGHAI ROOSTER."

HORN SNAKE.—The Eaton, O., Register says that a man living some miles west of that place, lately killed a "Horn Snake," a reptile often talked of, but rarely seen. It is said to be a most venomous critter. The Register thus describes it: "The monster thus-killed measures four feet in length, and the horn at the end of the tail—through an almost imperceptible hole from which the poison is ejected—was about an inch and a half long, spiral, sharp at the point, and so hard as to defy the effort to cut it with a knife."

The best rule of etiquette which we ever read, is this: "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

PRODUCTS OF A KITCHEN GARDEN.

The editor of the Vermont Watchman gives the following account of his garden:

Our garden is five rods wide, and ten rods long, skirting on both sides and at each end with apple, pear, plum, quince, and cherry trees, of numerous varieties, interspersed with currant, gooseberry, black and white raspberry bushes and flowers of numerous tints and hues. It was well manured with a compost of muck and the droppings and drippings of the kitchen and barn, and plowed twelve inches deep in the fall of 1853. In the following spring, it was again plowed 8 inches deep, and harrowed until not a lump was to be seen on the surface. As soon in May as the earth was sufficiently warm, the seed was "cast in" with a patent seed sower, drilling, dropping and covering the seed as fast as one could run a wheelbarrow over a smooth surface. The work of planting, cultivating and harvesting was principally done with a light hoe in our hands before breakfast and after tea. The result is as follows:

3 bushels top onions, at 75 cents per bushel.....	\$2 25
10 " ruta bagas, at 25 " "	2 50
44 " sugar beets, at 25 " "	11 00
21 " mangel wurzel, 20 " "	4 20
93½ " carrots, at 42 " "	39 21
6 " blood beets, at 54 " "	2 04
187 heads cabbage, at 4 " each.....	7 48
22 acorn winter squashes, 20 " "	4 40
74 black pumpkins, at 4 " "	2 96
2 bushels ears sweet corn for seed, at \$1 per bush.	2 00
1 bushel ears pop corn, at 50 cents per bushel.	0 50
75 melons at 10 cents each	7 50
3 bushels cucumbers, \$1 00 per bushel.....	3 00
2 " currants, at 2 00 "	2 00
½ " gooseberries, 2 00 "	1 00
Total.....	\$94 04

With beans, pie-plant, early potatoes, peas, asparagus, &c., for the supply of one's family, to say nothing of the stocks, cabbage-leaves, turnip and carrot tops, to make the cows laugh, give milk and grow fat. He that will not cultivate a good kitchen garden, "neither shall he eat" good sauce nor fine fruits.

GREAT YIELD OF CUCUMBERS.

Mr. Daniel Morse, of Lockport, N. Y., writes to the Southern Farmer as follows:

For the benefit of your readers, I give you the production of eight hills of cucumbers, planted in my garden last spring. The manner of planting was taken from one of the agricultural journals.

Having fully prepared a good garden soil by repeated spadings, I placed barrels at a distance each way of eight feet, and about six inches in the ground. The barrels were then filled with barnyard manure, and seeds previously soaked for 24 hours and planted around, and about four inches from the barrels. After the plants made their appearance, and when there had been no rain during the day, two pails of water were put on the manure in each barrel every night, which found its way through holes bored in the lower head. About four plants were left to each of the eight barrels. The end of each vine was pinched off just before fruiting. Now for the result and number of each picking.

1st gathering.....	70	11th gathering.....	247
2d "	122	12th "	367
3d "	131	13th "	254
4th "	160	14th "	47
5th "	145	15th "	258
6th "	172	16th "	366
7th "	179	17th "	305
8th "	186	18th "	260
9th "	252	19th "	214
10th "	276	20th "	183
Total.....			4594

THE HOUSE WREN.

A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer, in giving an interesting description of the habits of this bird, relates the following:

Several years since, a pair of wrens nested in the portico of a neighboring house; and much interest being excited in them, from their confidence, they were closely observed. All went on happily till the female commenced sitting, when this arch enemy of wrens, a cat, pulled down the nest and killed her. The male immediately commenced rebuilding the nest, stopping occasionally to utter a mournful call for his lost mate. After about a week had elapsed, having finished the nest, all but the lining of feathers, he ceased his sorrowful note, and sitting on a tree close by, continued for several days to pour forth his loudest song, when, though he had not once left the neighborhood he was joined by a female. The new mate spent a day or two in examining the premises, and being apparently satisfied, she finished the nest by lining it with feathers, and as it was now protected by a wire grating, the pair raised their young in safety.

But last summer, I saw enacted a more curious scene, in bird life. In the same portico a pair of wrens had their nest, and in the wood-shed, at the back of the house, another couple had taken up their quarters. After those in the portico had finished their nest, and several eggs had been laid, the male was killed. After some days, chirping anxiously, the disconsolate little widow went away, but in four or five days she returned, threw the eggs and lining out of the nest, and commenced twittering at a great rate; and shortly afterwards she was joined by a male bird, when she re-lined the nest, and again commenced laying. It was now discovered, to our surprise, that the widowed wren's new husband was no other than the male of the pair whose nest was in the wood-shed; the female of which was at this time sitting. He did not, however, entirely desert his first mate; and when her young were hatched, helped take care of them, till the other brood made its appearance, to which he then carried all the food he collected. Still, he would occasionally be seen to fly from one nest to the other, but the deserted female very properly paid no attention to him, and, now, never welcomed him with the usual loving twitter.

There are other wrens in this country, with the same lively manner, and some of which have finer songs, or more beautiful plumage; but all lack the preëminently social qualities that render our homely little favorite so agreeable. R. W. KENNICOTT.

COCHINEAL.—The Florida News says that the cochineal is said to be a native of that State. This insect hovers about several varieties of the cactus, but prefers that known as the prickly pear, where it weaves its web and deposits its eggs. In Guatamala it is cultivated to support the insect, being planted in rows on rich lands and kept free from weeds. When twenty months old it is said to be fit to receive the insect. The seed insect is small, and is preserved in boxes, 25 pounds being sufficient for 1,000 plants. The manner of placing them on the plants is, to put a small quantity on a piece of gauze and attach it to a thorn; from this they distribute themselves over the plant, and when come to maturity, which is in about two months, are scraped off gently, and exposed to the sun on a polished piece of metal for some twenty days, and then carefully packed in mats.

Horticultural Department.

FINE HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

THE BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY will have a fine display of flowers, strawberries, &c., on exhibition at their rooms, during the afternoon and evening of the 15th (Friday of this week). All lovers of the beautiful and useful products of horticulture will be present.

THE NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY are making extensive arrangements for a show at Clinton Hall (Astor-place) on Tuesday the 19th inst. We are happy to learn that there is every prospect of a brilliant and successful show. An address will be delivered by William Cullen Bryant, the distinguished poet. This alone, without the appropriate accompaniment of flowers and fruits, would fill the exhibition hall.

Full particulars of the show, premiums, &c., will be found in the official announcement on page 221, to which we direct especial attention.

SAVE YOUR PLUMS NOW.

We begin to think this can be done without Mr. Matthews, if not with him. We were yesterday on the grounds of one of our best horticulturists, and saw the application, and have some faith in its success. Our friend thinks there is no chance for mistake about its efficacy. He informed us that he applied it last year, after the curculio had begun its ravages, and that it not only saved those which were unstung, but many of the plums on which the insect had left his card, healed up and ripened well. The liquid enters the opened wound and destroys the egg. This is the only remedy he has ever found to avail against this slippery enemy of one of our best fruits. His recipe is—

One peck of unslacked lime,
Six pounds of salt,
One barrel of water.

The mixture is to be applied with a common garden syringe. If one application is not sufficient, repeat it. A single application answered with him last year.

No time is to be lost, as the young plums are already set, and the enemy has begun to show himself. If a syringe is not to be had, sprinkle on the liquid in some other way. The mixture is cheap and easily applied, and every man who has a plum tree should try it. This is the most philosophical remedy we have yet seen suggested, and we commend it with more confidence than most new things to the notice of fruit growers. If it answers our expectations, it will be worth millions to the country. Plums can be grown on loose, sandy loams as well as on clay soils, to which they have hitherto been mainly confined, on account of the ravages of this insect. The cultivation of this fruit may be indefinitely extended, and we may make our own dried plums instead of importing them from France.

Those who have Mr. Matthews's remedy in keeping should hurry up their secret, or they will be too late for the fair.

BUGS, SPARE THAT SQUASH!—The young leaves of the squash, melon, and cucumber vines are just beginning to show themselves. The bugs are on hand, and ready to change them into sieves. The finer varieties of the squash, the Acorn, Marrow, and Valparaiso, are more fiercely attacked than the others, as they furnish a richer repast to the insects. They will not leave a shred of them unless they are compelled to do it. Last fall, at the State Fair, in this city, we saw very fine Marrow squashes, and they were saved from the insects by the use of a powder, made of four parts of plaster and one of Peruvian guano. This powder is best applied with a dredging box, and should be put on immediately after every rain. A half day's delay may prove their ruin.

THE CINERARIA:

ITS PROPAGATION AND CULTIVATION.

OF all the winter and spring-flowering plants, the Chineraria deserves to be placed in the foremost rank, whether we consider it as the adopted inhabitant of the conservatory of the wealthy citizen, or the more humble companion of the Scarlet Geranium, which is so often to be seen in the cottage window of the hard-working artizan. For bouquets it is unrivaled, the colors being so varied, which, when nicely arranged, make such handsome ornaments for the parlor table or boudoir that they suit all tastes, that even the most fastidious of Eve's fair daughters can scarce fail to recognize in them a "hobby" far superior to pet cats and poodle dogs, and certainly requiring less care and giving less trouble. We have them in every shade of color from white to dark blue and from white to crimson. Then there are white with crimson, and others with blue tips, in every shade. And when we take into consideration the showy character of a few well-grown plants, with the little room they take, and the simplicity of their culture, it is rather surprising that they are not more generally grown and to be met with in every greenhouse, however small, as they certainly deserve to be; then the first outlay being so trifling that a small packet of seed is all that is required for any person, with a little care and attention, to have them in bloom from November till May. Dame Nature is always lavish of her gifts to her votaries, whether they be a Duke of Devonshire or the no less enthusiastic mechanic who prides himself on the few plants in his cottage window. The pleasurable feeling enjoyed by the lovers of Nature, felt by none else, in watching daily the expanding buds of the plants that they themselves have raised with their own hands, makes this a plant well calculated for the fostering care of the lady gardeners of this country, who could thus watch Nature in its onward progress—in its various changes—from the tiny seedling to the full-grown blooming plant, with the pride every lover of plants (and ladies particular) would feel in showing their friends native seedlings raised and named by themselves in honor of some favorite hero or in memory of some dear friend, and equal to any ever raised in any country. These considerations collectively make this a plant that should be grown by everybody—in fact, a plant for "the million."

The seed should be sown, one portion the second week in June, and the other the first week in July, in wide-mouthed pots or pans, well drained, in good light soil—two parts leaf-mold, one part good turfy loam, and one part good sharp sand. Fill the pots to within half an inch of the top with the compost, sow the seed evenly all over, and barely cover the seed with the same compost,

then give a gentle watering to settle the whole, and place the pots in a frame on the north side of a wall or fence, and by frequent sprinklings of water in the middle of the day they will be fit to pot off in the course of three weeks or a month. Half pint pots should be used for the first potting, putting four plants in each pot.

As soon as you have potted as many as you require, place them in the frame again, and by paying a little attention to watering and ventilating to prevent them from drawing up weak, they will be large enough to pot singly in another three weeks. You must then use a compost of three parts good turfy loam, two parts leaf-mold, one part good decomposed manure, and one part good sharp sand, the whole well mixed with the spade, but not sifted. Half-pint pots will be large enough for this potting. As soon as potted, place them in a frame in a more open part of the garden, where they will get the morning and evening sun, shading them when very hot. Frequent watering overhead is necessary to check the red spider, and smoking with tobacco to keep down the green fly, both of which are deadly enemies of the Chineraria. They should be frequently repotted as they progress, as nothing gives them a greater check than to be pot-bound. They require a liberal supply of water, using weak manure water once a week. When they begin showing flower early in October, remove them to the front platform of the green-house, and in November they will commence flowering, and continue till the middle of May.—E. DECKER, in *Horticulturist*.

THE USE OF FRUITS, AND HOW TO USE.

While on the all-important subject of eating, I may as well make a few suggestions as to their use, although this article is already long.

Some people have a perfect *phobia* of fruits—especially in summer time, when most abundant, most perfect and in their season. As there is no help for the ratiocinative capabilities of such folk, we will pass them by, and address our remarks to people of plain common sense; that happy class who have no kinks on either side of the skull.

Fruits and berries of every description, if properly used, are the great preventives of all summer diseases, of fevers, fluxes, head aches, side aches, neuralgias, blue devils, dumps, didoes, and desperations.

How?

Because their natural tendency is to prevent constipation, and by keeping the bowels soluble, that is, daily acting, they give an outlet to all febrile and bilious "humors," thus keeping the system cool, and carrying from it all its excess of blood. Our perversity takes everything in its season but fruits. Even a pig is tabooed in summer; but fruits we muss up, and distort with sugar, and molasses and spices, to be consumed in winter time, when we don't want any cooling off. But that is always the way with people of uncommon sense; so we folks who are fortunately lower down in the scale of practical life, may luxuriate in the greater abundance. I may be told here that General Taylor was killed by a dish of fruit, and so he was; and that multitudes of children in cities are destroyed by eating "*such trash*," as it is called, and so they are—not; for only rich people can afford to buy fruit at any season of the year, in large cities; and in summer time they take their children out of town.

It was not the fruit that killed the honest-hearted old soldier; but it was the ice and cream he took with it, while the system was exhausted with heat and fatigue, consequent on the ceremonies attendant on laying the

corner stone of the Washington monument, on the fourth of July. This might not have been sufficient, had he not within a short time after, while these articles were still but half digested, eaten a very hearty dinner, contrary to the express remonstrances of a friendly physician who was present.

Fruits and berries are healthy every day of the year, whether a man is sick or well; actual observation has established the fact, that fruit is medicinal even in diarrhea, inasmuch as it has a curative effect, when properly used. It is a first truth in allopathic medicine, that in almost every disease the bowels must be kept free; and that is the natural tendency of fruits and berries of every description. I know from actual observation, that there is not a more healthy class of people in the world, than the negroes who work in the cotton fields and sugar plantations of the south; to look at them working in the hot sun of 112° Fahrenheit, and breathing the clouds of dust which in a dry time arise from the use of the hoe, one would think that they would actually melt; but they neither melt nor die, but will work all day and go home at night, sing songs and "dance juber," by the hour—in which I have joined, and, therefore, am a competent witness; for in younger days, I delighted "immensely" to peer about and look—how look, reader? There are many ways of looking now a days: I did not look under or over or around things, but straight at them, and that is precisely the reason I know so much according to the unanimous opinion of *me ipsum*.

Well, what has a cotton plantation, which John Mitchell wanted so badly and didn't get—what has a cotton plantation and its "hands" to do with the healthfulness of fruit, the very thing they never see? That is true, but it is necessary to eak out copy, lest I should tell you so much important truth you cannot remember half of it. But let us go back and "make the connection," a thing which railroad companies and hungry hotel keepers do not always do, *on purpose*. I was saying, that in the hottest fields of the south, and under the hardest labor, the laborers thrive and shine—yes literally shine, as any well-fed negro will do; well, these "hands" have two actions of the bowels daily, that is, I have questioned them on the subject and they told me so. It is fair then, that a free state of the bowels in summer time is an attendant of sound robust health; all know that fruits have that tendency, and consequently they must be healthy. The banana of Cuba is the meat and bread, the all and all of the slave population; they can live wholly on that alone, as I have seen them do, for weeks together, and the banana is nearer in its nature to fruit than any thing else we know.

Now, reader, if I have not convinced you of the value of fruit in summer, just let it alone, and send your share to forty-two Irving Place, New-York, and I will receive it with many thanks, and cure up your throat and knock the consumption out of you for—a consideration, that is, beside the fruit present. One poor fellow, two or three summers ago, kept me supplied with fruit all the season, more than I wanted, so I sent it around to friends: yet I didn't cure him, he died; but he didn't follow the directions, and of course I was not to blame; among the chief of these was, uniformly, *pay as you go*, but he forgot that, and perhaps that was the reason I did not cure him. But to come at once to the conclusion of the whole matter, it only remains to tell

HOW TO USE FRUITS

In the summer time, so as to derive from them all those nutritious, delightful and health-giving influences, which a kind Providence intended doubtless should follow their

employment. Fruits and berries should be ripe, fresh, perfect—should be eaten, the earlier in the day the better, not later certainly than three o'clock in the afternoon—should be eaten alone, unless with loaf sugar, not within two hours of eating anything else, and drinking nothing within half an hour of so eating them.

The reason for these restrictions I cannot here add, after such a long article; but for the present, the reader must search for himself; in the meanwhile, let him use fruits and berries as directed, and he may do it without restriction as to quantity, and will find them to be among the most delicious, as well as the most healthful and invigorating aliments in all nature.—*Hall's Journal of Health*.

FRUIT GROWER'S SOCIETY OF WESTERN N. Y.

The following are the committees of the above Society for the present year:

On Native Fruits—H. E. Hooker, Rochester; T. G. Yeomans, Walworth; E. S. Hayward, Brighton; A. Loomis, Byron; E. C. Frost, Catherine, Schuyler Co.

On Foreign Fruits—Geo. Ellwanger, Rochester; Jno. Morse, Cayuga; J. C. Hanchett, Syracuse; Chas. Powis, Greece; H. L. Suydam, Geneva.

On Nomenclature—B. Hodge, Buffalo; W. P. Townsend, Lockport; J. B. Eaton, Buffalo; Joseph Frost, Rochester; J. J. Thomas, of Macedon.

COUNTY COMMITTEES.

Monroe—H. E. Hooker, Rochester; Austin Pinney, Clarkson; Zera Burr, Perinton.

Erie—Jno. B. Eaton, Col. B. Hodge, W. R. Coppock, of Buffalo.

Niagara—W. P. Townsend, C. L. Hoag, M. L. Burrall, of Lockport.

Cattaraugus—Spencer Scudder, Randolph; Hon. F. S. Martin, Olean; J. C. Devereux, Ellicottville.

Cayuga—Dr. A. Thompson, Aurora; Jno. Morse, Cayuga; P. R. Freeoff, Auburn.

Genesee—A. Loomis, Byron; Col. H. U. Soper, Batavia; R. B. Warren, Alabama.

Ontario—T. C. Maxwell, Geneva; S. H. Ainsworth, Bloomfield.

Yates—Chas. Lee, H. Olin, Penn Yan; Isaac Hildreth, Big Stream Point.

Tompkins—Jas. McLallen, Trumansburg; Jas. M. Mattison, Jacksonville; Anson Braman, Ithaca.

Wayne—T. G. Yeomans, Walworth; Jno. J. Thomas, Macedon; M. Mackie, Clyde.

Onondaga—W. B. Smith, Syracuse; Mr. Hamlin, Clay; E. P. Hopkins, Onondaga.

Chautauque—Lincoln Fay.

Orleans—S. Burroughs, Medina.

Wyoming—Hugh T. Brooks, Pearl Creek.

Allegany—Ransom Lloyd, Angelica; Wm. Howe, North Almond; Jno. Atherton, Philippsville.

Livingston—M. Colby, Nunda; I. R. Murray, Mt. Morris, Rev. F. W. D. Ward, Geneseo.

Steuben—Judge Denniston, Wm. B. Pratt, Prattsburgh; R. B. Van Valkenburgh, Bath.

Seneca—H. C. Silsby, Wm. Langworthy, Seneca Falls; Geo. Dunlap, Ovid.

Chemung—Harvey Luce, Elmira; Geo. W. Buck, Chemung; Albert Owen, Big Flatts.

Schuyler—E. C. Frost, Catherine; Jno. Woodard, North Hector; Dr. Nelson Winton, Havana.

Oswego—S. Worden, Minetto; A. Stone, Hinmanville.

Tioga—Geo. J. Pumpelly, Owego; Jno. S. Nichols, Spencer.

Cortland—P. Barber, Homer; Nathan Boughton, Virgil; B. J. Campbell.

Youth writes its hopes upon the sand, and age, like the sea, washes them out.

PRUNING.

I have lately noticed some of my neighbors, with jack-knife, handsaw, and hatchet in hand, attacking their fruit trees as though they were enemies whom it was their purpose to wound and mutilate and disable by all means in their power. After the battle has been fought I have seen the ground covered with branches, and in some cases with heads and trunks lying scattered in all directions around the scathed and bleeding trees, that remain like wounded and maimed soldiers, after a hard fought conflict. And the trophies of the victory thus obtained are carried off by whole cart loads, in the shape of sound, healthy sprouts and branches, covered with leaf and fruit-bud, and consigned to the wood-pile.

It seems to me, sir, that these good neighbors of mine are trying an experiment to see how much injury they can inflict upon their trees, without destroying their lives. When the Inquisitors stretch a heretic upon the rack, they place a surgeon by his side, with his fingers upon the pulse, to decide when the torture has been carried to the limits of human endurance. But not so with our tree-trimmers. They seem to think that there is no limit to the endurance of vegetable life. This subject has often been referred to in your paper, and the evil consequences of such a course have been frequently pointed out. But the fact that this practice still continues, shows that enough has not yet been said. "Line upon line, and precept upon precept," seems to be the only way in which truth can be fixed in the public mind. If those who pursue this course will watch their trees carefully, and observe the effects of their treatment for two or three years, I think they will be satisfied that it is not only useless, but highly injurious. When the trees are trimmed in March, April, and May, as soon as the warm weather comes on, and the sap presses into and distends the sap vessels, it bursts out of the recently wounded vessels, and runs down and blackens and poisons the bark, and causes it to crack and separate from the underlying alburnum, and thus effectually prevents the healing of the wound. Gangrene and death of a portion of the wood necessarily follow. Where several such wounds are made in a tree, its whole constitution will soon become impaired. It ceases to grow, and in a few years droops and dies.

Trees that are trimmed the least, will generally be found to be the most vigorous, and to develop the best formed and most beautiful heads. Now and then, a limb that is putting forth in an inconvenient direction, or in a direction which will injure the symmetry of the head, should be taken away. A limb that is shooting out more vigorously than the rest, may be shortened, and when two limbs are chafing each other, one may be removed. Shoots that grow from the trunk, will generally die or cease to grow, when nature has no further service for them to perform. The idea of cutting out the whole central portion of an apple tree, to let in the sun, is wholly erroneous. The tree is thus deprived of a large portion of its lungs, as well as of many of its best bearing branches. In our climate the fruit, so far from requiring the direct rays of the scorching sun in midsummer, requires to be protected from its rays by the foliage which nature has provided. The directions given in English books for the cultivation of fruit, are adapted to the moist and cloudy atmosphere of England. The attempt to apply them to the cultivation of fruit in our climate, has led to the adoption of much erroneous practice.

The best time for general pruning is a mooted question among intelligent men. But

my own belief is that the proper time, in this climate at least, is in June and July, when the leaves have attained their full size, and are in full health and vigor, and are elaborating an abundance of sap. In this state, a fresh wound will commence healing at once. New bark is rapidly formed to cover the wound. It is the descending sap from which the new bark as well as all the other tissues of the tree is formed. When this sap, properly elaborated in the leaves, is not furnished to the formative vessels, no new growth of any kind is effected. Hence it is only when the leaves are in a condition to perform their proper office, that the new growth necessary to effect the healing of a wound can be accomplished.

J. R.
[*New England Farmer.*]

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, June 14.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.—We call attention to the advertisement of Mr. Samuel Thorne, at page 221 of this number of our paper. No better sheep were ever imported into this country, and the public may be assured the best attention is paid to their breeding and rearing at Thornedale. For a more particular account of this flock, we refer to our 12th volume, page 369.

TILE MACHINES.—We have very frequent inquiries for these machines, which we can not answer. As drain tiles are coming into extensive demand throughout the country, we advise those manufacturing either the machines or tiles, to make themselves known through appropriate advertisements.

HOW TRUE!—You may, says an exchange, insert a thousand excellent things in a newspaper, and never hear a word of approbation from your readers; but just let a paragraph slip in, of even one or two lines, that are not exactly in good taste, and you may be sure of hearing about that.

CORRECTION.—An article in No. 90, p. 183, entitled "Management of Domestic," was credited to the Ohio Farmer—as we found it in an exchange. It should have been "*Ohio Cultivator.*" On reference to the May number of the latter paper, we see it is from the pen of Mrs. Josephine C. Bateham, the accomplished editress of the Ladies' Department.

THE SHORT HORNS AS MILKERS.

The Society of Shakers at Pleasant Hill, Mercer Co., Ky., have sent seventy-four pedigrees to the second volume of the American Herd Book, now about to be published. Accompanying their pedigrees they say: "Some of the cows have been named as distinguished milkers; others again that have scarcely less merit have not been mentioned. Here, cows that do not, with the care and attention given them, give 24 quarts of milk a day, are not esteemed *ordinary* milkers, and those that give 34 quarts a day are among the very best. But greatly improved stock implies greatly improved means and manner of feeding and caring for them. Take an extra or a good cow, and let her suffer cold, hunger, and other privations for a considerable time, and what will she be? Some say *keep* is everything in the improvement of stock. This is not the fact, but it is a considerable item in it. Great pains and care in crossing are necessary to improvement; but this is, to some considerable extent, unavailing without improved means of keeping, and the manner of caring for them." Here, then, is the whole story in a nut-shell, as the experience of this unpretending, pains-taking community have proved the Short Horns for thirty years.

Among their cows stands *Roxilla*, and in a note attached to her pedigree is written: "This cow was calved in 1839. She is remarkable for health and great constitutional powers, as well as for the quantity and quality of her milk, and she is yet living in apparent good health. She has given birth to 13 calves, and is soon to have another. The early maturity of this stock is no argument against its longevity. For years of her prime *Roxilla* gave 32 quarts of milk per day for months after calving, and fell off but little comparatively afterwards—never going dry between times of giving birth to her calves; and her thirteen calves will compare well with those of any other cow."

We knew another Short Horn cow some years ago, belonging to Mr. Stevens, of Batavia, N. Y., which in her prime gave 39 quarts in a day, for several days in succession, on grass only. Our informants were John S. Ganson and Pardon C. Sherman, now residents of Buffalo, then living in Batavia, who saw her milked. The two sisters of this cow, at the same time gave—one 28 and the other 32½ quarts; and a daughter of one of them, two years old, with her first calf, gave 22 quarts; and the daughter of the other, three years old, gave over 26 quarts. This was in June, 1841. The above old cow was Princess IV, (recorded page 216 of the first volume of the American Herd Book,) got by Monk (1249), E. H. B. We saw her a few years afterward, at the age of *nineteen* years, then a large, vigorous, healthy cow, heavy in calf—which was her last one. She died, or was fed and slaughtered, at the age of twenty years.

In June, 1844, we saw a fine, large Short Horn cow, also called *Princess*, on the farm of Messrs. Wells and Paoli Lathrop, at South Hadley Falls, Mass., which was then *nineteen* years old. The preceding October she

dropped a fine, large calf, which, with its dam, was doing remarkably well. Will any one show us three native cows equal to the above for age, breeding and milking?

ORCHARD GRASS.

On the 13th inst. (June), we cut stalks of orchard grass, measuring 4ft. 6in. to 4ft. 9in. high, growing under the shade and near the trunks of large and thickly planted apple trees, belonging to Mr. Butler, of Mount Fordham, about nine miles north of the City Hall of New-York. Scarce a stalk of this grass in the whole orchard was less than 2ft. 6in. high, and the average of the field of several acres we should judge at least three feet high. No other grass in the neighborhood except ray grass is half the height of this orchard grass. Mr. Butler informs us he has been cutting this grass for some time for soiling his cattle.

This is a very late season. In early seasons, we have seen orchard grass in this vicinity full 2ft. 6in. high the forepart of May, and fit for soiling cattle. These are facts over which the farmer should ponder, if he wishes to obtain large early crops of nutritious grass.

As to the cultivation of this valuable grass, our readers have only to turn to the back volumes of the *American Agriculturist*, and they will find full information in regard to it.

Orchard grass has a large second growth when properly cultivated—one to two tons per acre. The first growth may be two to three tons per acre of well cured hay. In addition to this, there is more or less aftermath, dependent on the season.

THE TRIAL OF MOWERS, by the Monroe County (N. Y.) Agricultural Society, will be held on the farm of Judge Buel, one mile west of Rochester, on Wednesday, June 27th, instead of July 5th, as before announced. We are glad the Society have adopted our suggestions, given in No. 87, and made this change, in order to give farmers an opportunity to see the trial, and still be able to purchase in time for the haying season.

The manufacturer who is *sure* of excelling at this trial, will do well to have a good stock of machines on hand, for they will be wanted.

Hereafter farmers will no more cut their hay with a scythe, while labor is one to two dollars a day, and scarce and uncertain at that, than they will thresh their grain with a hand-flail. The interest on the cost and the wear will not exceed \$12 to \$20 per annum, on a machine that will readily cut a hundred or more acres at just the time it is wanted. A New-Jersey farmer told us recently, that he gave \$120 for a machine last year, with which he cut his own grass, and 103 acres for his neighbors, for which he received \$103. He now asks \$100 for his machine, at the lowest, and would not take \$500 for it, only that he thinks he can get one still better.

It is in vain to knock at the door of the understanding, unless we are able to offer some inducement to the will to open it.

NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

Extensive preliminary arrangements for the Show to be held at Elmira, Oct. 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th, 1855, are completed, and we believe there is a fair prospect that the exhibition will be very large and successful. It is true that the success of each of these annual gatherings depends very much upon the weather prevailing at the time of, and just before their occurrence. Thus, last year, the most extensive preparations were made, and the number of animals and various articles on exhibition exceeded all precedent, we believe, but a cold rainy week kept back tens of thousands of visitors who would have attended but for this circumstance. So it may be at Elmira, but we can only hope for favoring skies, and go to work as if they were a certainty.

We believe the location of the show for this year the best that could have been made, and we both labored and voted for having it at Elmira. The only drawback is the difficulty of providing accommodations for the multitudes who will be drawn together, but the people of Elmira have taken hold of this in good earnest, and we are assured that however large the number of visitors, good food and shelter at least will be provided. The opposition at first manifested on this account, has awakened a determination on the part of the Elmira people to show that they are equal to any emergency.

Elmira was at first objected to as an out-of-the-way place, but there is scarcely another large town accessible to so great a number of the farming population *within* the State. The towns along the Hudson would draw much more largely from the New-England States, while those near Lake Ontario would attract numbers from Canada; but even in this respect, Elmira is not far behind, for northern Pennsylvania will send a large number of visitors to that point.

A glance at a recent Railroad-map shows that from every part of the State, except the north-eastern counties, there are Railroads centering in or near Elmira. The Erie Railroad gives direct access to the whole southern tier of counties, from Long-Island to Chataque. The Buffalo and Hornellsville, the Niagara Falls and Elmira, and the Rochester and Corning Railroads, with the various other roads intersected by these, render Elmira accessible and central to all the rich agricultural regions in the western half of the State; while the Syracuse and Binghamton, in connection with the Syracuse and Oswego Railroad, opens an approach from the middle counties. All these roads have, we believe, entered into arrangements for conveying stock and other products to Elmira free, and to carry visitors at reduced rates of fare. These facilities will induce a large number of farmers and others to arrange for enjoying the festivities of the occasion.

But the greatest turn-out will probably be from the southern tier of counties. The inhabitants of these, cut off as they have heretofore been from participating in the agricultural exhibitions of the State, will doubtless be attracted in great numbers to Elmira,

and the effect will be to greatly stimulate agricultural enterprise and improvement.

Let every farmer begin now to make arrangements to attend, as an exhibitor or visitor. The greatest obstacle, the expense, can be provided for by a little timely economy. A shortening-in of Fourth of July and other out-goes, will leave a little spare change for the Fair. What great mass meetings are to the success of political parties, County and State agricultural shows are to the farming class. Nothing exerts a more salutary influence, or more strongly promotes a spirit of enterprise, a desire for improvement, a needful appreciation of the dignity and importance of their calling than these large gatherings of farmers.

INVERTING POSTS.—We have, from time to time, heard of instances where two posts, cut from the same tree, have been set near each other. In these cases it has been observed that the more durable post has been set in an inverted position, or top downward. There is some plausibility in the statement, for, supposing the pores to retain their sap-conducting power after being cut down, the water would be more likely to ascend and keep them moist and hasten decay. There are some objections to this theory, however, for it is the action of the *air* that produces and hastens decay, and if the pores are kept filled with water the air would be shut out and decay retarded. It is well known that wood lasts much longer in water than in air, and it is even probable that a piece of wood kept under water, entirely deprived of air, would be preserved for an unlimited period.

This matter can scarcely be settled by theory; long-continued observation can only fully determine it. We recommend fence and other posts to be set in an inverted position, as a general thing, where the form will admit of it; but in order to test the matter fully, let an occasional one be placed in the natural position, and be marked for future observation. Reports from those who have given attention to this subject are desirable.

DRIVING NAILS.—It requires some ingenuity, or at least experience, to drive a cut nail into hard wood without bending it. The entering of a nail will be much facilitated by first dipping it into oil, or, what will answer nearly as well, wet it with water or with saliva. Experienced carpenters are in the habit of putting a nail into the mouth to wet it before attempting to drive it into hard wood. When a nail is to remain permanently, salt water or saliva is preferable to oil, as the former will rust the nail and cause it to take a firmer hold. In all cases, it is better to insert a nail so that its widest diameter shall stand parallel with the grain of the wood. This is generally done in thin boards where there is danger of splitting, but it should always be done, even if nailing into a solid piece of timber, for where a rupture does not take place by setting the wide part of the nail across the grain, yet a slight opening is produced near the nail, which admits air and moisture and hastens decay around it.

MEAT-BISCUIT.—The French correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, writes that paper, that W. L. Grove, Esq., has delivered before the Royal Institution, London, a learned but practical lecture on the Application of Chemistry to the Preservation of Food. A Committee of the French Academy of Sciences has reported on the *Meat-Biscuit* of Mr. Callamand; it is a compound of the best flour, cooked meat and vegetables. They decide that it is a substantial aliment, agreeable enough, and particularly advantageous in military and maritime expeditions. It makes a good soup in 15 or 20 minutes, when pulverized and boiled; but in point of nutritiveness it is not equivalent to the flour and meat it contains. The Paris General Society for the Preservation of Alimentary Substances, have published an account of an experiment with ninety pounds of the best fresh beef (a leg), which was covered with a prepared pellicle or thin skin. At the expiration of six months (10th of April last) the mass was opened, and found throughout, and in all particulars, in perfect preservation. The President of the Association of Victualers, and the great purveyor, *Chevet*, of the Palais Royal, praised emphatically the superior flavor, tenderness and succulency of the meat when they had eaten of a portion cooked for them. The process is simple and cheap.

TAKING SENNA.—We believe nobody likes senna, though there may be some so accustomed to its use that it has become agreeable. Indeed, we think it quite as easy to learn to love senna as tea, and that a person who had never tasted either, would prefer a strong infusion of senna to one of Young Hyson. But this by the way. Those who must or will take senna as a medicine, will be glad to learn of a discovery announced in a recent French medical journal, to the effect that, senna put into *cold* water for several hours, will yield its cathartic and coloring matter only, leaving the essential oil and the irritating resin which are only dissolved in hot water. Senna-water thus prepared is said to be almost tasteless, and with a little milk and sugar is as agreeable as the best old Java coffee, while none of its cathartic effect is lost. We leave it to the experience and observation of physicians to decide whether the oil and resin not obtained in this process are beneficial or otherwise, in producing the effects usually sought after in administering senna. Till they settle the matter we should follow the French recipe and use the cold infusion.

HOPS.—The Utica Gazette says that the County of Otsego (N. Y.) has for some years been reputed the most extensive hop growing region in the State. In 1854, the number of acres appropriated to the cultivation of this product was 2,500, and it is estimated that 1,000 acres more will be cultivated the present year. Thus, at the ratio of last year's product, 800 pounds to the acre, the crop of the present season will reach 2,800,000 pounds, which, at the present market value—about 20 cents per pound—would realize \$560,000.

CALIFORNIA is wide awake on the subject of agricultural improvement. Preparations are in progress for an extensive State show the coming autumn. The State Legislature has made a liberal appropriation to aid the funds of the State Agricultural Society. Large shipments of grain, flour, potatoes, &c., to the United States and Australia are constantly being made. The California Farmer, of the 17th ult., notices among other ships loading, the "Mercedes," for Australia, as having already engaged 5,000 bags of wheat and 700,000 lbs. (350 tons) of flour.

SURE CURE FOR THE CURCULIO.—Mr. James Taylor, of St. Catharines, Canada West, having learned from the Tribune that a Mr. Joseph Mather, of Goshen, C. W., had found a mixture of sulphur, lard and Scotch snuff, rubbed freely upon the body and branches of a plum tree, an effectual remedy against the curculio, writes to that paper that he (Mr. Taylor) tried it upon some of his choicest trees, and had a splendid crop of plums. *But mark the result: Every tree so treated, except one or two young ones, is now dead!* Sure remedy, that!

BLANKETING COWS.—A correspondent of the Rural Intelligencer, who has been traveling through Holland, says that "great care is there taken of their cows, both in winter and in summer. In a lowery, wet day you will see the cows in the field covered with blankets; ay, even more commonly than a horse is blanketed here in the winter. This care is well repaid by a greater flow of milk and a less consumption of forage."

WESTWARD.—A New-Hampshire paper says that at least one hundred farmers of the northern counties in that State have sold their farms this spring and gone westward; and that the same western fever is also taking off many farmers of northern Vermont.

THE CORK TREE.—The Patent office has received a hogshead of the acorns of the cork tree from the south of Europe, to be distributed in the middle and southern States, to test their adaptation to the climate.

ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

The late news from Europe contains accounts of a new eruption of Mount Vesuvius upon a grand scale—the greatest that has occurred for centuries. The report of its sublime grandeur had attracted thousands from all parts of Europe to witness the scene, and the road from Naples to the vicinity of the spectacle was continually crowded with spectators going and returning. The discharges of the volcano are represented to have been terrific, and the lava poured over the lips of the crater in huge swelling waves, sweeping downward and onward over vineyards and villages that had flourished for centuries. The lava, like torrents of burning brass moved slowly but unresistingly forward, hissing and sparkling as it met with obstacles in the way, then accumulating and flowing over them, "eating up every green thing." Houses and stone wall fences, furnished no effectual resistance to its course, it flowed down a resistless sea of fire. The sides of the crater resembled

those of a red hot boiler. It was feared that the towns of St. Sebastiano, Massa, di Somme, and Pollena, would be destroyed. Cercola has already fallen, and it was thought that a destructive explosion, throwing huge rocks and piles of burning ashes far and near, and scattering death and ruin around, would conclude this grand eruption.—*Scientific American.*

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

TAKE CARE OF THE EYES.

Until one begins to feel the effect of impaired vision he can hardly estimate the value of eyesight, and, consequently, from ignorance or carelessness, he is apt to neglect a few simple precautions by the observance of which his sight might be preserved. * * * *First, never use a writing-desk or table with your face towards a window.* In such cases the rays of light come directly upon the pupil of the eyes, and, causing an unnatural and forced contraction thereof, soon permanently injure the sight. Next when your table or desk is near a window, sit so that your face turns *from, not towards*, the window while you are writing. If your face is towards the window the oblique rays strike the eye and injure it nearly as much as the direct rays when you sit in front of the window. It is best always to sit or stand while reading or writing with the window behind you; and next to that with the light coming over your left side; then the light illumines the paper or book, and does not shine abruptly upon the eye-ball. The same remarks are applicable to artificial light. We are often asked which is the best light—gas, candles, oil or camphene? Our answer is, it is immaterial which, provided the light of either be strong enough and do not flicker. A gas fish-tail burner should never be used for reading or writing, because there is a constant oscillation or flickering of the flame. Candles, unless they have self-consuming wicks, which do not require snuffing, should not be used. We need scarcely say that oil wicks, which crust over and thus diminish the light, are good for nothing; and the same is true of compounds of the nature of camphene, unless the wicks are properly trimmed of all their gummy deposit after standing twenty-four hours. But, whatever the artificial light used, let it strike the paper or book which you are using, whenever you can, from over the the left shoulder. This can always be done with gas, for that light is strong enough, and so is the light from camphene, oil, etc., provided it comes through a circular burner like the argand. But the light, whatever it is, should always be protected from the air in the room by a glass chimney, so that the light may be steady.—*Boston Herald.*

SHADDIN IN THE DELAWARE.—A shad fisherman sends a line to the Philadelphia Inquirer complaining that "the stemboats that traffic in the delawer spile the shaddin business, with there splashin and ruin in shoar." Our piscatory friend remonstrates against this, and takes the indisputable position that "shaddin were invented afore stemboats."

"Don't the clouds begin to break?" inquired Harriet, during a storm. She was impatient to go out shopping. "Guess so," was the reply, and the speaker glanced out of the window. "Guess they're broke, they leak bad enough."

BE GENTLE WITH THY WIFE.

Be gentle—for you little know
How many trials rise;
Although to thee they may be small,
To her, of giant size.

Be gentle! tho' perchance that lip
May speak a murmuring tone,
The heart may speak with kindness yet,
And joy to be thine own.

Be gentle! weary hours of pain
It's woman's lot to bear;
Then yield her what support thou canst,
And all her sorrows share.

Be gentle! for the noblest hearts
At times may have some grief,
And even in a pettish word
May seek to find relief.

Be gentle! none are perfect here—
Thou'rt dearer far than life,
Then husband bear, and still forbear—
Be gentle to thy wife.

DRINKING LIKE MEN.—"Now, gentlemen," said a nobleman to his guests, as the ladies left the room, "let us understand each other; are we to drink like men, or like brutes?" The guests somewhat indignant, exclaimed, "Like men, of course." "Then," replied he, "we are going to get jolly drunk; for brutes never drink more than they want!"

Editing a newspaper is like making a fire. Everybody supposes he can do it "a little better than anybody else." We have seen people doubt their fitness for apple peddling, driving oxen, or counting lath, but in all our experience we never met with the individual who did not think he could "double the circulation" of any paper in two months.—*Ex.*

"I will not strike thee, thou bad man," said a Quaker one day, "but will let this billet of wood fall on thee;" and that precise moment the "bad man" was floored by the weight of a walking stick that the Quaker was known to carry.

SUSTAIN THE RIGHT.

We may not all, with powerful blow,
Be champions for the right;
But all with firm, undaunted brow,
May stand unshaken 'mid the flow
Of wrong's sustained from might;
One word may turn the wavering scale,
One willing, honest hand
Uphold the cause that else might fail,
Although by genius planned.

"People may say what they will about the country air being good for 'em," said Mrs. Partington, "and how they fat upon it; for my part, I shall always think it's owin' to the vittles."

SOMEBODY TROD UPON IT.—A child, when asked why a certain tree grew crooked, replied: "Somebody trod upon it, I suppose, when it was a little fellow."
How painfully suggestive is that answer!

"I wonder what makes my eyes so weak, said a loafer to a gentleman."
"Why they are in a weak place," replied the latter.

ECONOMY IN HAVING A SMALL WIFE.—A Paris writer on fashions says: "Small women are alone to be admired and loved." The reason he assigns is that a small woman can not possibly cover her little person with as many yards of silk, and other costly fabrics, as a large woman. As women display a luxury in toilet which daily increases in extravagance, we do not wonder that unfortunate bachelors seek a diminutive wife.

DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND.

The Placer Times and Transcript relates the following incident as having occurred lately at a shoe store in San Francisco. The parties concerned were the proprietor of the store and a John Chinaman. Examining a pair of boots, the price of which were five dollars, John inquired—

"How muchee you axee for um bootee?" In a spirit of waggery, it is presumable, the owner replied—

"Two dollar and a halfee, John. Very cheap bootee, ain'tee?"

"Cheap bootee," said John; who thereupon examined a pair, and concluding to buy offered a quarter eagle.

"But," said the dealer in leather, "this is only enough for one boot. They are two dollars and a half apiece; two boots cost five dollars."

John was somewhat astonished, said he would not buy, and demanded the return of his money, but the dealer was inexorable.

"No, John," said the latter; "you have got one boot and paid for it. Now give me another piece like this, and take the other."

John saw the drift of the game, and was at once resolved.

"Well," said he, "this bootee be mine, maybe. I paid for um?"

"Yes," said the dealer.

"And you no give me the other bootee?" asked John.

"Not without the money," said the other.

"Well," said John, "I do with um bootee what I please; I cuttee him up."

And thereupon John whipped out a knife, cut the boot to pieces and threw it into the street, exclaiming, as he departed—

"That am my bootee; that other be your bootee; you sell um to next fool Chinaman what come along."

At last accounts, the boot dealer was looking for the man with the wooden leg, to whom he might sell the odd boot, and thus save expense.

BE ALWAYS BUSY.—The more a man accomplishes, the more he may. You always find those men who are the most forward to do good, or to improve the times and manners, always busy. Who starts our railroads, or steamboats, our machine shops, and our manufactories? Men of industry and enterprize. As long as they live they work—doing something to benefit themselves and others. It is just so with a man who is benevolent—the more he gives the more he feels like giving. We go for activity—in body, in mind, in everything. Let the gold grow not dim, nor the thought become stale.

LANGUAGE.—Language is the amber in which a thousand precious thoughts have been safely embedded and preserved. It has arrested ten thousand lightning-flashes of genius, which, unless thus fixed and arrested might have been as bright, but would have also been as quickly passing and perishing as the lightning. Words convey the mental treasures of one period to the generations that follow; and laden with this, their precious freight, they sail safely across gulfs of time in which empires have suffered shipwreck, and the languages of common life have sunk into oblivion.

ONE OF THE SHEEP.—A young man from the country came to the city to see his intended wife, and for a long time could think of nothing to say. At last, a great snow falling, he took occasion to tell her that his father's sheep would all be undone. "Well," said she, kindly taking him by the hand, "I'll keep one of them."

A GOOD RECOMMENDATION.

"Please, sir don't you want a cabin boy?" "I do want a cabin boy, my lad, but what, s that to you? A little chap like you ain't fit for the berth."

"Oh, sir, I'm real strong. I can do a great deal of work, if I ain't so very old."

"But what are you here for? You don't look like a city boy. Run away from home hey?"

"Oh no indeed, sir, my father died and my mother is very poor, and I want to do something to help her. She let me come."

"Well sonny, where are your letters of recommendation. Can't take any boy without those."

Here was a damper. Willie had never thought of its being necessary to have letter from his minister, or his teachers, or from some proper person, to prove to strangers that he was an honest good boy. Now what should he do? He stood in deep thought, the captain meanwhile curiously watching the workings of his expressive face. At length he put his hand into his bosom, and drew out his little Bible, and without one word put it into the captain's hand. The captain opened to the blank leaf and read:

"WILLIE GRAHAM,

"Presented as a reward for regular and punctual attendance at Sabbath School, and for his blameless conduct there and elsewhere. From his Sunday School Teacher."

Capt. McLeod, was not a pious man, but he could not consider the case before him with a heart unmoved. The little fatherless child, standing humbly before him, referring him to the testimony of his Sunday School teacher, as it was given in his little Bible touched a tender spot in the breast of the noble seaman, and clapping Willie heartily on the shoulder, said.

"You are the boy for me;" you shall sail with me, and if you are as good a lad as I think you are, your pockets shan't be empty when you go back to your good mother.

THE PRINCE AND THE BANKER.—The Wanderer, at Vienna, relates the following anecdote: "A Jewish banker, of Frankfort, while proceeding to Vienna by railway not long since, fell into conversation with a gentleman of very pleasing manners, who was in the same carriage with him, and so delighted was the banker with his new acquaintance, that he offered to give him a letter of recommendation to his daughter, who was well married in Vienna, and might be of service to him. The gentleman thanked him, and, with a smile, said: 'I also have one of my daughters married at Vienna, and she has made a very tolerable match.' 'Pray, may I presume,' said the banker, 'to ask the name of her husband?' 'It is the Emperor of Austria,' was the answer, the gentleman being the Prince Maximilian of Bavaria."

SPINNING WOMEN.—Among our forefathers it was a maxim that a young woman should never marry until she had spun enough wool to furnish her own house; and from this custom all unmarried women were called "spinsters," an appellation they still retain in all law proceedings. If the above regulations were enforced at the present day, what a vast number would die old maids!

NO MOTHER.—"She has no mother!" What a volume of sorrowful truth is comprised in that single utterance—no mother! Deal gently with the child. Let not the cup of her sorrows be overflowed by the harshness of your bearing, or your unsympathizing coldness. Is she heedless of her doings? forgetful of duty? Is she careless of her movements? Remember, oh, remember, "she has no mother!"

A SPIRITUAL STORY.—A lady at Columbus, Ohio, recently inquired of the Spirit rappers how many children she had.

"Four," rapped the spirit.

The husband, startled at the accuracy, stepped up and inquired—

"How many children have I."

"Two!" answered the rapping medium.

The husband and wife looked at each other, with an odd smile on their faces, a moment, and then retired non-believers. There had been a mistake made *somewhere*.

A WISE ANSWER.—"You must not play with that little girl, my dear," said an injudicious parent.

"But, ma, I like her, she is a good little girl, and I'm sure she dresses as prettily as I do; and she has lots of toys."

"I can't help that, my dear," responded the foolish anti-American, "her father is a shoemaker."

"But I don't play with her father, I play with her; she ain't a shoemaker."

A solemn murmur in the soul
Fills up the world to be,
As travelers hear the billows roll
Before they reach the sea.

KEEP OUT OF THE BRAMBLES.—That which happens to the soil, when it ceases to be cultivated by the social man, happens to man himself when he foolishly forsakes society for solitude; the brambles grow up in his desert heart.

GENTEEL PEOPLE.—The young lady who lets her mother do the ironing, for fear of spreading her hands; the Miss who wears thin shoes on a rainy day; and the young gentleman who is ashamed to be seen walking with his father.

INDUSTRIOUS PEOPLE.—The young lady who reads romances in bed; the friend who is always engaged when you call; and the correspondent who can not find time to answer your letters.

SENSIBLE.—Judge Kent says there are few evils to which a man is subjected that he might not avoid, if he would converse more with his wife, and follow her advice."

"Pray, Mr. Professor, what is a periphrasis?" "Madam, it is simply a circumlocutory cycle of oratorical sonorosity, circumscribing an atom of ideality, lost in a verbal profundity." "Thank you, sir."

"See here, Grippe, I understand you have a superior way of curing hams. I should like to learn it." "Well, yes; I know very well how to cure them; but the trouble with me, just now, is to find out a way to procure them."

"My brudders," said a wagish colored man to a crowd—"in all infication, in all ob yer troubles, dar is one place you can always find sympathy!" "Whar? whar?" shouted several. "In de dictionary," he replied, rolling his eyes skyward.

Superficial persons judge men rather by their dress and occupations, than by their intrinsic merits. The great inventor of the spinning-jenny was a barber; and one of the most profound of American statesmen, a shoemaker.

That kind of moral instruction is always the best which is conveyed in the fewest words, and those always to the point. It is easy to be brief without harshness, and pointed without severity.

Markets.

REMARKS.

There has been considerable fluctuation in the price of flour, with a decline during the week past of 50 to 75 cents per barrel. Considerable quantities of grain and flour are arriving, which were purchased during the spring for summer delivery. These, with the regular supply, are overstocking the market, and we shall expect to record a still further decline next week. The reports of the wheat crop still continue very favorable, with the exception of a few localities, where insects have commenced their work, and some others which were winter killed. The wheat harvest is already over in Georgia, and other southern States, and has proved a first-rate one.

Corn. By reference to our Prices Current it will be seen that corn is declining quite rapidly. Western Mixed, to arrive in ten days, has been sold in considerable quantities for 95 cents to \$1 00 per bushel.

Oats are arriving in large quantities and there is a heavy decline in the prices.

Cotton has again advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to $\frac{3}{4}$ c. per lb., and the Steamer Atlantic arriving to-day (Wednesday) from Liverpool, reports another advance of nearly one cent per lb., with a second unprecedented week's sales, amounting to 152,400 bales, of which 116,970 bales were American. This news will cause another large advance here. Our last week's report of exports of 130,000 bales in five months, referred to *this port alone*. The total exports of cotton from the United States since September 1st are 1,944,838 bales, which is an excess over the same time last year of 87,582 bales.

The Weather continues cool, with abundant showers. On Thursday last there was a heavy fall of rain, which was general over the country. Some begin to fear that the old adage of "one extreme following another," will prove true this season; and that to counterbalance last year's heat and drouth, we are to have cold and wet this summer. Those pinning their faith upon old adages may find consolation in the fact that, last winter was long and cold, and there was wet enough in the form of snow. We look, with strong hope, not to say with strong expectation, for good weather, and abundant crops. But all kinds of food will continue to bring remunerative prices to farmers. The present arrival brings news of partial success of England and France against Russia. Every such success argues a longer continuance of the war, and a devastation of some of the richest grain-producing regions of Europe. If our political rulers can rest quiet, and not get their hands into this European embroglio, we may quietly go on producing our abundant harvests for the belligerents to consume, while we continue to grow in national and individual wealth and happiness.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, June 12, 1855.

Old Potatoes are nearly done for the season. New Potatoes begin to be quite plentiful. The

market is glutted with green stuff, and exceedingly slow. Cucumbers from Charleston, S. C., are 75c. per dozen. Squashes, \$1 25 per basket. A few new Apples came in yesterday from Richmond, Va. Strawberries are quite plentiful. Butter, a slight decline. Cheese, same as at our last. Eggs, an advance.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas	do	\$ 6 —@6 75
Charleston, new	do	5 50@6 —
do. round	do	5 —@5 50
New-Jersey Mercers	do	— @ —
Western Mercers	do	4 —@4 25
White Mercers	do	4 —@4 25
Nova Scotia Mercers	do	1 30@1 35
New-Jersey Carters	do	— @ —
Washington County Carters	do	3 25@3 50
Junes	do	3 —@ —
Western Reds	do	2 75@3 —
Yellow Pink Eyes	do	2 75@3 —
Long Reds	do	2 50@2 75
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do	1 87@2 25
White bunch, new	do	4 50@6 —
Onions—White	do	— @ —
Bermuda Reds, new	do	5 00@5 50
New-Orleans Reds	do	5 —@5 25
Cabbage Sprouts	do	— @ 50
Green Peas	do	3 —@ —
Asparagus	do	6 —@10
Spinach	do	50@ 75
Water Cresses	do	— @ —
Rhubarb	do	4 —@6 —
Radishes	do	50@ —
Lettuce	do	62@1 —
Cucumbers	do	4 —@6 —
Squashes	do	3 50@ —
Gooseberries	do	2 —@ —
Strawberries	do	2 —@6 —
Apples	do	\$ 4 50@5 —
Butter—new	do	20@23c.
Cheese	do	9@11c.
Eggs	do	—@18c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY June 13, 1855.

The supply of cattle to-day is 2,319, which is about 250 more than last week. This is certainly a full supply, but less than might have been, since we learn about 1,000 are lying off in the country. Whether the owners will make a hit or not by this operation, it is certain they avoid a loss to-day. Those who were present spoke rather deplorably of the trade, and thought owners in general decidedly "stuck," as they expressed it. One man says he is losing a "barrel of money" weekly, and at the present rate, thinks he shall soon lose two barrels a week.

With the large number of cattle on hand, and the moderate prices, the butchers take hold pretty freely, though they take some liberties, and are inclined to have their own way. There is evidently no such thing as monopoly or combination among the brokers.

The cattle are generally of good quality for western cattle, and in some cases excellent. Still, if any one wishes poor cattle, there was room enough for a pick.

It will be seen that swine are very high, higher in fact than ever before. They are very scarce and sell quickly. We give only a few items.

Barney Bartam, was selling 187 tip-top Illinois beeves owned by N. Denny, of Ohio, near South Bloomfield. 20 sold to John Harris, for \$100 Ψ head, and 10 sold for 105. This they estimate is not quite 11c. This was part of a drove of 224, which has been fed nearly 20,000 bushels of corn, for which Mr. Denny paid just 30c. Ψ bushel. He is losing money.

White & Ulery, was selling 122 fine Illinois cattle, which would weigh about 775 lbs. a head. They brought from 10c.@11c.

Wm. Belden, was selling 104 fine Kentucky cattle, owned by Franklin Ford of Ohio. The price and weight was the same as those above.

Williams & Murray, were selling a fair lot of cattle for the kind, originally from Texas, and owned by Wm. Rankins. These cattle were driven to Missouri last July, and thence to Illinois. They would average about 650 lbs. and were selling at 9c. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Geo. Ayrault, was selling 189 mixed, still-fed Illinois cattle, owned by John Morris, at from 10c.@11c. 4 sold for \$97 50 Ψ head.

W. W. Hoag, was selling 34 good Illinois cattle, owned by W. H. Crane, at from 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.@10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. They came through from La Porte, by Toledo, Buffalo, and the Central R. R., at a cost of \$12 Ψ head, which is \$1 50 Ψ head more than by the Dunkirk, Buffalo, and New-York City R. R. route. They charge \$1 50 Ψ head higher on the Lakes than last year.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices: Extra quality 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ @11c. Good retailing quality 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ @10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Inferior do. do.	8@9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Cows and Calves	\$30@365.
Veals	4c.@6c.
Swine, alive	7c.@7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
do. dead	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ @9c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-PAY.
Beeves,..... 2319	—
Cows,..... —	—
Veals,..... 837	—
Sheep and lambs,..... 575	—
Swine,..... 480	—

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves	1100
Sheep	—
Swine	480
By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves	—
Cows	—
Veals	837
Sheep and Lambs	575
By the Hudson River Railroad	600
Sheep	—
By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves	600
Swine	—
New-York State furnished—beeves	142
Ohio, "	618
Indiana, "	206
Illinois, "	846
Texas, "	154
Kentucky, "	304
Connecticut, "	—
Wisconsin, "	51
Virginia, "	—

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs	2425
Beeves	228
Veals	42
Cows and Calves	20

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

268 Beef Cattle	9@11c.
114 Cows and Calves	\$25@365
3,842 Sheep and Lambs	\$2@12.
104 Veals	4@6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

The Sheep Market is better than last week, and closes favorably. The sales are brisk, and the market lightly supplied. Mr. McGraw sold 75 extra Kentucky sheep at an average of \$7 50 per head. The average price is about \$4 per head.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

228 Sheep, poor	\$454 32
75 Sheep, extra	556 50
31 Sheep	146 00
31 Sheep	195 25
87 Sheep	315 71
127 Sheep	527 12
15 Sheep	69 00
127 do.	367 50
101 do.	409 62
15 do.	71 75
262 do.	1226 02
116 Lambs	467 87
21 do.	119 00
43 do.	163 75
5 do.	26 00
105 do.	453 37
30 do.	135 50
6 do.	33 00
8 do.	40 00

1433	Average	\$4 02.
		\$5,755 38

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c

Ashes—				
Pot, 1st sort, 1855	Ψ 100 lb.	—@	5 75	
Pearl, 1st sort, 1855		6 12@	—	
Bristles—				
American, Gray and White		— 45 @	— 50	
Beeswax—				
American Yellow		— 26@	— 27 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Coal—				
Liverpool Orrel	Ψ chaldron	— @	7 50	
Scotch		— @	—	
Sidney		5 75 @	6 —	
Pictou		5 25 @	—	
Anthracite	Ψ 2,000 lb.	5 50 @	—	
Cotton Bagging—				
Gunny Cloth	Ψ yard	— 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ @	—	
Cotton—				
Ordinary	Upland	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Middling	Florida	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Middling Fair	Mobile	13	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	14
Fair	N. O. & Texas	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Coffee—				
Java	Ψ lb.	— 13 @	— 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Mocha		— 14 @	— 15	

Table of market prices for various agricultural products including Brazil, Maracaibo, St. Domingo, Flax, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, Lime, Molasses, Oil Cake, Provisions, Tobacco, and Wool.

NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. JUNE EXHIBITION, TO BE HELD AT CLINTON HALL, ASTOR-PLACE, On TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1855.

Open from 1 till 10 o'clock, P. M. An Address will be delivered in the evening by WILLIAM C. BRYANT, ESQ. Admission to non-members, Twenty-five Cents.

A favorable juncture having presented itself, the Society has determined to augment its Monthly June Exhibition, and throw it open to the public at a charge of admission. This will take the place of its usual Semi-annual Exhibition. Through the liberality of some of our friends, we are enabled to get up this Exhibition without expense to the Society, the prizes being very generously volunteered by the gentlemen whose names are annexed. We are also greatly indebted to the Young Men's Christian Association and the Mercantile Library Association, who have, in the kindest manner, proffered us free use of their Rooms in Clinton Hall, Astor-place, where the Exhibition will be held.

We confidently trust to the well-known spirit of our amateurs and florists to make this show one of peculiar interest, and would suggest that they bring none but their best specimens. It is requested that all articles be brought in by 11 o'clock. We would urge exhibitors to prepare beforehand a list of their articles to hand to the Secretary. It is important that the articles be correctly labeled. The expense incurred in bringing articles to the Exhibition will be paid by the Committee. The Exhibition will open at 1 o'clock P. M., and close at 10, and will be held under the usual Rules of the Society. The awards of the Judges will be read off during the evening. For the \$3 and \$5 prizes, medals will be given. Prizes of less value may be taken in silver ware of equivalent value, if preferred. For articles of merit, not provided for by this list, the Society will award its Diploma, on recommendation of the Judges.

PLANTS IN POTS. For the best collection, \$5 00, by Edward G. Falle. For second best, 3 00, by H. M. Schieffelin.

CUT ROSES. For best collection, \$8 00, by Willson G. Hunt. For second best, 5 00, by Shepherd Knapp.

GOOSEBERRIES. For best quart, \$2 00, by Wilson G. Hunt. For second best, 1 00, by J. B. Herrick.

BOUQUETS AND BASKETS. For best pair of hand bouquets, \$5 00, by James Knight. For second best, 3 00, by Clinton Gilbert.

CUT FLOWERS. For best collection of Herbaceous Plants, \$5 00, by Wilson G. Hunt. For second best, 3 00, by C. F. Lindsley.

LITTLE GIANT CORN AND COB MILL. PATENTED 1854.

THIS MILL has doubtless attained a more sudden celebrity for doing its work with rapidity and ease, than any other article of labor-saving machinery ever presented to the Agricultural world; the merit of which consists chiefly in the peculiar arrangement of first breaking, then crushing and crumbling the cob at the center of the mill.

These MILLS are guaranteed in the most positive manner against breakage or derangement, and warranted to grind feed from ear corn, and grits or fine hominy from shelled corn, with a degree of ease and convenience for farm purposes never attained before.

Sole Agent for New-York and vicinity, R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-street.

TO NURSERYMEN. - WANTED - To negotiate, as Agent for a Company, for a large quantity of NURSERY STOCK, suitable for stocking a Nursery in Illinois. Address (inclosing stamp), 91-94nl204 WM. DAY.

Onion and Carrot Growers, READ!

THE NEW PATENT HAND CULTIVATOR, of which Hon. Wm. H. Conover, an extensive Onion grower, of Freehold, N. J., says: "I would not be without one for \$100, if it could not be procured for less," - for sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. GRIFFING & BROTHERS, 60 Courtland-st. And JOHN GANSE, Manufacturer, 90, 93nl202 134 Thompson-st., New-York.

THIRD GRAND ANNUAL SALE OF SHORT HORNS, DURHAM AND CROSSES FROM THEM, with the best approved AMSTERDAM, DUTCH and Pure bred AYRSHIRES.

THURSDAY, June 14, 1855, at 12 o'clock, on the farm of JAMES BATHGATE, Esq., one mile from Fordham, and 14 miles from the City Hall, New-York city, by Harlem Railroad cars, running hourly. Being desirous of making my pledge good to the cattle owners to have an annual sale, and having the use again of Mr. Bathgate's cautious business, I shall sell as above stated. None but cattle of the well-known breeds or established character, will be received; and every animal offered must be sold without reserve.

SUPERIOR THOROUGHbred DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS FOR SALE.

The subscriber having purchased from Mr. W. F. Wainwright his interest in the herd of Devon Cattle hitherto owned conjointly by them, will continue to give his strict attention to the breeding and raising of this increasingly popular breed. Having now a herd of over twenty head, bred entirely from animals of his own importation, he is enabled to offer for sale a few young bulls and heifers of very superior quality. Also, constantly on hand thoroughbred ESSEX PIGS, descended from the best imported stock.

DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK. NOW READY.

A large supply of both 1st and 2d Volumes bound in one book and containing all the subject connected with the Devon records of both England and America up to the present time; also a full and complete engraving of the celebrated picture known as the "Quarterly Testimonial," which is a full-length portrait of Mr. Francis Quarterly, now living, at 91 years of age. It is also illustrated with two animals, prize winners in England. Price \$1 00, and can be had by inclosing the amount to B. P. Johnson, Cor. Sec. of N. Y. State Society, Albany, N. Y.; Luther Tucker, Ed. of Country Gentleman, Albany, N. Y.; Sandford Howard, Boston, Mass.; D. D. T. Moore, Ed. Wool Grower and Stock Register, Rochester, N. Y.; A. B. Allen, Ed. American Agriculturist, New-York; Sam'l Sands, Ed. American Farmer, Baltimore, Md.; A. M. Spangler, Ed. Progressive Farmer, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lee & Remond's, Eds. Southern Cultivator, Augusta, Ga.; and Wm. McDougall, Ed. Canadian Agri., Toronto, Canada. It gives me pleasure to state that Mr. Davy has solicited Mr. S. Howard, of Boston Cultivator, to collect pedigrees and illustrations in this country, for the 3d volume, and has authorized Mr. H. Allen, and also in England, for any and all mistakes which may have been made in the recording of American animals in Davy's 2d volume, and such corrections will be made in the 3d volume.

The plan proposed is, that the pedigrees and illustrations collected by Mr. Howard, as the Editor in America, shall be forwarded to Mr. Davy, and a copy of those collected by Mr. Davy will be sent to Mr. Howard. The whole matter will be published in America for our use, and also in England for their use, by which means an American and English Devon Herd Book will be united, and the price reasonable, as the expense of English printing and duties will be saved. This concert of action has been brought about by Mr. Davy's good feeling and liberality towards this country; and I am only the instrument through which Mr. Davy acts, and from this time forth Mr. Howard will receive all communications on the subject, as will appear by reference to his advertisement. All editors who will give the above three insertions will receive a copy of the 1st, 2d, and 3d volumes. L. G. MORRIS, American Agent for J. T. Davy's Devon Herd Book. 90-93nl203

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86-tfn193

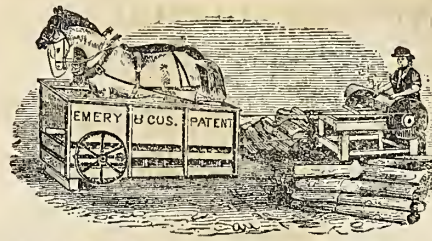
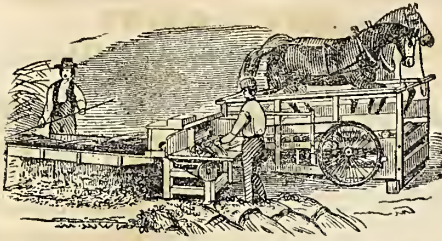
KNOWLSON'S FARRIER OR HORSE-DOCTOR. - The greatest book for the treatment of diseased horses ever printed - containing also valuable hints for choosing a good horse, and directions for training horses. By J. C. KNOWLSON, F. Q. R. Price 25 cents. This is a plainly written treatise on horses and horse diseases, by one of the most eminent English farriers ever known. Mr. Knowlson, the author, was none of your theoretical geniuses called gentlemen farriers. He was a plain, honest, hard-working man who doctored the horses with his own hands and his own preparations. He treated more than a hundred thousand horses in his life time, having practised fifty odd years; and he made a record of each case, so as to judge of other similar cases. This is the way he gained his popularity. He died a few years ago, leaving a property equal to \$150,000 in Yankee money; yet he was a hard-working man to the end of his life. This is the only Horse-Doctor book that can be relied on. AGENTS WANTED in all parts of the United States and Canada, to sell this and other valuable works. Sample copies with catalogue of Maps, Books, Charts and Prints sent by mail post-paid) upon receipt of price. Address A. RANNEY, Publisher, No. 195 Broadway, New-York. N. B. - Editors copying the above shall receive a copy of the work (post-paid.) 89-92nl183

Advertisements.

TERMS - (Invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP. - The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112. He would also sell a few imported Ewes. SAMUEL THORNE, "Thornedale," Washington Hollow, Dutches Co., N. Y. 92-95nl 208

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-ane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, an Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130



ALBANY AGRICULTURAL WORKS, ON HAMILTON, LIBERTY, AND UNION STREETS; WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE, REMOVED TO NO. 52 STATE-STREET ALBANY, N. Y.

The Proprietors of the above-named establishment being the sole owners and manufacturers of EMERY'S PATENT HORSE POWER, &c., ALL ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER PARTIES FOR THEIR MANUFACTURE HAVING EXPIRED, have formed a new Copartnership, under the firm name of EMERY BROTHERS,

And will continue the manufacture and sale of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY, as heretofore, at the old stands of EMERY & CO. By this arrangement the united efforts, and interest of the Brothers, long known to the public, are secured, and no exertions will be spared to meet the wishes of those dealing in and using the class of implements they manufacture—their leading branch being the manufacture of the justly celebrated

Emery's Patent Changeable Geared Railroad Horse Powers,

With the machines to be propelled by it, as Threshing machines, Saw Mills, and Machinery generally. These Powers having been submitted repeatedly to the most severe tests and trials to determine their relative merit and utility with those of every known manufacturer, have without exception been awarded the highest prizes for superiority—among which were the following:

- N. Y. STATE AGRICULT SOCIETY, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850. OHIO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULT., 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851. MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULT SOCIETY, 1853, 1852, 1851. INDIANA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. PENNSYLVANIA STATE AGRICULT'L SOCIETY, 1853. MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. MISSOURI STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1853. AMERICAN INSTITUTE, - - - - - 1852, 1851. NEW-YORK CRYSTAL PALACE, - - - - - 1853. CANADA PROVINCIAL SOCIETY, - - - - - 1852, 1851. CONNECTICUT STATE AGRICULTURAL FAIR, 1854.

WARRANTY, ECONOMY, CAPACITY, &c.

THE TWO-HORSE POWER and THRESHER, is capable, with three or four men, of threshing from 175 to 225 bushels, of wheat or rye, and the ONE-HORSE POWER from 75 to 125 bushels of wheat or rye; or both kinds of Powers, &c., are capable of threshing double that amount of oats, barley or buckwheat, per day, of ordinary fair yield. If the crops be extraordinarily heavy or light, greater or less results will follow. These Powers, Threshers, &c., are warranted to be of the best materials and workmanship, and to operate as represented by this Circular, to the satisfaction of the purchasers, together with a full right of using them in any territory of the United States, subject to be returned within three months, and home transportation and full purchase money refunded if not found acceptable to purchasers.

The public may rest assured the reputation heretofore earned for our manufactures, shall be fully sustained, by using none but the best material and workmanship; and by a strict attention to business, they hope to merit and enjoy a continuance of the patronage heretofore so liberally bestowed, which we respectfully solicit.

N. B.—All articles bear the name of "EMERY" in raised letters upon the cast iron parts, and however much others may resemble them, none are genuine without this mark. Full descriptive illustrated price Catalogues sent gratis on application.

PRICES FOR 1855.

Table listing prices for various agricultural machinery items such as 'Emery's Patent Changeable Horse Power Thresher, Separator, Bands, &c., for two horses' and 'Set of Bands for Machine'.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 15, 1855.

[90,2,4,6n1201] EMERY BROTHERS.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO cannot get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the IMPROVED POUDETTE made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, [No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY: Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUDETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, BENJAMIN DANA.

70-121ml152

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT).

The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boilermakers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Copper-smiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c. Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewelers, Dentists, Chemists, &c. Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for shipping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application. FREDERICK P. FLAGLER, Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York. 85-136n1190eow



GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurry. Red and White Clover, Lucerne, Sanfoin, Alyse Clover, Sweet-scented Clover, Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties. Winter Rye, Oats, of several choice kinds. Corn, of great variety. Spring and Winter Vetches.

PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed. BARLEY—California and Two-rowed variety.

TURNIP AND RUTA BAGA, of every choice kind.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Orange, Locust, Buckthorn, Tobacco, Common and Italian Millet, Broom Corn, Cotton, Flax, Canary, Hemp, Rape and Rice.

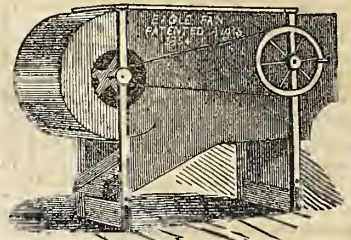
FRUIT TREES.—Choice varieties, including the Apple, Pear, Quince, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, &c., &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBBERY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS AND SEPARATORS. Single Horse Power \$85 00 Double do. do. 116 00 Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator, 160 00 Single do. do., do. do. 128 00 Belts \$5 and \$10 each.

R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York, 189 and 191 Water-street.

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

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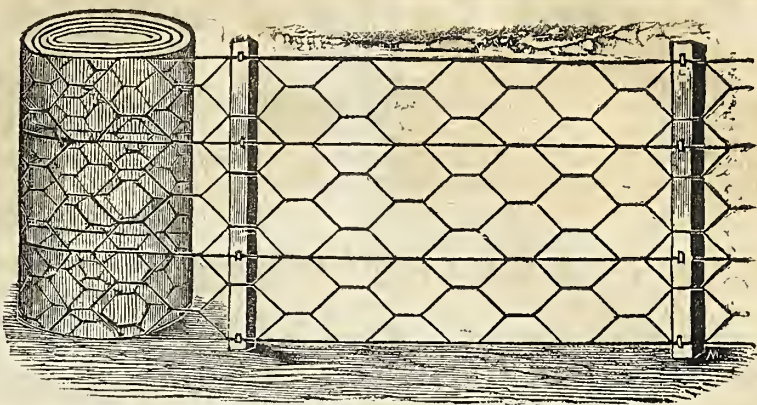
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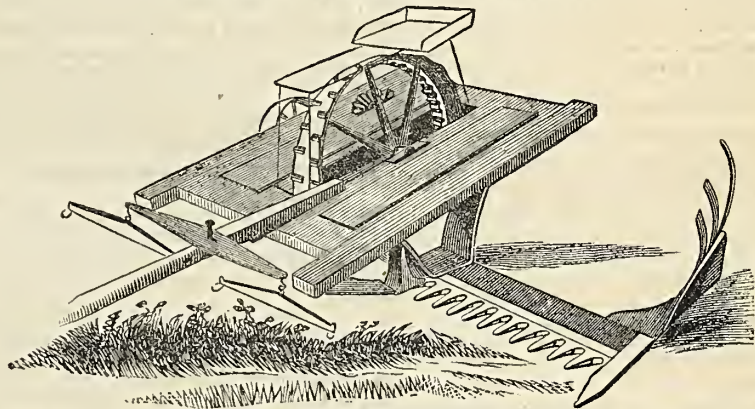
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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
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VOL. XIV.—NO. 15.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 93.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON BUTTER AND CHEESE MAKING.

[Continued from page 209.]

9. The oil of milk, or butter, is contained in very small sacs or bags diffused through the water which holds the casein (curd) and sugar in solution. As before stated (3), the butter is lighter than the other fluids, and when the milk is allowed to stand quietly for a time, the greater portion of it will rise to the surface in the form of cream. Cream is composed of the oil sacs mingled with some casein, and it is impossible to separate these substances before churning, and not wholly afterwards.

10. *Materials for Milk Pans.*—Various kinds of milk pans are in use, such as glass, tin, porcelain, stoneware, glazed iron, wood, zinc, &c. The requisites for these are, cheapness, coolness, and cleanliness. Glass milk pans are undoubtedly best, as regards coolness and cleanliness, but the cost and their easy breakage will prevent their being generally used. Porcelain (earthen or China ware) is liable to the same objections, though not so easily broken as glass, but if of fine quality, more costly. Well glazed stoneware pans are not so easily handled or cleaned, but where a cool room can not always be secured, they are probably the best, as they are not expensive. Glazed iron pans are very good, but are somewhat objectionable on account of their cost, weight, and their not being very cool. Wood vessels are not easily kept clean and sweet, and are objectionable. If used, great care should be taken to have them well scalded after every using. Zinc pans have been highly commended, but we consider them very objectionable on account of their easy corrosion and liability to produce poisonous salts. We would not use them if furnished to us free of cost, unless they were well glazed internally. For general use, where a cool milk room can be secured, there is no kind

of milk pan to be preferred to the old-fashioned "tin pan." They are cheap, light, and easily kept clean. If the atmosphere is not, or can not be kept at a low temperature, stone or earthen ware vessels are the best.

11. *Depth of Milk Pans.*—Milk should be kept in shallow vessels, and the fluid should never exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth, as in proportion to the shallowness of the vessels will depend the rapidity and perfection of the cream's rising. We believe the best English butter-makers set the milk about 2 inches deep. In this country, those who have received prizes for the greatest product of butter from a given amount of milk, report 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches as the proper depth.

12. *Milk Room.*—This should combine dryness, coolness, airiness, and neatness. It should be upon the north side of some other building, or in some manner be sheltered from the sun, and have its windows open to the north or northeast. A milk room and an ice house can be well combined. Where but few cows are kept, however, the cellar is generally used as a milk room, and it answers a very good purpose if kept clean and well ventilated. Where two or three cows only are kept, it is always best to partition off a portion of the cellar, and give it a hard, dry floor, whitewash it well, and provide for a good current of air. The temperature should be kept as near 50 degrees as possible. Opening or closing the windows and doors in hot, damp, or cold weather, will facilitate this. Perfect neatness, or the removal of every thing like filth or decaying materials, is of the first importance. A little milk left to sour upon the shelves or floor, or in the corners or seams of the milk vessels, will do much to deteriorate all the milk, cream, or butter in the room. Scouring the shelves with sand, and washing every shelf and vessel with hot water, should be practiced very frequently.

13. *Raising the Cream.*—To facilitate the raising of the cream, the pans should not be moved about, nor should the surface of the milk be agitated by currents of air. In a recent lecture, Prof. Way, of England, suggests that a gentle, uniform motion might facilitate the rising of the butteraceous particles; but until some machinery is invented for this purpose, a safer rule is to keep the pans unmoved. We think, however, an occasional gentle tapping with a small stick upon the sides of the milk vessels, so as to jar the contents without agitating the surface, may hasten the more perfect separation and ascent of the cream. If the tem-

perature of the room is kept low, the skimming should be deferred 30 to 40 hours, or longer if the milk remains sweet. The first skimming should be made before any souring takes place. The cream is usually removed with a skimmer punctured with small holes. There is the objection to this, that the milk dripping through mingles the remaining cream with the milk in the pan. This is avoided by using a tight skimmer having a straight edge. Some dairymen draw off the milk slowly through a small spigot or tap in the bottom of the pan.

14. *Preserving the Cream.*—We think it better to keep the cream in two portions, one consisting of that removed at the end of 24 hours, and the other of that removed after souring and curdling has commenced. Let these two portions be churned separately. In this way a larger yield of butter will be secured, and the greater part of it will, other things being equal, be of a very superior quality. As milking is, or should be, done at regular intervals, a convenient plan is to draw a single chalk-mark upon all the pans in use at every milking, so that the number of marks upon any pan tells at once how many milkings old it is. The cream should be kept in the coolest place possible until ready for churning. In warm weather the churning should take place very frequently, once in two or three days at longest, and while the cream is still sweet, always bearing in mind that the decay of any of the casein, which always takes place in connection with souring, by so much deteriorates not only the taste, but especially the keeping quality of the butter.

CORN FODDER.—J. C. McGrew, of Smithfield, Jefferson Co., Ohio, writes the Ohio Farmer, that last season he sowed two acres of corn between the 10th and 20th of June, using two bushels of seed to the acre, broadcast and harrowed in. He cut it with a cradle, leaving a few stalks standing every few rods, for the purpose of tying the shocks to. After the fodder had become cured in the swaths, it was set up around the standing stalks, and tied. Here it remained till perfectly dry, when it was hauled in and placed in a rick under a shed. Although he had not more than a half crop on account of the drouth, it fed 137 sheep two months and four days.

Forty-nine farmers, or dairymen, in the single town of Streetsboro', Portage County, Ohio, have 1,396 cows, or an average of about 70 each.

For the American Agriculturist.

THE WASTE PLACES OF THE FARM.

DETAILS OF EXPERIMENTS.

There are few farms, of any considerable dimensions, on which there are not found certain spots which, in their natural state, are almost wholly unproductive. Sometimes these waste places are of such a character that their recovery is well nigh hopeless, or at least the expense thereby incurred would be so great as to forbid the attempt. In very many cases, however, by a little enterprize, and a trifling outlay of labor or capital, these neglected spots might not only be reclaimed so as to be serviceable, but they might even be transformed into the most profitable portions of the whole farm. More than all this, they may even furnish to the adjacent fields the elements of fertility, and so defray the expense of their own improvement. All this is true with regard to many thousands of acres of land, covered at present with useless bogs which, at best, only furnish a little coarse pasture in the few early days of spring, but during the rest of the year only yield a fruitful harvest of noxious weeds, musketoos and slimy reptiles.

The localities referred to are, generally, deposits of vegetable matter, combined with the richest and finest particles of the soil washed from the surrounding hills. But in consequence of excessive moisture, these lands, until reclaimed, are cold and sour, and unfavorable to vegetation except of the coarsest kinds.

It is, first of all, necessary to free the soil from the water with which it is saturated, and to get rid of the rank growth of bogs or bushes whereby such localities are commonly so thickly overgrown: This, it must be confessed, is no easy matter; but requires considerable hard labor, or the use of some capital. The majority of farmers are frightened by these considerations, and so are deterred from seriously undertaking the much-needed improvement. Many, indeed, are wholly incredulous when assured that the elements of the highest fertility are treasured up in those places, which they have been accustomed to regard as hopelessly barren, so far as all useful vegetation is concerned. More correct notions with regard to this subject, however, are beginning to prevail, especially where agricultural papers are read, and where farmers begin to be impatient of the despotic rule of ancient usage, and on the contrary begin to realize the necessity of *progress* in their high and honorable vocation.

One successful experiment has a happy influence over a whole neighborhood, by awakening attention and leading others to imitation. *Recorded results* of such undertakings exert a like influence. Hence it is that the writer is moved to note a few particulars with regard to his own experience, hoping that, in consequence, some spot now desolate, and the source of mischievous malaria, may be made to smile with fertility, and to minister to the wants of man and of beast.

It may be proper to premise that the writ-

ter is not a farmer by profession, but is, at present, the occupant of a few acres over which he has control, and which are subject to his management. In one of the lots on the premises there was a semi-circular piece of wet muck-swamp, overgrown thickly with formidable bogs, coarse weeds and bushes. The tract only contained an acre, or less; but it seemed a pity to suffer it to remain in its then useless condition, while it was evident that it might be profitably reclaimed. Accordingly, two years ago last fall, I employed a man, and opened a ditch on the lower or straight side of the piece. A covered drain (filled with small stones) was then made on the side next to the up-land. The bogs were next cut off, gathered in heaps and burned, and the ashes scattered over the surface. Before the winter set in it was plowed—the operation being a difficult one, in consequence of the tough sod and the roots of the bogs remaining in the ground. These operations involved an expense of about \$16. But, to balance the account, I had more than thirty loads of muck, of the best quality, from the open ditch, which was drawn up in the fall, and composted the following spring with barn-yard manure. In the autumn this was applied to the adjacent lot, and the result was a good crop of rye from a rather poor, gravelly soil.

I think that the increase of that *single crop*, considering the high price of grain last year, fully paid for the original outlay in the improvements I had undertaken.

In the spring of 1853 I undertook, myself, to cultivate a small corner—about the fourth part of an acre—of my reclaimed bog. The rest of the piece I assigned to a laboring man, on very liberal terms, on condition that he should thoroughly cultivate and subdue it. The season, however, in this region, was exceedingly wet, and from this cause, chiefly, he wholly neglected his portion after it had been planted with potatoes. The ground was neither plowed nor hoed, and, as might have been expected, the crop was a failure, and my land was a perfect wilderness of rank weeds. But not so the small portion which was properly cared for. Notwithstanding the unfavorable character of the season, the products of that little corner, in potatoes, &c., were worth at least \$12 over and above the cost of cultivation.

Nothing further was done with this piece of ground until about the first of July, last year, when I had it plowed. A peck and a half of buckwheat was sown upon the largest part of it, on the 6th of July. On the 22d of July I sowed the remainder with flat turnips and ruta-bagas. It proved to be too late for the latter. The flat turnips, however, grew finely. Notwithstanding the scorching drouth, which spoiled crops in the adjacent fields, in my muck ground vegetation advanced without any interruption. In precisely 30 days from the time of sowing, I gathered radishes from this ground one and a half inches in *diameter*. In the neighborhood, generally, buckwheat and turnips were a failure; but I harvested 11 bushels of buckwheat, and 60 bushels of turnips, notwithstanding the failure of my ruta-bagas. The

account with this piece of ground last year stood as follows:

DEBIT.	
To plowing and harrowing one day	\$2 00
To 1½ pecks of buckwheat, sown	0 38
To harvesting and threshing buckwheat	1 25
To harvesting turnips	0 50
Total	\$4 13
CREDIT.	
To 11 bushels buckwheat, at \$1 7 bushel	\$11 00
To 60 bushels turnips, at 37½ cents 7 bushel	22 50
	\$33 50
Deduct cost of cultivation	4 13
Leaving a clear profit of	\$29 37

from an acre which, before, was not only worthless, but a nuisance.

Having concluded last fall that my ground was not yet sufficiently drained, I employed a man to dig several small additional ditches, and to fill them with stones from the adjacent lot. This involved a new outlay of about \$7. But to set over against this, at the same time, I had the main ditch widened and deepened, and so obtained 40 loads of muck for my compost heap. This will more than pay for the fresh expense incurred.

I had the ground plowed again last fall, and this spring found it in fine condition. Preparatory to planting, some of the largest clods were gathered into heaps and *partially* burned, and then scattered. About two-thirds of the piece was then *immediately* marked out and planted with potatoes, broom corn, squashes, &c. This was done on the 15th of May. The remainder, I have sown with carrots, beets, onions, &c. My seeds generally have come up very well, but just now this piece of ground is suffering in some degree from an excess of moisture, the rains having recently been very frequent and copious.

I hope, with the ordinary blessing of Providence, to receive a large return for the labor bestowed upon this bit of reclaimed ground, the present year. It is my purpose to apprise you of the result.

I think it not unlikely that some of your readers will be disposed to regard this as a small matter, and unworthy of the space it occupies in your paper; but, what has been done on a small scale, may be done on a larger one; and if it is profitable to reclaim a single acre, it will be profitable to undertake the reclamation of a larger number.

A FRIEND OF IMPROVEMENT.

Ulster County, N. Y.

[We are pleased to get just such details. Our space can not be better occupied. They show what may be done, and how to do it.—Ed.]

A PHILANTHROPIC POTATO DEALER.—The Terre Haute (Ind.) American relates an anecdote of a canal boat captain who brought a load of potatoes to market at that place, which is well worth repeating:

He sold his potatoes at one dollar and twenty-five cents per bushel, when the price in the town had been all along two dollars and twenty-five cents. As soon as the speculators heard of his low price, one of them broke for the boat to buy the load. He offered to take the whole cargo at the captain's price, but that impracticable individual refused to sell, and thus lectured the speculator on the sin of "forestalling" the market: "Sir, I will not sell the potatoes to any

speculator or monopolizer—they were brought here for the use of persons with families, and not for gentlemen of your ilk."

For the American Agriculturist.

DISH-WASHING—HOW TO FIND A SAVING WIFE

"Dish-washing," by Minnie Myrtle, which appeared some weeks since, is a subject interesting to every family in our civilized country, where dish-washing goes on at least three times every day, from one year's end to another, with perhaps a few exceptions—as in case of "old bachelors," who are said to pack them away in the closet until next meal! just giving them a "dry wash." No fertile brain in New-England, or any where else, has yet invented a "dish-washer;" at least I could find no model of one in the Patent Office at Washington, and so we must go on the old way, washing by hand.

Minnie Myrtle begins altogether right. First the glasses, spoons and forks, and other silver, should be washed and rinsed, and nicely wiped on tea-cup towels; then have two tubs with clean, soft water, a perfectly clean dish-cloth in the rinsing water, and if you have no "draining box," do not wait for the carpenter to make one, but just get a large-sized raisin-box, knock out the bottom, and nail five or six laths lengthwise, using the lath-nails, as they will not cause them to split. Set the box on a sink, or waiter, to catch the water that drains off. When the plates are hastily passed through the hot water, after passing the clean cloth, or swab, over every one, place them in the box, letting them lean a little, and lapping over one another in the box until it is full. Take them out—they need no wiping; set them aside, and fill the box again, and soon all will be done.

Minnie never puts her knife-handles in the water; it ruins them. So it does. Just wash them, and wipe on a clean dish-cloth wrung out of hot water. She "hates brick-dust" to clean knives. Then let her take a little anthracite coal-ashes, wet a small bit of coarse linen, rub off the black spots, and then polish with dry ashes.

I agree with her about the milk-pails and pans, to be used for nothing else; and as to the bread-tray, we take an iron spoon and scrape off all that sticks fast before we finish kneading the bread, which is soon done, and prevents waste. To impress the minds of the girls I have "brought up," with the sin and folly of wasting, I tell them the story of the young man that wanted to marry a wife who would help him along in the world:

The first house he went to, the man offered to have the stranger's horse put in the stable, but he declined, saying he had "a queer horse, that would not eat any thing but the scrapings of the dough-trough." One of the girls said he could have plenty of that; and soon got him a bucketful. That was enough for him—she would not do. He went to another house, and said the same about the feed; but the young lady said his horse would have to do without the scrapings, as she never left any to waste. Here he let the farmer put up his horse and gave him oats. He found a saving wife.

CROPS IN ULSTER COUNTY, N. Y.—Rev. W. S. Moore of this County writes, under date of June 12:

"The weather with us is very cool, and the ground is completely saturated by the late frequent and very copious rains. Since the rains, winter grain has improved wonderfully. Early in the season the prospect for winter grain was very bad in this region.

Indeed not a few pieces were hopelessly injured by the winter. Where this was not the case, there is now the promise of a fair crop. Grass remains short and backward, and I fear that the hay crop will be defective. Oats are doing well. An unusual quantity of corn has been planted, but during the present cold and wet weather it is making little progress. Peach blossoms were generally killed in this section, but all other kinds of fruit promise well at the present time."

For the American Agriculturist.

CROPS IN WESTCHESTER, PA.

A BOY'S LETTER.

I am now at school, at the New-Castle Institute, a very good school, by the way, and I will tell you a little of the crops hereabouts.

From the present prospects, there will be large crops of both corn and wheat this season, for the late rains have placed wheat out of danger of a drouth. I hear a good many complaints of the fly, in our State, in wheat, and worms in corn; soon after the latter was planted it became very dry, and the cut-worms laid whole fields in ruin, and many were planted over.

Oats look well all over this part of the country, as far as I have seen or heard, and if we continue to have such copious showers, we will have large crops.

I hope that our brightest anticipations of an abundant harvest may be realized, for almost everything eatable is, or has been for months, extremely high. It need hardly be supposed that grain will go down to the old prices, until the termination of the war in Europe, and as the conflict is becoming every day more complicated, there are still encouraging prospects for the farmer, and every one should endeavor to put every acre of land into something. Any thing will pay in these times, when there are almost starvation prices. The demand must be supplied, and all depend upon the tillers of the soil. The fate of many depends upon the coming crops. I trust that the next winter will not find so many suffering families as there were last, and hope ample provision will be made by the laborer for any thing that may turn up, and make hay while the sun shines.

A DELAWARE FARMERS' SON.

MISSOURI CHALLENGES THE UNITED STATES,

A MAMMOTH FARM.

The undersigned, believing that their farm, situated seven miles south of St. Louis, Mo., is unequaled in point of variety, production and extent by any other in the United States, (though it has been in cultivation less than ten years,) challenge the whole Union to a competition for a grand Sweep Stake Premium on the following conditions:

Each person competing shall deposit Five Hundred Dollars, to be used as hereinafter specified.

Entries of farms to be made prior to August 1st, 1855.

A Committee to consist of one person from each State in which any farm or farms shall be entered shall be selected by the Governor of the respective States represented, whose duty, when so selected and notified by the Governor, shall be to proceed and visit each farm so entered during the months of September and October, and award the premium to the owner of the farm which shall excel in these particulars, viz:

Variety of Production;
Amount of Production; and
Extent of Surface Cultivated.

The premium shall consist of a service of plate, to be purchased with the money de-

posited by all the competitors after the expenses of the committee have been paid.

We are anxious to let the world know what has been, and what can be done west of the Mississippi River, and make this offer in good faith, and with a full determination to carry it out.

All necessary preliminary arrangements will be made in a liberal manner. Who will enter the list? Communications with reference to the above may be made directly to us at St. Louis, or to E. Abbott, Esq., Editor of the Valley Farmer, St. Louis, Mo.

Pledging ourselves that all such shall meet with prompt and respectful attention.

JOHN SIGERSON & BROTHER.

St. Louis, Mo., June 1, 1855.

Of the above farm we give the following particulars from the Valley Farmer:

The Sigerson farm is situated south of the river De Peres, in what is known as the Carondelet Common Fields, and consists of one thousand acres, all under fence and nearly all in cultivation. When the commencement was made there, about ten years ago, the whole tract was covered with a stout growth of black jack, hickory, hazle, &c. The Gravois runs through the entire tract, diagonally from south-east to north-west, affording abundance of water for stock. The ground is quite undulating and on it are found numerous sink holes, through which the water drains off by subterranean passages in the limestone ledge which underlies the whole section into the Mississippi river. The soil is a rich sandy loam, very deep, upon a clay sub-soil, and on being worked becomes very friable and is easily pulverized. It is admirably adapted to the growth of fruit and also, corn, wheat, potatoes—in fact everything cultivated in this region.

They have now an apple and peach orchard in bearing of over 160 acres, embracing some 40,000 trees; they have 5,000 pear trees in bearing, besides nectarines, apricots, cherries, plums, quinces, &c., in great numbers. They have 200 acres of meadow, 60 acres of wheat, the finest we have seen this season; 60 acres of oats; 100 acres devoted to the nursery, in which they have this year planted about five bushels of apple seeds, and thirty bushels of peach stones; they have in it 50,000 budded peach trees, which will be ready for sale this fall; a larger quantity of apples; 300,000 grape cuttings; 30,000 evergreens, besides large quantities of quinces, pears, &c., as well as ornamental and shade trees, roses, dahlias, and every variety of hardy and exotic flower and shrub. They have twenty-five acres of strawberries, from which they have daily gathered from one to two hundred gallons of fruit for two weeks past.

Besides supplying a large amount of fruit for the St. Louis market, the Messrs. Sigerson are intending this year to send large quantities to Chicago, Millwaukie, Galena, and other cities north of us. By our railroad facilities this can now be accomplished so as to contribute vastly to the comfort of our northern neighbors and be a source of profit to the enterprising men engaged in it. They expect to have from twenty to thirty thousand bushels of peaches to dispose of this season.

The force employed to carry on this vast concern, varies according to the season, from thirty to fifty men. They have residing on their place about eight men who have families, to whom they furnish a comfortable home, a garden plot, fire wood, pasturage for a cow, and pay them twenty dollars per month, the men boarding themselves. Single men are boarded by the proprietors and paid from twelve to fifteen dollars per month.

We were much interested in the appear-

ance of the giant growth of wheat in the midst of large trees; in the natural blue grass pasture; the nine miles of Osage Orange hedge, most of it a perfect barrier to all kinds of intruders; the magnificent evergreen hedge; the luxuriant clover, and, above all, the neatness and order characterizing the whole concern, in which respect a vast improvement has been made since our previous visits. Nor ought we to omit to mention the valuable stock belonging to the farm. We particularly noticed four two year's old heifers brought from Kentucky—animals that can not easily be beaten, also a pair of mares heavy with foal, which were really splendid animals. We noticed many other fine animals, which we can not particularize.

The Sigersons are firm believers in the efficacy of deep plowing and thorough cultivation, and act upon the principle that whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well; accordingly they put the plow down to its beam, and frequently put in the spade so as to pulverize fully two feet deep. The weeds are also, we notice, kept in subjection.

The success of this enterprise, so highly creditable to the proprietors, and of which our city and State has just cause to be proud, has demonstrated one thing from which the people of both the north and the south should receive instruction. It is often said by over-zealous persons at the north, who know but little about the actual condition of things in the Slave States, that white laborers can not live in a Slave community; that the tendency of the institution of slavery is to drive away all intelligent free laborers, &c., &c.; yet here is, in a slave State, the largest farm in the Union, and one which is making more money for its owners than any other, operated entirely by free labor, there never having been a slave employed on the place, and a better, more respectable and intelligent set of men can not be found employed in any place in the Union.

One thing more we would notice in concluding our remarks upon this establishment, and that is that over the entrance gate to the place is placed a sign to the effect that *no business visitors are admitted on the Sabbath*. The Scripture says, "They that honor me I will honor."

We would call the attention of those who think that this farm can be beat, to Messrs. Sigersons' proposition, which we hope will be extensively copied by our brethren of the press.

THE BOY FARMERS.—A Paris (Me.) paper tells a good story of two boys, one 13, and the other 11, who on account of the sickness of their father, was left to work the farm. They thoroughly plowed and cross-plowed three acres of rather rough ground, which they then sowed, and then harrowed it three times over. They also assisted in clearing one acre of new land, which was sown with wheat. It grew well especially that first sown, but at harvest the father being still sick, there was none to gather the grain but those two little lads. Having neither strength or skill to use the cradle, they grasped the sickle with a resolute hand, and reaping what they could each day, persevered until the whole four acres was thus harvested by them alone. The produce of this crop would command in market \$135, and they did a good deal of work on the farm beside. This shows what boys can do if they really set about it, and make work of work, and play of play—not trying to do both at once.

The study of the fashions is the only literature of many women.

In man's works, as in those of nature, the intention is the great thing to be studied.

For the American Agriculturist.

VITALITY OF SPANISH MOSS.

The number of *American Agriculturist* of May 10, page 137, under "Vitality of Spanish Moss," invites examination. I take the position as I have ever done, that this moss is strictly an air plant, that it derives no sap, nor "ex necessitate rei," from necessity, moisture from a growing tree or bark of a dead one. I inclose you two sprigs that you may be convinced. You will see the thread as it were, which attaches joints, is dead, yet from the joints may spring a live connecting link to next joint. If moisture or nourishment was necessary from trees or any substance on which it hangs, how does it pass through the dead moss—exactly like that of commerce if divested of covering, which you will see some of these are. These specimens came from a dead plum tree (native to our woods), and from a sprig not as large as my pen, hanging down two feet.

I have seen live moss on the worm fence, on tall stumps, limbs of trees, and on the *telegraph wire*—pretty near your idea of a "crowbar."

I believe it will soon die on dead timber, or iron, not because it does not receive its proper nourishment from them, but because exposed to the sun and drying winds; whereas, if in a shade as dense as growing trees, it would live. I have discussed this subject with our folks here, who have seen this moss daily all their lives, and have convinced them by demonstrations. M. W. PHILLIPS.

EDWARDS, MISS., May 25, 1855.

The specimens above alluded to were over two weeks on the way, and had become so dry that we could not distinguish the living from the dead portion, but we have seen large bunches of the moss hanging from trees where a foot or more of the portion next the supporting tree was to all appearance dead and dry. We have also seen large masses of living moss upon dead trees in the forests of Louisiana, and, some years since, had come to the conclusion that this was essentially an air plant, not dependent upon any other plant for sustenance. But we have recently conversed with those who have resided at the south, and had much better opportunity for observation than ourselves, who hold a contrary opinion. They contend that no plant can grow without a supply of mineral constituents. Where the supporting tree is dead, and the sap has ceased to circulate, and especially where the connecting part of the plant is dead, they believe that the decay of the lower portions of the moss supplies the living or growing part with the necessary mineral constituents.

This is an interesting question. Does this, or does any plant grow without the presence of mineral elements? We have seen no analysis of this plant. Does, or does not its hair-like or wiry thread depend upon silica, similar to what is asserted of the hair of animals, the external coating of straw, &c.? If our laboratory was now in operation, we would ask some one to send us a good *clean* specimen for analysis. The moss found in our market has been too much handled to furnish proper specimens for examination. Besides, its bark or outer covering has been removed. Will not some good chemist in one of the States where this plant grows, make a thorough examination, by burning

it to ascertain, whether it leaves an ash; and if it does leave one on burning determine its character? In the meantime we invite a further discussion of this subject, keeping in mind what is said of the decaying part as a source of mineral elements for the growing portions.

ACTIVITY IS NOT ALWAYS ENERGY.

There are men whose failure to succeed in life is a problem to their friends as well as to themselves. They are industrious, prudent, economical, yet all to no purpose; and after a long life of striving, old age finds them still poor. They complain of ill-luck. They say fate is always against them. But the truth is, they miscarry because they have mistaken mere activity for energy. Confounding two things essentially distinct, they have supposed that, if they were always busy, they would be advancing their fortunes. They have forgotten that misdirected labor is a waste of activity. The person who would succeed in life, is like a marksman firing at a target—his shots, if they miss the board, are but a waste of powder; to be of any service at all, they must tell in the bull's eye, or near. So, in the great game of life, what a man does must be made to count, or it may almost as well be left undone. The idle warrior, cut from a shingle, who fights the air on the top of a weather-cock, instead of being made to turn some machine commensurate with his strength, is not more worthless than the mere active man, who, though busy from sunrise to sunset, dissipates his labor on trifles, when he ought skillfully to concentrate it on some great end.

Everybody knows some one in his circle of acquaintances who, though always active, has this want of energy. The distemper, if we may call it such, exhibits itself in various ways. In some cases, the man has merely an executive faculty, when he should have a directing one; in other language, he makes a capital clerk for himself, when he ought to be doing the thinking of the business. In other cases, what is done is either not done at the right time, or in the right way. Sometimes there is no distinction made between objects of differing magnitudes, but as much labor is bestowed on a trivial affair as on a matter of vast moment. Energy, correctly understood, is activity proportioned to the end. Napoleon would often, when on a campaign, remain for days without taking off his clothes, now galloping from point to point, now detailing dispatches, now studying maps. But his periods of repose, when the crisis was over, were generally as protracted as his exertions had been. He has been known to sleep for eighteen hours on a stretch. Second rate men, your slaves of tape and routine, while they would come short of the great Emperor's superhuman labors, would have thought themselves lost beyond hope, if they imitated what they call his indolence. They are capital illustrations of activity, keeping up their monotonous jog-trot forever, while Napoleon, with his gigantic industry, alternating such apparent idleness, is as striking an example of energy.

We do not mean to imply that chronic indolence, if relieved occasionally by spasmodic fits of industry, is to be recommended. Men, who have this character, run into the opposite extreme from that which we have been stigmatizing, and fail as invariably of winning success in life. To call their occasional periods of application energy, is a sad misnomer. Such persons, indeed, are but civilized savages, so to speak, vagabonds at heart in their secret hatred of work, and only resorting to labor occasionally, like the wild Indian, who after lying for weeks about

his hut, is roused by sheer hunger, and starts off on a hunting excursion.

Real energy is persevering, steady, disciplined. It never either loses sight of the end to be accomplished, nor intermits its exertions while there is a possibility of success. Napoleon, in the plain of Champagne, sometimes fighting two battles in one day, first defeating the Russians, and then turning on the Austrians, is an illustration of this energy. The Duke of Brunswick, dawdling away precious time when he invaded France at the outbreak of the first revolution, is an example to the contrary. Activity beats about a cover like an untrained dog, never lighting on the covey. Energy goes straight to the bird.—*Cotton Planter*.

CUT FOOD—FEEDING COB MEAL, TURNIPS, &C.

At the stated meeting, (May 2nd,) of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, some discussion arose upon feeding. The following extracts we make from a report in the Philadelphia Florist :

Mr. C. W. Harrison * * The object in view ought to be well considered beforehand, whether it was to fatten, to improve the secretion of milk, or to keep our animals in a condition to produce the most perfect progeny, and the kind of food adapted accordingly. Not only was the kind but the state of the food important. Persons differed as to size of food, many preferred feeding cut hay, others recommended hay uncut, he inclined to the latter opinion. Uncut hay was longer retained by the animal, and its nutritious portions more fully extracted; he knew this was opposed to the general practice. When hay was fed with ground food it of course must be cut, or it would be wasted.

Mr. A. W. Spangler stated that all good practice, especially in England, was opposed to the views just expressed. The great complaint among stable-keepers and omnibus men was, that they could not obtain machines to cut short enough. The finer it was cut, the better, and less was trampled under foot.

Mr. Isaac Pearson had not used much cut hay, he fed with wheat chaff mixed with cut rutabaga turnips, and was well satisfied with the result.

Mr. Owen Sheridan carefully saved all his wheat chaff, and used it mixed with ground corn and cob. New horses sometimes refused it at first, but they soon became accustomed to it, and thrived on it.

Mr. John S. Haines had used ground cob and corn for twelve years. His mill ground the cob finer than the grain. He moistened his mixture before feeding with it.

Dr. Elwyn approved of cob food for both horses and cattle. The cob and grain ground up together. The plump condition of cattle thus treated attested their perfect health.

Dr. C. R. King objected to the opinion that cut hay was less perfectly digested because of its not being retained by the animal sufficiently long; with ruminating animals, this of course was impossible, and even with horses he thought the statement inadmissible. It was true economy to moisten cut food.

The Chair used Indian corn and cob ground together, soaking before grinding. His practice was to feed horned cattle with a large proportion of roots. He sowed down, all his cultivated ground as soon as possible after the removal of the summer crop, with turnips, the flat topped variety, which produces but little leaf. He gathered the turnips, leaves and all, threw the loads in rows on the barn floor and covered them with corn fodder, which in ordinary seasons keeps out the frost without earth covering; he begins

to use from one end of a row, closing up carefully. In course of time the small amount of tops may become a little slimy, but not to an extent sufficient to cause them to be refused by cattle. The advantage of a mixture of roots with the fodder had always been evident in the fine condition of the stock in the spring.

Mr. S. C. Willits had always found that turnips stored with the tops on, would heat and putrify. He did not regard turnips as a desirable food for stock, but rutabagas were much better than white turnips. The bulk of food was enormous; much of it was water.

Dr. King stated that the turnip contained principles which were not to be found in corn fodder and dry food. It was sometimes an advantage to enlarge the bulk of food, even if the increase in bulk were not digested.

Mr. Isaac Newton agreed with the last statement, the cob was not so nutritious as the corn, yet it was true economy to grind them and feed them together, the grain alone was too heating. The ground cob kept down fever.

MILLET CULTURE.

In 1851 I had a dairy of forty five cows, and having been obliged the year before to buy most of my fodder for a dairy of about the same number, I cast about to see if I could not find something that I could raise in the place of hay that I could keep my cows on, and keep them in good condition, and at the same time get a good supply of milk from them for market (as milk dairying was my business). I sowed corn and found it an excellent substitute; but to keep so many cows on it required too much labor, and after mid-winter it became too dry and harsh, and did not give much milk. In '51, I sowed four acres of millet (four quarts per acre) the 16th of June, and had as much fodder as from any eight acres of grass that year—and it was a good year for hay. I have raised from four to eight acres every year since, and have invariably had good crops of not only fodder or hay, or straw equal to as many tons of the best timothy hay, but from twenty to thirty bushels of seed to the acre, equal to as many bushels of corn to feed to any kind of domestic animals. I feed most of my seed, after having it ground, to milk cows, preferring it to Indian meal, as making more milk and of as rich quality. The last season I had six acres of millet which has been worth more than \$50 per acre, or \$300 for the six acres. I have fed thirty-five cows on the straw since the 25th of January, and have enough left to last until the 1st of May, and got 120 bushels of seed from the lot. The ripest of the seed, some sixty bushels, I have sold for seed, and the balance I am now feeding to my horses, and find they do as well on the meal put on cut hay and straw as they did when I fed an equal quantity of corn and oat-meal.

Now for the manner of raising it: I have raised it on green sward, turned over at my convenience any time in the fall or in the spring up to the time of sowing; I then harrow until mellow, then put on from twelve to eighteen quarts of seed per acre, and as much fine manure as I can spare, from five to fifteen good wagon loads per acre, and sow about the middle of June, and I am sure to have double the amount of hay that the same land in similar condition would produce in meadow. It will stand the drouth better than any other crop I ever raised; in fact, it wants hot, dry weather for it to grow in; if it is moist enough for it to come up, there is but little danger, as the last two years have proved. After the seed is sown and well dragged or cultivated, the ground

should be well rolled, as we get a good deal of dry weather about that time, and if not rolled it may be too dry for the seed to grow; but after it is once up, I think there is but little danger of the failure of a crop. The time of cutting that I have practiced is, as soon as I get through with my oats—say the last of August, or when about half of the heads have seed matured enough to grow. The stalk will be green and full of juice. I cradle it, let it lay one or two days to wilt, and stack it up as I do oats, put on a cap, and let it cure in the stack; it will then be as bright as the best toppings of corn, and any animal will eat it as readily as any other forage.—T. B. SHEPARD, in *Genesee Farmer*.

Horticultural Department.

BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

JUNE EXHIBITION.

The monthly exhibition of this active association was held, as announced, on Friday, the 15th inst. The display exceeded our expectations. We made our observations before the judges had examined the various articles, and of course could not get the names of the exhibitors. The premium list below will indicate the principal exhibitors. Of Roses, none could have asked for more of them, or for greater variety, or better arrangement. Of Fuchsias, we do not call to mind any better display that we have witnessed in this country. Several of these were shown by Mr. John B. King. There were quite a number of beautiful Gloxinias and Calceolarias, and also of Ixorias, including a large specimen of *Ixoria cocinia*. We noticed an excellent *Erica Bothwelliana* very large specimens of *Begonia argyrostigma*, *Eugenia Jambos*, *Stephenatos floribunda*, &c.

A large *Cissus discolor*, in excellent training, attracted a good deal of attention. The thorny *Euphorbia splendens*, with lingering specimens of its beautiful flowers, threw all we have said of Osage Orange for hedges into the shade, until we called to mind that our impenetrable flower-crowned fence would require the shelter of a heated, longitudinal crystal palace to protect it during winter. Were this a hardy plant, nothing could exceed it for hedging purposes, for a row of plants three feet distant from each other would defy the passage of man or beast.

There were not as many strawberries as we expected, but the half-dozen or so plates exhibited were magnificent. We measured a number of the berries, and found some of them four inches in the largest circumference, while the average size was not less than three inches. They were not named, but we believe the best specimens were the Iowa Mammoth and Scheeke's Staminee. Mr. John B. King, and E. Decker, (gardener to Mr. J. Q. Jones, of Staten Island,) were the only exhibitors whose names we learned.

Wm. Chorlton (gardener to Mr. J. C. Greene, of Staten Island,) had a very excellent show of hot-house grapes, consisting of eight varieties—Cannon Hall Muscat, Muscat Alexandria, Black Hamburg, Grizzly Frontignan, White Tokay, White Frontignan, Chasselas Fontainebleau, and Rose Chas-

selas. The clusters were very large of some of the first named, the Cannon Hall Muscat especially, were the finest clusters we have ever seen. We were sorry Mr. Chorlton did not have the expected opportunity of competing with several grape cultivators from Massachusetts and elsewhere.

Cauliflowers were represented by several large, well developed heads. We noticed two full plates of large gooseberries, one of cherries, &c. But we have not space for further particulars. The exhibition was well attended, especially in the evening, by an admiring and appreciative crowd of visitors. Such shows, occurring monthly, can not fail to develop and foster a taste for the pure and beautiful among all classes; and, when the Hunt Botanical Garden shall have got well under way, Brooklyn will stand at the head of the Horticultural cities on this continent.

PREMIUMS.

Plants in Pots.—Best seven hot and greenhouse plants in bloom, (a special premium by Thomas Hunt,) \$10; to Alexander Gordon, gardener to E. Hoyt. Second best seven, \$5; to Martin Collopy, gardener to J. H. Prentice. Best three Fuchsias \$3; to Alexander Frazer, gardener to D. Perkins and A. Large. Best four Calceolarias—a special premium by Mr. J. E. Rauch—\$3; to George Hamlin, gardener to W. C. Langley. Second best, \$2; to the same.

Fruits.—Best two bunches of hot-house Grapes, (white,) a special premium by M. Brandegee, \$3; to Wm. Charlton, gardener to J. C. Greenc. Best two bunches of hot-house grapes, (black,) a special premium by H. J. Brandegee \$3; to the same. Best dish of Strawberries, \$2; to E. Decker, gardener to J. Q. Jones. Best Cherries, one pound, \$1; Mrs. Devin. A special premium for the best Currants was awarded to E. Decker.

Vegetables.—Best display of Vegetables, E. Decker. Special premiums to Alexander Gordon and Martin Collopy.

Cut Flowers.—Best display of Cut Roses—a special premium—by Thos. Hunt, \$5, M. Donadi, florist, Astoria. Second best display of Cut Roses, \$3, Daniel Ball, florist, New-York. Best 12 varieties Perpetual Roses, \$5, Donadi. Second best do. do., \$2, Henry Hudson, gardener to Fred. Griffin. Best 12 varieties Bengal, Bourbon, Tea and Noisette Roses, \$3, Donadi. Second best do. do. do. do., \$2, Geo. Hamlyn. Best 12 varieties Moss and other Hardy Roses, not named, \$3, James Weir, florist, Bay Ridge. Second best do. do. do., \$2, Donadi. Best basket of Flowers, a special premium by A. J. S. Degrauw, \$5, Richard Renton, florist, Erocklyn. Second best do., \$3, Wm. Pointer, florist, Brooklyn. Best pair Hand Bouquets, a special premium by W. S. Dunham, \$5, Miss Maggie Dunham, daughter of W. S. Dunham. Best Parlor Bouquet, \$3, James Weir. Second best do., \$2, D. Murphy, gardener to J. I. T. Stranahan.

We did not obtain the list of special premiums of which there were several we believe.

Jeremiah Mason said, "Unless a man occasionally tax his faculties to the utmost, they will soon begin to fail." President John Adams said to Mr. Quincy, who found him reading Cicero, "It is with an old man as with an old horse; if you wish to get any work out of him, you must work him all the time." These two rules, so far as intellect is concerned, contain the secret of a green and vigorous old age.

PARKS IN THE CITIES OF NEW-YORK.

THE GREAT CENTRAL PARK.

When the time shall come that enterprising men on the desert shall inclose one of the oases for a pleasure ground, there will be a propriety in designating it as—Mungo Park. Before adventure and enterprise shall have gone thus far, the labors of our commissioners will have been completed, and this city will possess a park, one that will realize all that its friends have uttered in favor of the project, and one at which howsoever heartily this generation may scold, the New-York of the next century will prize beyond any other remembrance of our day. The eminent and honorable gentlemen who are now engaged in the labor of averaging the titles and conveyances necessary for adjustment, before the people shall possess their own, are of those whose highest object it is to do that important work so well that their names shall be identified with its complete success. Gov. Bradish, to whom all the pleasure grounds of European cities are familiar, means that this emerald, in rock-settling, shall be worthy of admiration even from those to whom the great parks of London and Vienna are familiar.

And strange it is, that only in New-York, in the great Metropolis, where land has value, so that a ward could almost be suitable barter for a western State sovereignty as it is, only in this costly latitude has there been any effort to form a park. It is a truth which is sadly proved by looking over our sister cities. Brooklyn is not enumerated, because that is so soon to be a section of New-York as to be included in it; and even Brooklyn, or its latest annexation, Williamsburgh, has but scanty thought of furnishing the future. There was commotion enough made concerning Washington park, in its inception, to frighten from further effort for a century. The dead in Brooklyn offer amid their marble record the scenes that soothe even while they sadden.

Albany took a clay hill, tough, dark, blue clay, and by coaxing the State, which in those days was as penurious as upon similar requests it would now be princely, and by teasing the owners of adjacent lots, who were incredulous as to future value—by all this, by bringing soil thither, sand and loam, even as the earth was brought to the vineyards of Metternich, in panniers on the backs of men and women—in this way, what are called the Capitol park and the Academy park have been formed.

Admirable success has attended the effort at foliage, and in mid-summer even the Capitol itself is secluded behind the luxuriant trees. No park work has been done under greater disadvantages, for a more black plain of clay than was this in the commencement, could not be found. It was the favorite place for the summary hangings of Collonial and Revolutionary days. Political strangulation now takes place within the walls of the Capitol.

But in truth, Albany has no park, for the whole area of its open grounds would not be thought excessive for the lawn of a gentleman's country house; nor is its energetic neighbor, Troy, more favored.

And as for Schenectady, unless the domain of Dr. Nott be so designated, it has nothing but its streets—one or two of them rural and quiet enough for a meditative man's musings. There is, it is true, a noble promenade near the College, and beneath the grove adjacent I have heard, while a superb sunset was kindling the western sky with peculiar splendor, the words of eloquence from Wright, and Doane, and Potter, and Spencer, such as Oxford might have aroused itself to hear.

Has Utica a Park? It has fine broad av-

nues, and there is space and verge enough for the pure rushing of the life-breathing winds; but since the day of Fort Schuyler even until now, when so many prosperous thousands gather around the old Fort's site, I can not find that there have been spared from the builder any extent of pleasure grounds.

And it is even thus of Auburn—more excusable here, however, as so much of pleasant gardens surround these pleasant homes, so that in visiting the elegant dwellings of Governor Seward, and Mr. Christopher Morgan, and others, the transition is easy from the ornament of the house to the luxuriance of the field.

Rochester has near to its Cemetery with such admirable judgement placed in such ease of approach as that it may find the step of the wanderer easy of access, even from the town's busy center—and here there is beauty of rural form, and space abundant; but yet it is among the tombs. In and about its dwellings of the living, Rochester has reserved but little, if any, of open area.

That city of Inland Seas—Buffalo—most like New-York in all its commercial movements, has been so accustomed to consider every foot of ground precious, that it has forgotten that there is a time to breathe and rest, as well as to labor. It has noble opportunity for pleasure ground and park upon the water side, so that the whole panorama of the lake and its commerce would be in view. Nor is it yet too late for such good work to be done, and taste, and opulence and enterprise are finding permanent home in this great Western City.

London has held its great parks since the days of that termagant old king—Harry the VIII—a monarch who scolded out more good than other sovereigns now by persuasion. When Hyde belonged to the Abbot of St. Peter, it may have rejoiced the demure dwellers of his monastery at Westminster, but it did not promise much for the people. It was fortunate for the citizens of the World's Metropolis that this Eighth Harry was not so intently occupied with brief love and quicker anger of the Katherines, but that he liked the chase of partridge, and pheasant, and heron, so well, that he preserved for his hunt, the parks.

A simple taste, and a less royal lineage, must secure our own great park. It shall be the gift of this century of New-Yorkers to the next, for it will be by the long and slow, but inevitable process of many years, that hill-side, and vale, and plain, an terrace, and mound, shall be shadowed by the huge and brave trees. When it shall have been declared officially, the park, then comes its severe trial, for then shall issue out upon it all manner of experimenters and essayists in landscape.

I have already heard it declared that there must be a general leveling of all the rocks! Doubtless the crags must be crushed, afterwards to be rebuilt, as did our romantic neighbor of the Bowling Green, piles of very ludicrous shelvings. Perhaps there may be good sense to save this great area of surface from invasions of men, who, not being able to see what is really beautiful, go to work to create it. Let not our new park be included among the spoils.

With due humility towards our associate, venturing on a field he has won so well, I would ask our Honorable Commissioners Bradish, Kent, and their worthy associates, to let us remember them as Anthony uttered of Cæsar:

"—all his walks,
His private arbors, and new planted orchards,
On that side Tiber, he hath left them you
And to your heirs forever, common pleasures
To walk abroad and recreate yourselves"

[SENTINEL, in N. Y. Courier & Enquirer.

THE APPLE BORER.

The impression has been prevalent, especially at the West, that little need be feared from the Apple Borer. And for this reason among others, this apparently insignificant insect, has been stealing a march on us, which has resulted in great damage. We learn from different quarters that its ravages have been terrible.

A few facts may serve to put this matter fairly before the fruit growers among our readers.

In the fall of 1854, a gentleman of our acquaintance, an amateur in gardening, remarked to a friend that nearly one-half of his apple-trees were attacked, and that several of them were past cure. He advised his friend to look about the roots of his trees, and see whether they were not infested too. His friend followed his advice, but found none. This spring, however, the friend examined his trees more carefully, and found to his dismay, a large proportion of his apple-trees seriously damaged. He found too, that beyond all doubt, the borer had begun its ravages years ago, and that they had multiplied greatly in his trees, while he was congratulating himself on his imaginary exemption from them.

Another fact shows the same state of things. A nurseryman, doing an extensive business in a neighboring county, found, on examining his young apple-trees this spring, that in some parts of his grounds, eight in ten of all of them were hopelessly ruined by the borer.

Another gentleman has told us that a considerable number of his young apple-trees, and some mountain ash-trees on his grounds are greatly injured or lost, in the same way.

These facts and many others like them should startle every one who has planted a tree, and who would not have his hopes blasted in consequence of inadvertence or misinformation. We must give battle to this insidious and destructive insect at once, or thousands of dollars of loss will be suffered by the nurserymen, and fruit-growers of the West, in a very short time. Indeed, we think we should not be far wrong, were we to say that among the fifty thousand readers of the Farmer, thousands of dollars have been already lost, within the last three years by the ravages of the borer.

If these things are so, our readers will permit us to make a few remarks on the natural history of the borer; and on some other matters which may throw light on the best mode of resisting its attacks. The season too, is at hand when the insect commences its work of destruction; and it seems peculiarly fit that attention should be turned to the matter now.

What is the Borer? The borer is the larva, or grub which is hatched from the egg of a beetle, belonging to the family of Buprestidæ, or Buprestians. The beetle itself is about half an inch long, with brown and white stripes, and flies at night.

When does it lay its Eggs? In the latter part of May, and first part of June, it pierces the bark of the tree with its spear, and deposits its eggs under the bark. This it does near the root of the tree, in perhaps the greater number of cases, especially in small trees. Indeed some writers, whose observations seem to have been confined to one or two classes of operations performed by the beetle, state that it deposits its eggs only at the root of the tree. This is a mistake. We have dug them within the last few weeks, from all parts of the trunk, from the ground to the branches; they seem to have a special liking for those parts of the tree which are decayed. On the south-west side of the tree where the sun has scorched the bark or the wood beneath; also where the bark has been

bruised by cattle, or in any other way; also where the tree is naturally weak, and shows signs of early withering and death—wherever any or all these inducements are offered, the beetle seems quite ready to accept the invitation, and make its investment. Let no one imagine, therefore, that his trees are free from the borer, because he finds none about the roots; let him examine all parts of the trunk carefully and especially the weak, wounded or decayed parts. He may find them in any of these portions of the tree.

Appearance of the grub, and way of doing its work. The egg seems to be hatched by the natural warmth of the season. The appearance of the grub is the following: It is whitish in color, with large head and body, whose diameter is about half that of the head, and whose length is about four times that of the head; its general shape resembles that of a tadpole. We have seen them of different sizes, from half an inch to more than an inch long. Their ravages are committed in getting their food, which is the inner bark of the tree, and the tender wood. Sometimes they feed on the solid wood, especially in small trees. They are furnished with a strong pair of jaws, with which they eat their way along, leaving behind them a thin track of powder like sawdust; they may be easily followed by these signs, when they confine their operations to the surface-wood. They may remain in the tree several years, before they emerge in the form of the beetle; for it is in the tree that they get their entire growth. In small trees they often penetrate to the very heart of the trunk, and seem to burrow there for the winter. We have dug them out of such hiding places, which they found in some beautiful Tallman Sweetings, that were utterly destroyed by them.

How have they found their way to our orchards? They seem to follow the process of improvement, and to keep pace with the planting of trees and shrubbery of all kinds. They appear to go from the older portions of the country, to the more newly improved regions, making a few miles progress every year; we are inclined to think that they can spread quite rapidly, by the transportation of young trees from distant nurseries. Within a few weeks past, grubs have been taken from apple-trees which were taken from a Rochester nursery in the spring of 1854. These grubs were so large that the idea was at once suggested that they must be more than a year old; this became almost certain, when these huge grubs were compared with some others, taken from trees near by, which were very small, though found where they might have had a rapid growth. It behooves us to look well to the trees we buy; we do not know certainly, that nurserymen can detect the presence of the grub, in all cases; but we think it can be ascertained whether the tree has been stung. If so, all buyers have the right to claim of sellers that no damaged articles be offered them.

How shall we resist the Borer? In all ways; no one thing will do the whole work; under the head of prevention, we would suggest several things:

1. Buy none but sound trees; sound, we mean, in every sense; trees of vigorous growth, of fine roots, of unbroken bark, and that never have been stung by the beetle.

2. After setting the trees out carefully, protect them from the attacks of the beetle, by washing them with the following preparation: To two quarts of soft-soap, add half a pound of sulphur, and dilute the mass till it is as thin as paint, by pouring in strong tobacco-water. The tobacco-water may be prepared by breaking up fine, two ounces of strong tobacco, and pouring on two or three quarts of soft warm water, and letting it stand two or three days before the wash is

made; apply the wash with an old broom freely to the trunk and lower branches, after the rough bark has been scraped off. Make one application about the middle of May, and another about the first of June. It is said the beetle will not touch a tree that has thus been treated.

3. Before the weather becomes very hot, we think the trees should be well white-washed with lime, or protected from the sun by a board, or by wrapping a wisp of straw or hay round the portions most exposed to the heat. White does not absorb heat as darker colors do. If the trees are white-washed, and one of the other covers for the young trees are used, very few, we think, will be injured; always supposing that the preventives mentioned first, are faithfully employed.

4. A little circle of ashes should be placed at the root of the tree close around the collar. This, it is believed, will prevent the beetle from disturbing the tree at that point, if it be done early enough in the season.

How shall we destroy the Borers we have? In the case of trees that have been seriously injured, we can say nothing better, than that they should be pulled up, root and branch, and the part that contains the grubs destroyed. If they have been but little hurt, the grubs should be carefully extracted and killed, and the wounds covered with grafting wax or shell-lac, and the tree washed as above suggested.

If young trees have been much punctured, we believe they had better be destroyed at once. It will be of little use to try to save them; and if they do live, they would be weak and nearly worthless.

We repeat, that the trees already infested, should be treated with the wash mentioned above, after the grubs have been taken out. This would, it is hoped, prevent their return.

We have made our remarks on this topic longer than we designed. But we can not close without begging all our nurserymen, and fruit-growers, to attend to this matter speedily. They may avoid great disappointment, by prompt attention to the trees and shrubs, this year. They may suffer great loss and subsequent discouragement, by neglecting it for one month longer.—Ohio Farmer.

How to Get Rid of Rats.—I see in your last paper, what is called an "effectual method for destroying rats," which reminds me of a story too good to be lost.

A few years ago, an intelligent farmer of Western N. Y., who bestowed more attention on his mind and stock than on his outward appearance, called for dinner at one of the principal hotels in Canandaigua, then, and perhaps still, kept as the fashionable house.

His dress not being, in the opinion of the landlord, of the right cut and fit to entitle the wearer to a seat at the boarders' table, "a cold cheek" was placed on a separate table for the stranger, in the barroom. While eating his scanty allowance, the landlord and his barroom friends were discussing the best method of getting rid of rats, with which the landlord said his house was much infested.

Having finished his cold collation, he inquired for his bill, which was fifty cents. On paying it, he said to the landlord, he could tell him an effectual method of ridding his house of the varmints, and for one dollar, would do so. This the landlord readily paid.

"Now," said the stranger, "the first time a rat calls at your tavern for something to eat, you give him a cold cheek in the barroom, and charge him fifty cents for it, and I'll be blowed if he will ever trouble your house again."

L. V. B.
Ohio Farmer.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, June 21.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

CLAY AS A MANURE.

ALL kinds of plants draw their principal food from the air through the medium of the leaves. The food collected by the leaves is carried down by the circulating sap to the different parts of the plants where it is wanted. This sap is gathered from the soil through open mouths (spongioles) upon the ends of the fine rootlets, and ascends through the inner wood, or central portions of the plant stalk, thence circulates through the leaves, gathering the food there collected, and descends through the outer wood, or external portions of the stalk, depositing the food where it is needed to increase the bulk of the plant.

The amount of food collected by the leaves depends upon the extent of leaf-surface, and upon the continual change of air, so that fresh supplies of food may be furnished as fast as one portion of the air is exhausted. On this account it is probable that plants grow faster during gentle winds, than when the air is calm and comparatively motionless. But it matters not how large may be the leaf-surface, nor how great may be the supply of food furnished by the air, the plant will not grow rapidly if there is not an abundant supply of circulating sap to carry this food to the points where it is needed. Much of the sap that ascends is evaporated from the surface of the leaves, and in dry weather it often happens that nearly all the moisture collected by the roots is thus lost, and, as a consequence, the plant languishes, or is literally starved to death.

This view of the subject teaches an important practical lesson, viz—that careful attention should be given to furnishing an abundance of sap by a well-developed system of roots. These roots should go down into the soil far enough to be beyond the reach of the sun's drying effect. To accomplish this, the soil must be stirred deeply to admit the air. In most soils freely circulating air is necessary to destroy or change poisonous substances. But of this we do not propose here to speak. We will now only refer to the

Mechanical structure of the soil, as relates

to its fineness or coarseness. The sap-absorbing roots of all plants are exceedingly small—so small that they can not be seen by the unaided eye. When we pull up a stalk of corn, for instance, we only draw up the larger, stronger roots. There is left behind, by a single stalk, millions of tender rootlets, which can only be found by long-continued and careful washing of a portion of the soil, and the use of a magnifying glass.

The practical point we are aiming at is, that these sap-absorbing roots are *so very small*, that they can not grow in any situation where there is not a sufficiency of very fine, impalpable soil, to afford a medium for their growth. Small roots, large enough to be visible to the eye, can not grow in a medium composed wholly of gravel stones. But fine sand grains are much larger compared with sap-absorbing rootlets, than are gravel-stones the size of chestnuts compared with roots no larger than a cambric needle.

The adaptability of a soil to the growth of these fine rootlets, and, in a great measure, its fertility, depends upon the amount of impalpable material—that is, earthy substances so fine that when rubbed between the fingers there is no perception of roughness. We know that common clay is such a substance as this. It feels smooth, or salvy, so to speak, when rubbed in the hand.

It is on this account, that we often find clay one of the very best fertilizers that can be added to a sandy soil. The particles of sand making up such a soil are too coarse to furnish a medium of growth to the sap-absorbing rootlets. The addition of the fine clay particles supplies the want.

To test any soil in reference to this point, take a portion and put it into a vessel; add four or five times its bulk of water; stir well; let it stand two or three minutes; then pour off the water into a clean tin or glass vessel, and let it stand perfectly still for a few hours, or till it becomes quite clear. If there does not settle to the bottom of this water a considerable portion of fine, impalpable earthy material, equal in weight to from one-twentieth to one-tenth of the original soil, we may safely conclude that it does not contain enough of fine soil to support the sap-absorbing rootlets of any plant. Manures added to such a soil may stimulate the growth of a greater length of root, and lead them to a greater distance in search of moisture; but the most feasible means of improvement is, to bring about a change in the mechanical structure. Frequent stirring and exposure to the air and frost, which disintegrate the coarser particles and furnish more of the fine material, are beneficial; but we believe the most rapid and, in the end, the most economical improvement of such soils, is to add to them a liberal supply of fine clay.

We venture the opinion, that on any sandy soil, or even on sandy loam, a few loads of fine clay thoroughly mingled with it will, in the course of a few years, produce more marked effects than half as many loads of the best organic manure. When clay is so added, it remains a *permanent* improvement,

unless the soil is subjected to running water that will wash out the clay again.

The amount of clay that may be profitably added to any soil, will depend upon its present necessity or physical condition. On many soils ten loads of clay per acre will show a marked effect, while on most sandy fields one or two hundred loads per acre will be found a most profitable outlay. We earnestly advise those who have light, coarse, or sandy fields, with clay accessible, to ponder this subject well, and to try a portion, at least, with a good admixture of CLAY AS A MANURE.

STATE AND COUNTY SHOWS.—We invite all officers of State and County Societies in the different States, who have not yet done so, to send us, without delay, the times and places of their next exhibitions; that we may make out our list as early and as complete as possible. Direct to *American Agriculturist*, New-York City.

VIRGINIA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This Society is actively preparing for the third annual exhibition, to be held at Richmond, from the 30th of October to the 2d of November inclusive. We think the managers are wise in deferring the exhibition to a later season than usual, for the farmers will, at that time, have so far completed their fall work as to be able to devote a week to this interesting festival. The prosperous financial condition of the Society enables the managers to offer a large list of liberal premiums. Some of the special premiums are of general interest. They offer \$100 to the first individual establishing and maintaining for six months a factory for tubular draining tiles, on the most approved plan; and a like sum for the best drained farm, including extent of surface drained, profitableness, &c.; \$50 each for the best practical methods of eradicating or checking wire grass (*Cynodon Dactylon*), and wild garlic; \$30 each for most successful management of water meadows—not less than 15 acres—and best plan of preserving wheat from time of harvest until sent to market.

The most noteworthy premium, however, is \$1,000, for the discovery of some efficient and available remedy, such as may be judiciously used by farmers, to secure the wheat crop against the ravages of the joint-worm; to be tested in such manner as may be satisfactory to the committee, and to be presented in time to be tested in the next crop, or longer, if necessary.

One half of this premium is offered by the Society, and one half by Messrs. Wm. Boulware, Ph. St. Geo. Cocke, Edmund Ruffin, Lewis E. Harvie, Wm. G. Crenshaw, and F. G. Ruffin.

THE PUTNAM COUNTY (N. Y.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its next exhibition at Carmel, September 18th and 19th. We notice that special premiums of \$50 and \$20 are offered for Essays on the Defects in the present system of farming in the County. This is an excellent idea, and we should be glad to see the same plan adopted by every

other agricultural society in the country. The officers of this Society for the present year are,

President—Thos. B. Arden, Philipstown.
Vice Presidents—Leonard D. Clift, Carmel; John M. Towner, Patterson; C. Townsend, Kent; James E. Kelley, Southeast; Ezekiel Hyatt, Putnam Valley; H. A. Pelton, Philipstown.

Secretary—G. M. Belden, Carmel.
Treasurer—Saxton Smith, Putnam Valley.

THE DELAWARE COUNTY (PA.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its next annual exhibition at Media on the 20th, 21st and 22d days of September. The officers of the Society are,

President—Joshua P. Eyre.
Vice Presidents—James Andrews, C. Harvey, A. C. Eckfeldt, Wm. Eyre, Jr.
Directors—H. L. Tyler, Thomas Pratt, David Trainer, Patrick Galligher, Perciphor Baker, Townsend Speakman, Nat. Garrett, John Miller, Jas. Irving, A. P. Morgan.
Treasurer—George Sharpless.
Recording Secretary—George Drayton.
Assistant Rec. Sec'y—Jackson Lyons.
Corresponding Sec'y—Y. S. Walter.

THE CLARK COUNTY (OHIO) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its autumnal show at Springfield, on the 3d, 4th and 5th days of October. Persons from all parts of the United States are allowed to compete for the premiums on stock of all kinds, and Clark County challenges the United States! The officers of the Society are,

President—Wm. Hunt, Moorefield.
Vice President—Jacob Peirce, Madison.
Treasurer—W. S. Field, Springfield.
Recording Sec'y—L. H. Oids, Springfield.
Cor. Sec'y—S. G. Moler, Springfield.

THE OAKLAND COUNTY (MICH.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its next annual exhibition at Pontiac, October 17th and 18th. The premiums are quite large for a County Society. The officers of the present year are,

President—James Bailey.
Recording Secretary—Jos. R. Bowman.
Corresponding Secretary—Z. B. Knight.
Treasurer—S. E. Beach.

THE PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY for promoting Agriculture will hold its next annual exhibition at Powelton, (XXIVth Ward of Philadelphia,) on the 12th, 13th and 14th days of September next.

TUBS, BUCKETS, KEGS AND FIRKINS, AT LAW.

When articles which are to be sold by weight are sent to market in boxes, barrels, casks, kegs, firkins, &c., it is customary to mark each package with the gross weight, and the tare, and sometimes with the net weight, though the net weight is frequently left to be calculated at each time of sale. The *tare* is the weight of the packing box, barrel, or firkin; the gross weight is that of the entire package, including the box, barrel, &c.; and the net weight is that of the article sold, which is obtained by subtracting the tare from the gross weight.

There is in New-York State a law requiring that "firkins," in which butter or lard is packed, shall have the *tare* stated on each,

or the seller can not legally collect the proceeds of the sale. In a recent suit for a quantity of butter in buckets and kegs, the defense set up was, that the tare was not marked. The case was appealed to the Superior Court, in this City, where it was decided that such a law as this should be construed *literally*; and as the law only named "firkins," it should not be made to apply to buckets, kegs, &c., and the plaintiff recovered the price of his butter.

There are few butter buyers so contemptibly small as to avoid payment by such a flimsy pretext; but, to be perfectly secure against all such Shylocks, it will be best for all persons packing butter, to weigh the keg or tub and distinctly mark the tare thereon; and as a still further security against any accidental or willful erasure of this mark, it will be safer to drop the word "firkin" altogether, and sell butter, lard, &c., by the keg, bucket or tub.

FALSE RECOMMENDATION OF A HOUSE.—At the same Court a case came up on appeal, where a tenant having leased a house, found that, contrary to the recommendations, it was damp, infested with cockroaches, &c. The plaintiff sought to recover one quarter's rent, on the ground that the defendant had occupied it nearly all of that time and then moved out. The jury had found that as the defendant had been compelled to move out and seek another home, for the reasons stated, he was not liable for any rent. The Superior Court affirmed the verdict of the jury, deciding for the defendant. Let landlord's take care how they recommend their tenements hereafter.

THE TRIAL OF MOWERS.—We have full notes of the Trial of Mowers at Bedford, on the 15th and 16th inst., but await the Report of the Judges before writing them out for publication. A report of a *part only of one day's* trial, appeared in the Tribune of the 16th inst., which was extremely incorrect and unfair. We intend noticing this more at length hereafter.

For the American Agriculturist

A CARD.

The Committee of Arrangements appointed by the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of Westchester County to superintend the Trial of Mowers, which was held on the farm of Mr. A. F. Dickinson, on the 15th and 16th inst., beg leave respectfully to state, that it was mainly owing to the indefatigable industry and the liberality of Mr. Dickinson, that they were enabled to perform the duties assigned them. He placed at the disposal of the Committee any amount of grass that they might need, and also furnished abundant refreshments for the occasion.

The Committee desire, in this public manner, to tender their *grateful acknowledgments* to Mr. A. F. Dickinson, and to all others in his neighborhood who so generously assisted in getting up and carrying out the arrangements for the trial.

In behalf of the Committee,
HENRY KEELER, Chairman.

WARTS OF COWS' TEATS.—The editor of the Maine Farmer says he has cured warts on the teats of *dry* cows, by touching them

with lunar caustic (nitrate of silver), but thinks it very difficult to do any thing with them while the cows are in milk.

PERENNIAL RYE GRASS.—The Progressive Farmer says, in regard to the pasture lot of Mr. G. W. Colman, our informant states that this lot contained some eight acres, and had been in grass from 1832 to 1851. During that time it had never been manured, though it had the advantages of the road wash, and also some fertilizing material from an adjoining slaughter house. The regular number of cows pastured on this lot was *forty*, and when less than thirty were taken, the lot was divided, and a portion of it cut for hay. Mr. C. states that he has seen cattle from the mountain, so improved in appearance after two weeks' pasturage, that their owners could not recognize them. The pasture season always commenced with the first of May, and lasted until frost.

A BIRD'S NEST.—A foreign paper says, that on shearing a Leicester ram, the shearer found a wren's nest beautifully constructed in the wool just over the shoulders, which had every appearance of having been built there by the bird itself. We are not informed whether there were any eggs in it.

For the American Agriculturist.

A TRIP TO WEST-BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

BY ELLIE HOWARD.

A lovely morning succeeded the dark, rainy night, and, weary of the city's turmoil, my friend and I took the stage for the Jersey City Ferry, on our way to West Bloomfield, N. J. It was early, and the ride down Broadway was not, as in some parts of the day, a journey performed at the risk of losing—your patience, if not your life. Barnum's "Baby Show" was at its height, and mammoth flags of stars and stripes, with the "National Baby Show" appendage, extended from the Museum across Broadway, flaunting and flapping in the wind.

From Jersey City to Newark the scenery is pleasant. Large tracks of meadow-land lie on either side of the iron pathway, and through this extensive valley meanders the turbid Hackensack, while on every side, in the distance, rise verdure-crowned hills, dotted with white farm-houses. Now we catch a glimpse of the Passaic, and anon the iron horse neighing defiantly is prancing over the firm bridge above its clear waters. A few moments longer and we are in the city of Newark, a quiet, prosperous looking town of about fifty thousand inhabitants. Our friend, Rev. Mr. C—, of Hill-side Seminary, always prompt to the moment, is awaiting our arrival, and we enjoy a pleasant drive through the main street of the city, while the different churches, the new market, the iron bridge, and other objects of interest are pointed out to us by our attentive friend.

Again we find ourselves in the country, the fresh, bright, beautiful country. How different this air, laden with the breath of flowers, from the sickening atmosphere of the pent-up city! Strange infatuation which induces people to remain in New-York who can afford to live elsewhere!

Along the fine McAdamized turnpike, leading from Newark to West Bloomfield, are extensive quarries of brown freestone, which is removed in immense blocks to adorn the palaces of New-York. The materials for Trinity church came from these quarries.

Hastening on, over hill and dale redolent with beauty, we soon reach East Bloomfield. This is a quiet coezy little village, remarkable for nothing except its Educational Institutions, having two seminaries for boys and one for girls.

A mile or two further on is West Bloomfield, another small village, less populous but more picturesque than its twin sister. West of this village lies a range of hills, or rather miniature mountains, rising about five hundred feet above the Passaic. This range is covered from base to summit with most luxuriant verdure. Far up the heights, to the right of the road we are now traveling, stands MOUNT PROSPECT SEMINARY, a large showy building, occupied as a school for boys. A more healthy location could scarcely be found. This large, tasteful mansion, built at the base of the mountain ridge, is the residence of our friends. It is a newly established Seminary for young ladies, and is appropriately named Hill-side Seminary.

A welcome greets us, so cordial that it brings back the happy past too vividly for perfect composure. Oh memory! hast thou most of joy or sorrow for the human heart?

Rested and refreshed, we have broken away from the parlor circle, and stand, telescope in hand, on the roof of Hill-side Seminary. What a beautiful view is spread out before us! Far away across the plain and beyond the blue waters of the Hudson, New-York is plainly discernable. Yonder, to the left, in the dim distance, are the Palisades, and nearer, just there, rises the bold bluff from whence Washington daily and nightly watched the movements of the British army, when Sir Henry Clinton held possession of New-York. All over the vast plain before us lie towns and villages embowered amid nature's renewed verdure. To-morrow, when we stand on Eagle rock, ah, then we shall see!

Eagle Rock! "What mountain-peak worth climbing, can be found in New-Jersey?" There it is, standing up, in firm, but not very bold defiance, amid the mass of living green that crowns the mountain range. To-morrow we shall see! We have ransacked every nook and corner of this Hill-side house, as only the most privileged friends may, and find it commodious, airy, and well adapted to the purpose for which it was built. Is it strange that Mrs. N. and I should think of the beautiful but fragile city flowers in New-York, and wish we could transplant many of them hither to enjoy the fresh invigorating air, the bright sunlight, and the loving genial educational influences of our friends, the Cheever family?

"The morn is up again, the dewy morn,
With breath all incense, with cheek all bloom,
Laughing the clouds away with playful scorn,
And living as if earth contained no tomb—
And glowing into day."

Away, away to the mountains, while the dew is yet on the grass, the leaves, and the flowers. This cool, invigorating air, how it quickens the sluggish life-blood; how it brings the sparkle to the eye, and the rose to the cheek! There is a beauty in this ever-changing scenery which enchants us!

We begin the ascent of the mountain, but it is so gradual, and the carriage-road so smooth, that we quite forget where we are, till our "bonnie steed" manifests symptoms of fatigue.

Whoa! Now for a climb! On, on, up, up, we go, still so gradually, so charmed with the thousand beauties around us, that only by looking down can we realize how high we are above the dwellers in the plain. What is this on the tip top of the mountain? The queerest, most attractive dwelling you ever saw? The front is round, not unlike a light house tower in form, and built of freestone.

On the top of its steep, bark-covered roof, is an observatory, surrounded by a rustic ballustrade. There is an oblong addition to this front inclosed and covered with bark. Further back in the yard is a summer parlor, built in circular form, with windows reaching to the ground. The *siding* is of bark, and the roof is thatched with straw. A rude stone fence, with a rustic gate, incloses the front yard.

Winding along just beyond the pale of the cultivated grounds, we again enter the forest. Here, a simple fence of three or four wires fastened to living trees, effectually secures the grounds, yet preserves the perfect rusticity of the domain. Here and there a guide-board points the way to Eagle Rock; at last, a rustic gate, fastened with a pin in primitive style, admits you to the inclosed grounds, and along the way you often find a rustic seat tastefully fashioned, inviting the weary climber to rest. At length the carriage road terminates. That tree, where your horse stops instinctively, has been used for a tying post till the bark is quite worn away. A rustic gate of most exquisite workmanship, opens upon the foot-path leading to the Rock.

A few steps farther, and a view more magnificent than can be expressed, meets your gaze! The beautiful valley of the Passaic lies at your feet; Orange, Newark, and Bergen appear scarcely beyond the reach of your voice. New-York, with its numerous spires, seems in the very neighborhood. Staten Island and Brooklyn Heights are distinctly visible. The noble Hudson, the winding Hackensack, and the placid Passaic, are intertwined like threads of silver amid the endless luxuriance of green. Eagle Rock is a high precipitous bluff, taking its name from some tradition of olden time. The proprietor of the Rock, and the owner of a large portion of land in this vicinity, is a merchant in New-York. His family reside summer and winter in this rustic palace, and he pays daily visits to his place of business in the city. I regret that I did not learn his name, whatever it may be, he is a *gentleman*, and his quiet, unostentatious courtesy deserves the thanks of an appreciating public. Long live the proprietor of Eagle Rock!

WHITE TURNIPS FOR COWS.

It will soon be time to sow turnips. I esteem them very valuable for milk cows. With your permission I will tell your readers how I raised and fed 500 bushels of turnips to milk cows. My wheat was harvested early in July. I took three acres of stubble and drew upon it about 20 loads to the acre, of stable manure, muck and leached ashes, in about equal quantities. I then plowed the stubble, dragged thoroughly, and sowed common flat field turnips, brushing them in. In the fall I gathered about 500 bushels of good sized turnips, which I commenced feeding to my cows as gathered, and placed the balance in a cool barn or cellar and fed them out every day until they were all gone, sometime in January I think.

"But," says the objector, "your milk and butter tasted of turnips." No, it did not. We made no butter, but furnish about 120 customers daily with milk, and not the first one of them ever knew or mistrusted that we fed turnips. Not a single complaint reached our ears. I think this was owing entirely to the *manner of feeding*, and if any of your readers will follow our course *exactly*, we are confident the milk or the butter will never taste of turnips.

We had 2 men to milk 10 cows each, and the third man put the turnips in a long box and cut them with a spade, after which four quarts of corn and cob meal were sprinkled on each bushel. As soon as the milking

was finished, the cows were fed one peck of turnips each; this was done twice a day, and the cows gave a good supply of milk. I think the time of feeding is the point. The cows must be fed *immediately* after milking and at no other time, and the quantity fed must be such as they will eat up immediately. With these precautions we have a feed for cows which can be raised very easily and very economically.—E. WARE, in *Country Gentleman*.

Pastures ought not to be allowed to grow up to weeds; thistles, mulleins, yellow dock, etc., occupy space which might just as well be filled with valuable herbage. Let them be cut frequently, and they may be exterminated.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

EXTREME POLITENESS.—The Wyoming Mirror relates a good joke of an old collector, who was proverbial for his politeness as well as pertinacity. He was always in the habit of taking a delinquent debtor aside when he dunned him. One day he met a non-payer, upon an unfrequented road, some half mile from any house, and probably the same distance from any human being. What does the old chap do but leave his buggy, call the other aside, and in a fence corner, politely asked him for the little balance!

A QUAKER ANSWER.—"Martha, does thee love me?" asked a Quaker youth of one at whose shrine his heart's holiest feelings had been offered up.

"Why, Seth," answered she, "we are commanded to love one another, are we not?"

"Ay, Martha, but does thee regard me with that feeling the world calls *love*?"

"I hardly know what to tell you, Seth. I have greatly feared my heart was an erring one. I have tried to bestow my love on all; but I may have sometimes thought, perhaps, that thee was getting rather more than thy share."

TOP KNOT.—In olden times the ladies used to wear a head dress of very unsightly shape, which they called a "top-knot." The fashion ran into great extravagances, and at length attracted the attention of the pulpit. It is related that on one occasion, a celebrated preacher denounced these top-knots as prohibited by Scripture, and quoted from one of the Apostles the command "*top-knot come down!*" He frightened some of the ladies prodigiously; but some of the more curious, referring to their Bible, were eased in their conscience by finding that the whole of the text read, "Let him who is upon the house-*top not come down!*"

An editor in Missouri announces that the publication of his paper will be suspended for six weeks, in order that he may visit St. Louis with a load of bear-skins, hoop-poles, shingles, oak bark, pickled cat-fish, &c., which he has taken for subscription. He is bound to raise the cash on them.

"Pa, aint I growing tall?" "Why, what's your height, sonny?" "I'm seven feet, lacking a yard!"

Why was the first day of Adam's life the longest ever known? Because it had no *Eve*.

Lay by a good store of patience, but be sure and put it where you can find it.

A WATCH.

I have now in my hand a gold watch which combines embellishments and utility in happy proportions, and is usually considered a very valuable appendage to the person of a gentleman. Its hands, face, chain and case, are of chased and burnished gold. Its gold seals sparkle with the ruby, topaz, sapphire, emerald. I open it, and find that the works without which this elegantly furnished case would be a mere shell; those motionless hands and those figures without meanings are made of brass. Investigate further, and ask what is the spring by which these are put in motion, made of? I am told that it is made of steel. I ask, what is steel? The reply is that it is iron, which has undergone a certain process. So then I find the main spring without which the watch would be motionless, and its hands, figures, and embellishments are but toys, is not of gold—that is not sufficiently good; nor of brass—that would not do—but of iron. Iron is therefore the only precious metal; and this watch an emblem of society. Its hands and figures which tell the hour, resemble the master spirits of the age, to whose movement every eye is directed. Its useless but sparkling seals, sapphires, rubies, topaz, and embellishments are the aristocracy. Its works of brass are the middle class, by the increasing intelligence and power of which the master spirits of the age are moved; and its iron main spring shut up in a box, always at work, but never thought of except when it is disorderly, broke, or wants winding up, symbolically, the laboring class, which, like the main spring, we wind up by the payment of wages, and which classes are shut up in obscurity, and, though constantly at work, and absolutely as necessary to the movement of society as the iron spring is to the gold watch, are never thought of except when they require their wages, or are in some want or disorder of some kind or other.

Edward Everett.

PARENTAL FIRMNESS.

By this is meant that disposition, though at the greatest distance from all that is rigid, stern and cruel, can master his own feelings; amid the strongest appeals to the tender emotions of mind, can inflexibly maintain its purpose, and in the way of denying improper requests, or administering correction can inflict pain on the object of its affection, whenever duty requires such an exercise of beneficial severity. For want of this disposition, of this fine and noble quality, how many have ruined their children forever by indulgence. Those parents are sincerely to be pitied, who have not resolution and firmness enough to deny the requests of their children when they know them to be improper. Nor are they less objects of pity, who from ill-judged tenderness, withhold correction when it is known to be necessary. The children of such parents are objects of still greater commiseration. The consequences must be fatal as to the formation of a manly, virtuous character. I have heard a parent say—"I love my children so well that I cannot punish them when they do wrong." Strange love, indeed! Had your child fractured a limb, what kind of affection would you express by saying that you loved your child so much that you cannot consent to allow the surgeon to operate upon it? Hence your child must suffer the consequences of a deformed limb all the rest of his life. And yet, I appeal to your reason if this course would not be more excusable than to let their temper and passions become perverse, because you have not steadiness enough to exercise judicious restraint, or inflict salutary punishment.—Hall on Education.

FADELESS IN A LOVING HEART.

Sunny eyes may lose their brightness;
Nimble feet forget their lightness;
Pearly teeth may know decay;
Raven tresses turn to gray;
Cheeks be pale and eyes be dim;
Faint the voice and weak the limb;
But though youth and strength depart,
Fadeless is a loving heart.

A CURIOUS ANECDOTE OF THE REV. SIDNEY SMITH.—Lady Cubeb had a great passion for the garden and the hot-house, and when she got hold of a celebrity like the Reverend Sydney, was sure to dilate upon her favorite subject. Her Geraniums, her Auriculas, her Dahlias, her Carnations, Acacias, her Lillia Regia, her Ranunculus, her Mary-golds, her Peonies, her Rhododendron procumbens, Mossy Pompones and Rose pubescens, were discussed with all the flow of hot house rhetoric. "My Lady," asked the Reverend wit, did you ever have a Psoriasis Septennis?" "Oh yes—a most beautiful one. I gave it to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Dear man! and it came out so in the spring!"

The Psoriasis Septennis, is the medical name for the seven years' itch!

GOOD ADVICE.

Eat only what is proper food;
Drink only that which does you good;
Spend only what you can afford;
Lend only what will be restored;
Then you will have no cause to say,
"I was a fool yesterday!"

STEAM MUSIC.—A Worcester, Mass. paper says one of their ingenious mechanics has invented the art of rendering steam whistles musical—thus making those nuisances quite as ornamental as useful. What an improvement that will be, when it comes into general use! For instance, suppose we are a young married man (it requires some imagination we admit) and have to leave the endearments of home for business elsewhere. We get into the cars feeling dreadfully if not worse—the bell gives the parting tinkle, the wheels rumble slowly out of the depot, and at that moment the whistle strikes up, "Oh, Susannah! don't you cry for me"—shouldn't we be touched, and yet consoled? Then, further along, an ignoramus, as ignoramus will, is seen walking on the track, and immediately, "Git out of the way, Ole Dan Tueker!" startles him one side as promptly as the hiss of a snake, but still with an agreeable exhilaration. But a dog is just to be run over—the thing is inevitable—but there is some consolation in "Old Dog Tray," played as a complimentary requiem. When not otherwise employed, didactic strains might be given as, "Wake up, Jake! the fire wants poking"—or the night train might soliloquize, "We won't go home till morning." And one instance more—the young man, so ingeniously supposed above, having got through his business, is returning—as the cars begin to slacken their pace, what would be more touchingly appropriate than "Home again, home again," played with a forty horse power pathos? We have said enough—hurry up the musical engines!

SIMPLE TRUTH.

There's not of grass a single blade,
Or leaf of loveliest green,
Where Heavenly skill is not display'd
Or Heavenly Wisdom seen.

SELF DEPENDENCE.—If you would have your son be something in the world, teach him to depend on himself. Let him learn that it is by close, strenuous personal application that he must rise—that he must, in short, make himself, and be the architect of his own fortune.

RATHER A MISTAKE.—A friend of mine, was once present at the house of a French lady in Canada, when a violent thunder storm commenced. The shutters were immediately closed, and the room darkened. The lady of the house, not willing to leave the safety of her company to chance, began to search her closets for a bottle of holy water, which, by a sudden flash of lightning, she fortunately found. The bottle was uncorked, and its contents immediately sprinkled over the ladies and gentlemen. It was a most dreadful storm, and lasted a considerable time; she therefore redoubled her sprinklings and benedictions at every clap of thunder and flash of lightning. At length the storm abated, and the party were "providentially" saved from its effects, which the good lady attributed solely to the precious water; but when the shutters were opened, and the light admitted, the company found, to their horror, and the destruction of their white gowns and muslin handkerchiefs, their coats waistcoats and pantaloons, that instead of holy water this pious lady had sprinkled them with ink.—Lambert's Travels.

OUR COUNTRY, GREAT BY NATURE, GREAT IN ART.

The greatest Cataract in the world, is the Falls of Niagara, where the waters accumulated from the great upper lakes, forming a river three quarters of a mile in width, are suddenly contracted and plunged over the rocks, in two columns, to the depth of one hundred and sixty feet.

The greatest Cave in the world, is the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, where one can make a voyage on the waters of a subterranean river, and catch fish without eyes.

The greatest river in the world, is the Mississippi, four thousand one hundred miles in length. Its name is derived from an Indian word, meaning the "Father of Waters."

The largest Valley in the world, is the valley of the Mississippi. It contains five hundred thousand square miles, and is one of the most prolific regions on the globe.

The largest Lake in the world, is Lake Superior, four hundred and thirty miles long.

The greatest Natural Bridge in the world, is that over Cedar Creek, in Virginia. It extends across a chasm eighty feet in width, and two hundred and fifty feet deep, at the bottom of which a creek flows.

The greatest solid mass of Iron in the world is the Iron Mountain of Missouri. It is three hundred and fifty feet high, and two miles in circuit.

The largest Railroad in the world, is the Central Railroad of Illinois, which is seven hundred and thirty-one miles long—cost fifteen millions of dollars.

The greatest number of miles of Railroad, in proportion to its surface, of any country in the world—is in Massachusetts, which has over one mile to each square mile of its area.

The greatest number of cloaks manufactured in the world, is turned out by the small State of Connecticut.

The largest number of whale ships in the world, are sent out by Nantucket and New- Bedford.

The greatest grain port in the world is Chicago.

The largest aqueduct in the world is the Croton aqueduct in New-York. It is forty and a half miles long, and cost twelve and a half million of dollars.—Bridgeton Chron.

HOW TO DO GOOD.—He who waits to do a great deal of good at once will rarely do anything. True greatness consists in being great in little things. How are railroads built? By one shovelfull of dirt after another.

Drops made the ocean. If we would do much good in the world, we must be willing to do good in little things, setting a good example all the time.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR THOUGHTS.

Sin begins in the heart. If you can keep your thoughts pure, your life will be blameless. The indulgence of sinful thoughts and desires produces sinful actions. When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin. The pleasurable contemplation of a sinful deed is usually followed by its commission. Never allow yourself to pause and consider the pleasure or profit you might derive from this or that sin. Close your mind against the suggestion at once, as you would lock and bolt your door against a robber. If Eve had not stood parleying with the devil, and admiring the beautiful fruit, the earth might have yet been a paradise. No one becomes a thief, a fornicator, or a murderer, at once. The mind must be first corrupted. The wicked suggestion must be indulged and revolved in the thoughts, until it loses its hideous deformity, and the anticipated gain or pleasure comes to outweigh the evils of the transgression.

Your imagination is apt to paint forbidden pleasure in gay and dazzling colors. It is the serpent's charm. Gaze not upon the picture. Suffer not the intruder to get a lodgment. Meet the enemy at the threshold, and drive it from your heart. As a rule, the more familiar you become with sin the less hateful it appears; so that the more completely you preserve your mind from unholy and wicked thoughts, the better. Avoid the society where obscenity or blasphemy is heard. Cultivate the society of the virtuous. Read nothing that is unchaste or immoral. Make a covenant with your eyes. Familiarize not your mind with the loathsome details of crime. Never harbor malicious and envious thoughts. Direct your thoughts towards pure and holy subjects. Contemplate the character of the spotless and perfect Son of God. Keep your spirit untainted, your thoughts uncontaminated, so shall your life be virtuous. As a man thinketh, so is he. Take care of the thoughts and the actions will take care of themselves.

Presbyterian.

LESSONS FROM LITTLE THINGS.—How few persons can make a pin, and yet how many pins are lost every day, and nobody cares whether they are lost or not! A rich, penurious man will stoop to pick up a pin, but will he give a copper to his ragged fellow-being? A seed is a little thing and may be buried three thousand years and thereafter spring into life and feed a poor man. This is mystery, but it is a truism, well proved. Little things are greater than mountains. The child's rattle is a plaything for the child, and yet the child may at some future day command a whole nation! A little thing often leads to great results. A little shell on the ocean's shore—a little flower in the meadow—a bubble from the fountain—a dewdrop on the grass—a fly in the spider's web—a bee making honey—are all little things, and immortality has been gained by men who watched them and did not overlook the lessons of little things. The diamond is a very small gem, but it commands a very high sum among men. It is a little thing and is worthless as food, but as a diamond it will procure bread at all times.

Let us not, therefore, disregard or dispise the lessons of little things, for they show the road we must all travel from the cradle to the grave!—*Fireside Journal.*

It is a thousand times easier to contract a good habit, than to get rid of an old one.

FEELING ON THE BATTLE FIELD.—The Crimea correspondent of the New-York Sun, writing from Balaklava, gives, from the experience of a wounded Frenchman, an opinion with regard to that which is felt by the soldier in time of conflict, which is something as follows:

"Before the battle begins, it is usual to feel no little tremor, and many cheeks which are known to be in communication with stout hearts, blanch visibly. As the conflict becomes imminent, courage returns, and with the first flow of blood an enthusiasm is raised which constantly increases and very seldom flags in the least until the last shot is fired. The effect of seeing a comrade shot down is generally to excite an insatiable thirst for vengeance against the foe, though in the end one "gets used to it." When wounded less than mortally, it is not usual for a soldier to be immediately aware of it, unless some bones are broken. A sabre may be run through any fleshy part of the body, and even a bullet may lodge in dangerous proximity to the vitals, and he for a long time, be totally unconscious of even a scratch. When life is taken by a single blow, the effect varies with the nature of the wound, as well as with the temperament of the man. Sometimes the poor fellow will leap high into the air and again will lie down quietly. Oftener, however, he simply falls dead without a struggle. In most cases the features of the killed remain unchanged for a long time after death—eyes open and brilliant, and, perchance, a smile illuminating the face. To see such an one it is difficult indeed to realize the presence of the grim monster, Death."

DINING AT SEA IN A GALE.—There is but a step from the sublime to the ridiculous, from the deck to the saloon. It is rather too much trouble for a lazy man to eat on shipboard in rough weather. It would require a man to have the hundred hands of Briareus, and the hundred eyes of Argus, and keep them all in occupation, too, to dine in safety, to say nothing of comfort—for that, under the circumstances, is wholly out of the question. You have to hold on to your plate to keep it near you; to hold on to your glass of water to avoid the unnecessary luxury of an extempore shower bath; to hold on to yourself to keep yourself at the table; to hold on to the table to keep yourself off the top of it, and away from your neighbors. Besides this, to dodge or hide yourself, as the case may be, from the flying dishes that occasionally make little excursions on their own responsibility. A man that can get his victuals on board a ship in a storm can get his living anywhere; he need have no fear of the future, so far as eating is concerned.

MRS. PARTINGTON ON THE WAR.—"Is there any news from the Chimera?" said Mrs. Partington, dropping in upon us suddenly, like a bombshell, on the arrival of the last steamer. She had Ike with her, who immediately seized upon a pair of scissors and began puncturing the top of the desk against which he was standing, at the same time kicking the table at which we were sitting. "Is there any news from the Chimera?" We told her that the news of the Emperor's death was confirmed. "Ah!" said she with a sigh, "war is indeed dreadful when it won't allow people to make their peace when they die. I declare it gives me a nashua at my stomach when I think that men should forget the kindnesses and meannesses of life (she meant amenities) to worry each other by military engineers that does it—if they would have civil engineers there now, in a little time the black sea of war would become a Pacific ocean."

FIGHT BETWEEN A FROG AND SWALLOW.—A curious and furious fight between a swallow and a frog was witnessed at New-Boston the other day. The swallow had approached the margin of a pond for material for its nest, when it was seized by a huge frog and drawn into the water. It was evidently the design of the frog to drown the bird and then make a meal of it, while the swallow acted on the defensive alone. The fight went on with varying success, till a member of the peace society interfered and parted the combatants.—*Meriden Transcript.*

Quoth Patrick of the Yankee: "Bedad, if he was cast away on a desolate island he'd get up the next morning and go round selling maps to the inhabitants."

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour took the downward scale a few weeks since and still continues upon it. The decline in prices during the past week has been from 25c. to 75c. per bbl., except upon a few extra brands, of which there has been a temporary scarcity. Genesee Extra is quoted at a trifling advance. The great fall has been upon the lower grades, there being a large supply of these. During the past *three weeks*, the lower and common brands of flour have declined more than \$1 per bbl.. Corn of common grades 10c. to 15c., and oats 30c. to 40c. per bushel.

Corn during the past week has fluctuated somewhat, some kinds being lower and some kinds being higher than at our last report. Oats have experienced another heavy fall, and now range but a little above 50c. a 53c. per bushel, though there have been some recent sales of Western Oats at 54c. a 60c.

The Wheat prospect still continues good. The harvest is gradually advancing from South to North, and we hear of nothing but good reports wherever the crop has been gathered. It is now a time of much anxiety to wheat-growers in the Middle and Northern States. A few days of continued propitious weather, and this important crop is safe, while a single week unfavorable may blast the hopes of both producer and consumer.

Cotton has experienced a uniform decline in all grades of $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. This will probably be recovered under the influence of news just in from Liverpool of another small advance there, notwithstanding the immense sales noticed in our last two reports.

The weather continues very fine. In this region we have a full supply of rain, with hardly enough warm weather to produce the most rapid growth. This, however, is favorable to grass, and indeed to all other crops at this particular juncture.

The present arrival from Europe brings news of the final abandonment of the Vienna Conference, and a determination to settle the existing difficulties only by the sword. With this prospect, there is no doubt but that there will be a heavy demand upon this country for breadstuffs for some time to come, so that however large the yield at the coming harvest, moderately high prices will prevail.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, June 19, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The market has been fair since last week, with but little change in the more substantial kinds of produce. Charleston new potatoes are a little lower; others remain about the same. Green produce goes off rather better. Strawberries and cherries are very plentiful, though the latter are done in south Jersey, and will begin to fall off soon. The other changes are slight.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas	Φ bbl.	\$6 —@6 75
Charleston, new	do	5 —@5 50
do. round	do	5 —@
Western Mercers	do	4 —@4 25
White Mercers	do	4 —@4 25
Nova Scotia Mercers	Φ bush.	1 30@1 35
Washington County Carters	do	3 25@3 50
Western Reds	do	2 75@3 —
Yellow Pink Eyes	do	2 75@3 —
Long Reds	do	2 50@2 75
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do	1 87@2 25
White bunch, new	Φ 100	— @ —
Onions—White	Φ bbl.	— @ —
Bermuda Reds, new	do	5 00@5 50
New-Orleans Reds	do	5 —@5 25
Cabbage Sprouts	Φ bbl.	— @ 75
Asparagus	Φ doz. bunches.	1 25@ —
Spinach	Φ bbl.	50@ 75
Rhubarb	Φ 100 bunch.	4 —@6 —
Radishes	do.	50@ —
Lettuce	do.	50@1 —
Gooseberries	Φ bus	1 75@ —
Green Peas	“	87@ —
Strawberries	Φ 100 baskets	4 —@4 50
Cherries	Φ lb	5@ 6
Apples	Φ bbl.	\$4 75@5 —
Butter—new	Φ lb.	20@21c.
Cheese	do	9@11c.
Eggs	Φ doz.	—@18c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY June 20, 1855.

There is something over 2,000 cattle in market, which is about 200 less than last week. Both butchers and brokers hung for their own prices this morning, and consequently the sales were exceedingly slow. Scarcely any sales were effected before 10 o'clock. There is a falling off in prices of about 1c. Φ lb—good beef selling for 10½c., though a few very extra cattle reached 11c. The average price is not far from 10c.

At these prices the losses fall very heavily on owners, being in many cases from \$10 to \$20 a head, or from \$500 to \$2,000 a drove. There are some cattle remaining in the country, but less than last week.

Some of the cattle to-day are very flabby, and generally not as good as last week. The market will probably wind up slow and dull.

Notice is given that, as Market-Day falls on the 4th of July, it will take place on Tuesday, the day preceding.

The following are some of the lots offered:

White & Ulery had 136 fair Illinois cattle, which were bringing an average of nearly 10c. They were estimated to weigh 750 lbs.

Mr. Belden was selling 105 good Durham grades from Kentucky. Some of these were fine heaves, and brought 11c. They ran through from 9 to 11c.

John Merritt was selling 105 rather light Ohio cattle, owned by S. M. Baker & Co. He wholesaled 74 for \$60 per head, which was estimated at 9c. Φ lb. They would average about 650 lbs. in weight.

Beach & Smith were selling a fair lot of Ohio cattle, owned by M. A. Melvin. 20 sold for \$80 Φ head, for shipping to Bermuda, which was estimated at 10½c. They would doubtless wind up at 9c.

Wm. Gurney was selling 102 nice young Indiana cattle belonging to Callem & Caldwell. These would average about \$72 per head, or 10½c. They cost \$11 a head for passage. Estimated to weigh 675 lbs.

Joseph Williams was selling 75 fair Ohio cattle, owned by Ed. Williams, and at an average of 10c. They would weigh 750 lbs., and ranged from 9 to 11c.

H. W. Alvord had 26 large, fat, still-fed cattle from Syracuse, N. Y., estimated to weigh 1,000 a head. They sold from 9 to 11c.

Daniel Barnes was selling 80 fair Kentucky cattle, at prices ranging from 9c. to 10c. Weight from 750 to 800 pounds.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality	10½@11c.
Good retailing quality	9½@10c.
Inferior do. do.	8½@9½c.
Cows and Calves	\$30@65.
Veals	4c.@6c.
Swine, alive	6½@7½c.
“ dead	7½@9c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves,	2184
Cows,	6
Veals,	663
Sheep and lambs,	1019
Swine,	645

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves.. 802
Sheep

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves

By the Hudson River Railroad.....

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves.....

New-York State furnished—beeves.....	81
Ohio, “	512
Indiana, “	325
Illinois, “	629
Texas, “	194
Kentucky, “	388

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	4578
Beeves.....	271
Veals.....	51
Cows and Calves.....	27

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

201 Beef Cattle.....	8@11c.
98 Cows and Calves.....	\$25@65
5,039 Sheep and Lambs.....	\$2@61.
94 Veals.....	4@6c.

The supply of Sheep at Browning's is about 2,000 greater than last week, and the sales from 50 to 75c. less per head. The total supply for the week is about 10,000. The sheep are fair and lambs improving. The former come mostly from New-York, Ohio, and Kentucky, and the latter from New-Jersey.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

223 Sheep.....	\$957 75
90 Sheep,	443 25
167 Sheep.....	647 50
71 Sheep.....	271 25
33 Sheep.....	106 25
109 Sheep.....	346 99
120 Sheep.....	491 25
18 do.....	75 50
43 do.....	136 00
63 do.....	294 00
82 do.....	288 25
105 Lambs.....	397 25
30 do.....	128 00
10 do.....	43 50
18 do.....	83 75
13 do.....	53 00
19 do.....	84 50
1214	Average.....\$ 399.
	\$4,848 49

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes—	Pot, 1st sort, 1855.....	Φ 100 lb.	— @ 5 75
	Pearl, 1st sort, 1855.....		6 12@ —
Bristles—	American, Gray and White.....		45 @—50
	American Yellow.....		26@—27½
Coal—	Liverpool Orrel.....	Φ chaldron	— @ 7 50
	Scotch.....		— @ —
	Sidney.....		5 75 @ 6 —
	Pictou.....		5 25 @ —
	Anthracite.....	Φ 2,000 lb.	5 50 @ —
Cotton Bagging—	Gunny Cloth.....	Φ yard.	— 12½@ —
Cotton—	Upland.....	Florida.....	Mobile.....
	Ordinary.....	10½	10½
	Middling.....	12	12
	Middling Fair.....	12½	13
	Fair.....	13½	13½
Flax—	Jersey.....	Φ lb.	8 @— 9
Flour and Meal—	State, common brands.....		8 75 @ —
	State, straight brands.....		8 87 @ —
	State, favorite brands.....		9 @ —
	Western, mixed do.....		9 31 @ —
	Michigan and Indiana, straight do.....		9 75 @ 10 —
	Michigan, fancy brands.....		10 @ —
	Ohio, common to good brands.....		— @ 9 75
	Ohio, fancy brands.....		— @ 10 —
	Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.....		— @ 10 25
	Genesee, fancy brands.....		9 50 @ —
	Genesee, extra brands.....		10 75 @ 13 —
	Canada.....		10 37 @ —
	Brandywine.....		10 75 @ —

Georgetown.....	10 75 @ —
Petersburg City.....	10 75 @ —
Richmond Country.....	— @ 10 75
Alexandria.....	— @ 10 75
Baltimore, Howard-street.....	— @ 10 75
Rye Flour.....	7 25 @ —
Corn Meal, Jersey.....	5 12 @ —
Corn Meal, Brandywine.....	5 37 @ —
Corn Meal, Brandywine.....	Φ punch.

Grain—

Wheat, White Genesee.....	Φ bush.	— @ —
Wheat, do. Canada.....		— @ 2 50
Wheat, Southern, White.....		2 40 @ 2 50
Wheat, Ohio, White.....		2 45 @ —
Wheat, Michigan, White.....		2 45 @ 2 53
Rye, Northern.....		1 70 @ —
Corn, Round Yellow.....		— @ 1 04
Corn, Round White.....		— @ 1 20
Corn, Southern White.....		— @ 1 20
Corn, Southern Yellow.....		— @ 1 05
Corn, Southern Mixed.....		— @ —
Corn, Western Mixed.....		— @ 1 02
Corn, Western Yellow.....		— @ —
Barley.....		1 18 @ —
Oats, River and Canal.....		— 50 @ —
Oats, New-Jersey.....		— 50 @ —
Oats, Western.....		— 54 @ —
Peas, Black-Eyed.....	Φ bush.	2 50 @ —

Hay—

North River, in bales.....		— @ —
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Lime—

Rockland, Common.....	Φ bbl.	— @—87
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Molasses—

New-Orleans.....	Φ gall.	— 30 @—32
Porto Rico.....		— 27 @—32
Cuba Muscovado.....		— 26 @—30
Trinidad Cuba.....		— 27 @—29
Cardenas, &c.....		— @—26

Oil Cake—

Thin Oblong, City.....	Φ tun.	— @42—
Thick, Round, Country.....		— @ —

Provisions—

Beef, Mess, Country.....	Φ bbl.	10 50 @ 12 —
Beef, Mess, City.....		10 @ —
Beef, Mess, extra.....		16 25 @ 16 50
Beef, Prime, Country.....		— @ 9 —
Beef, Prime, City.....		— @ —
Beef, Prime Mess.....	Φ tce.	21 @—24
Pork, Prime.....		15 12 @ —
Pork, Clear.....		19 @ —
Pork, Prime Mess.....		15 @ —
Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels.....	Φ lb.	10 @ —
Hams, Pickled.....		— @— 94
Shoulders, Pickled.....		— @— 71
Beef Hams, in Pickle.....	Φ bbl.	— @21—
Beef, Smoked.....	Φ lb.	— @ —
Butter, Orange County.....		— 23 @—25
Cheese, fair to prime.....		5 @—10

Rice—

Ordinary to fair.....	Φ 100 lb	5 75 @ 5 87
Good to prime.....		5 87½ @ 6 50

Salt—

Turk's Island.....	Φ bush.	— @— 26
St. Martin's.....		— @ —
Liverpool, Ground.....	Φ sack.	— 85 @ —
Liverpool, Fine.....		1 20 @ 1 30
Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.....		1 40 @ —

Sugar—

St. Croix.....	Φ lb.	— @—
New-Orleans.....		5 @— 61
Cuba Muscovado.....		5 @— 61
Porto Rico.....		5 @— 61
Havana, White.....		7 @— 71
Havana, Brown and Yellow.....		5 @— 7

Tallow—

American, Prime.....	Φ lb.	11½ @ —
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Tobacco—

Virginia.....	Φ lb.	— @— 61
Kentucky.....		7 @— 13
Maryland.....		— @ —
St. Domingo.....		12 @— 15
Cuba.....		12 @— 20
Yara.....		35 @— 43
Havana, Fillers and Wrappers.....		20 @ 1 —
Florida Wrappers.....		15 @— 60
Connecticut, Seed Leaf.....		6 @— 18
Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf.....		— @— 12

Wool—

American, Saxony Fleece.....	Φ lb.	38 @— 42
American, Full Blood Merino.....		36 @— 37
American, ½ and ¾ Merino.....		30 @— 33
American, Native and ¼ Merino.....		25 @— 28
Superfine, Pulled, Country.....		30 @— 32
No. 1, Pulled, Country.....		23 @— 25

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Ten words make a line.
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Single Horse Power \$85 00
Double do. do. 116 00
Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator, 160 00
Single do. do. do. 128 00
Belts \$5 and \$10 each. do. 128 00
R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York.
139 and 191 Water-street.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine
Plants may be purchased of **WM LAWTON,**
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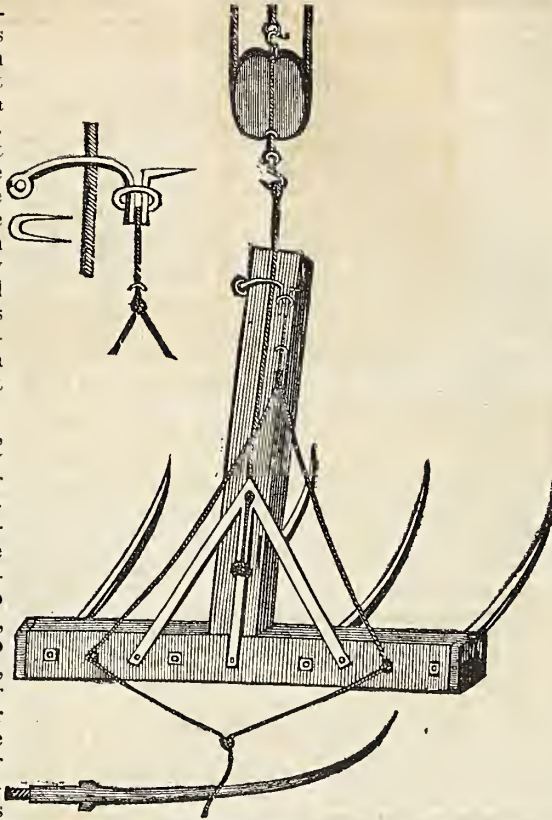
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IMPROVED UNLOADING HAY FORK.

This is a great labor-saving implement, in a situation where labor is most oppressive, and at a time when it is most difficult to be procured. It is intended for unloading hay from a wagon upon a scaffold or into a mow. This is generally done in the sultriest weather, in a close barn, when the dust from the hay and the oppressive heat are almost stifling, and when the team and hands connected with it can be spared with least convenience. By the use of this simple and economical instrument, the same team that draws the load into the barn, or any super-numerary horse at hand, may unload a tun of hay in a few moments, without any effort at pitching.

The fork, as represented by the cut, is suspended from the roof directly over the load, by a tackle and fall, or by a single pulley and rope, the drawing end of which passes through a pulley on a level with the horse, to enable him to lay out his strength to advantage. The iron teeth are pressed into the hay, and the horse at a word, draws up some 400 to 600 pounds to the required height, when a light cord, attached to the fork and passing over another pulley suspended in the proper direction, in the hands of one of the operators swings it horizontally over the place to be deposited, and the sudden jerk of a strong twine, removes the ketch, and the forkful drops where required. A few forksfuls remove the entire load, when the men and team, refreshed by their few moments of rest, are off for another load.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.



FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the **IMPROVED POUURETTE** made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1.50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3.50; 3 barrels, \$5.00; 5 barrels, \$8.00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the **LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY**,
[No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York.

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854
LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY:
Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of **POURETTE** per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN DANA.

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurry.

Red and White Clover
Lucerne,
Saintfoin.
Alyske Clover.
Sweet-scented Clover.
Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties.

Winter Rye.
Oats, of several choice kinds.
Corn, of great variety.
Spring and Winter Vetches.
PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed.

BARLEY—California and Two-rowed variety.

TURNIP AND RUTA BAGA, of every choice kind.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Orange, Locust, Buckthorn, Tobacco, Common and Italian Millet, Broom Corn, Cotton, Flax, Canary, Hemp, Rape and Rice.

FRUIT TREES.—Choice varieties, including the Apple, Pear, Quince, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, &c., &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

DAVY'S DEVON HERD BOOK.

NOW READY.

A large supply of both 1st and 2d Volumes bound in one book and containing all the subject connected with the Devon records of both England and America up to the present time; also as a frontispiece the beautiful engraving of the celebrated picture known as the "Quartly Testimonial" which is a full length portrait of Mr. Francis Quartly, now living, at 91 years of age. It is also illustrated with two animals, prize winners in England. Price \$1 00, and can be had by enclosing the amount to B. P. Johnson, Cor. Sec. of N. Y. State Society, Albany, N. Y.; Luther Tucker, Ed. of Country Gentleman, Albany, N. Y.; Sandford Howard, Boston, Mass.; D. D. T. Moore, Ed. Wool Grower and Stock Register, Rochester, N. Y.; A. B. Allen, Ed. American Agriculturist, New-York; Sam'l Sands, Ed. American Farmer, Baltimore, Md.; A. M. Spangler, Ed. Progressive Farmer, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lee & Redmonds, Eds. Southern Cultivator, Augusta, Ga.; and Wm. McDougall, Ed. Canadian Agt., Toronto, Canada. It gives me pleasure to state that Mr. Davy has solicited Mr. S. Howard, of Boston Cultivator, to collect pedigrees and illustrations in this country, for the 3d volume, and has authorized Mr. H. to obtain information as to any and all mistakes which may have been made as to the recording of American animals in Davy's 2d volume, and such corrections will be made in the 3d volume.

The plan proposed is, that the pedigrees and illustrations collected by Mr. Howard, as the Editor in America, shall be forwarded to Mr. Davy, and a copy of those collected by Mr. Davy will be sent to Mr. Howard. The whole matter will be published in America for our use, and also in England for their use; by which means an American and English Devon Herd Book will be united, and the price reasonable, as the expense of English printing and duties will be saved. This concert of action has been brought about by Mr. Davy's good feeling and liberality towards this country; and I am only the instrument through which Mr. Davy acts, and from this time forth Mr. Howard will receive all communications on the subject, as will appear by reference to his advertisement.

All editors who will give the above three insertions will receive a copy of the 1st, 2d, and 3d volumes.

L. G. MORRIS, American Agent for
J. T. Davy's Devon Herd Book.

90-93n1203

LITTLE GIANT CORN AND COB MILL. PATENTED 1854.

THIS MILL has doubtless attained a more sudden celebrity for doing its work with rapidity and ease, than any other article of labor-saving machinery ever presented to the Agricultural world; the merit of which consists chiefly in the peculiar arrangement of first breaking, then crushing and erumbling the cob at the center of the mill. Thus lessening the strain upon both mill and team, the chief work of crushing being thrown upon the central parts of the judicious application of leverage power.

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91—

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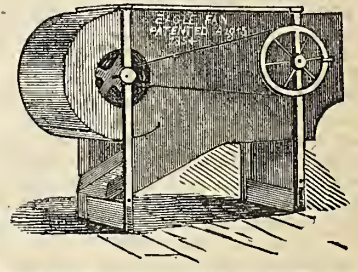
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FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

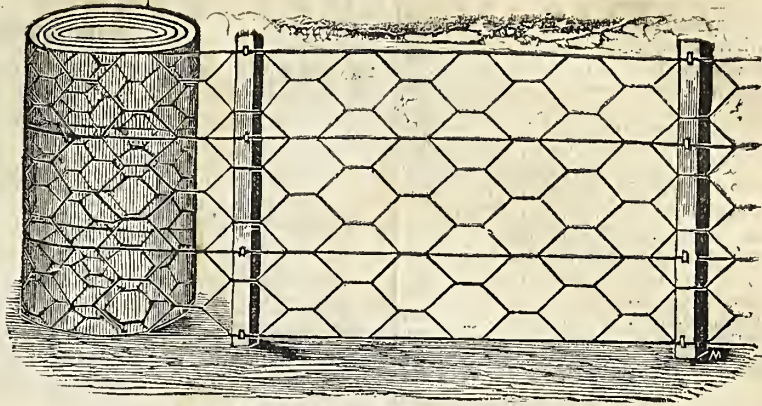
VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGERS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

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Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins, Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear, Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth, Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

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THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens, Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens. It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years. Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the sunbeam, while it does not confine heat, and is withal ornamental.

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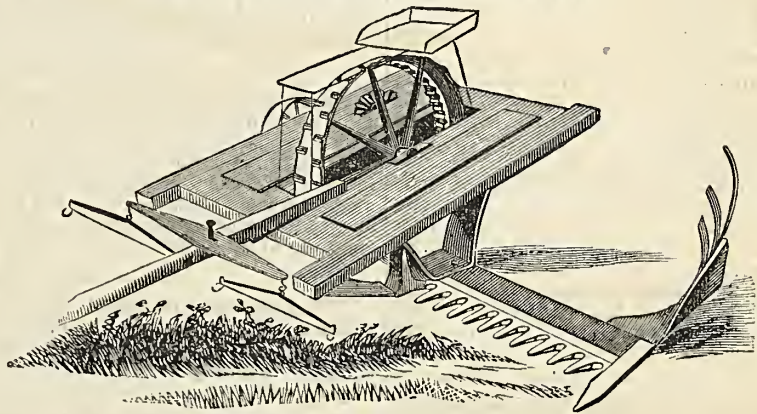
A—16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, 2 longitudinal wires,	\$0 95 per rod
B—45 " " 6-inch " 2 " " "	1 50 "
C—45 " " 6-inch " 4 " " "	1 25 "
D—33 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	1 63 "
E—33 " " 3-inch " 3 " " "	1 75 "
F—45 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	2 00 "
G—45 " " 3-inch " 4 " " "	2 25 "

Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot. The rod measures 16½ feet. Each coil contains about 25 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

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The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.

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THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

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This superiority consists:

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- 3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving-wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.
- 4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.
- 5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving-wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.
- 6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.
- 7th. This Mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

WARRANTY.

ALLEN'S MOWER is warranted to cut and spread from ten to fifteen acres per day, in a workmanlike manner, with a good pair of horses and driver. One day's trial is allowed for the Mower, and in case any thing proves defective within this time, due notice must be given to me, and time allowed to send a person to repair it. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back and the money paid for it refunded, or a perfect Mower will be given in its place, at the option of the purchaser.

With the Reaper Attachment, it is warranted to cut from twelve to eighteen acres of grain per day, with a good pair of horses driver and raker.

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Agents are solicited to sell the above machine.

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

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The *American Agriculturist* is under the *control and management* of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an *experienced farmer*, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness and reliability* of every department of this Journal.

MR. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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“ Clubs of 3 do.....	1 67	“ 5 00
“ “ 5 do.....	1 60	“ 8 00
“ “ 10 do.....	1 50	“ 15 00

The money always to accompany the names for which the paper is ordered.

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ALLEN & CO., No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 94

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON BUTTER AND CHEESE MAKING.

[Continued from page 225]

15. Temperature of Cream at Churning.—

The butter being contained in little sacs (9), the object of churning is to break open these sacs and collect the butter in a solid mass. If the temperature is too low, the sacs will not break open readily, and a great amount of friction, or churning, will be required; while that portion first released will, by the long-continued agitation, become mingled with the buttermilk, and it will also be rubbed over or smear the still unbroken sacs, and retard their breaking. On the contrary, if the temperature of the cream is too high, the sacs, or a portion of them, will yield too soon, and the butter being in a soft state will not collect in a lump, but will run, and form a slushy mass. It will, as in the case of long-continued churning, coat over the still unbroken sacs, keeping out the air and preventing their perfect rupture. A temperature but a little above the proper one will materially diminish the amount of butter secured.

16. For sweet cream, the temperature at the commencement of churning should be between 50 and 55 degrees, Fahrenheit. For sour cream it may be a trifle lower. Where the whole milk is churned, the commencing temperature should be between 60 and 65 degrees. To determine the proper temperature, many experienced butter makers rely upon the hand, but it can be done more conveniently, and with much more certainty and accuracy, by the use of a thermometer, which can be obtained cheaply. One costing five or six shillings will answer every purpose. The most reliable thermometers which we have examined are made by the Kendall's. Generally, the poorest thermometers have a foreign mark. Not long since we saw a glass blower putting up hundreds of poor thermometers and marking them

"LONDON." He stated that this mark made them "go down." In using the thermometer, draw out the graduated slide holding the glass, and thrust the bulb three or four inches into the cream and move it around for some time. If the height of the mercury indicates a temperature between 50° and 55°, the churning may be proceeded with. If below 50°, hot water should be slowly added, with rapid stirring to prevent scalding or over-heating the portion of cream at the point where the water is added. If above 55°, cold water (ice water if at hand) should be used. To avoid using water, however, it is preferable to let the cream holder stand for some time in a room of the proper temperature, or to immerse it in a vessel of water, warm or cold as may be needed.

There are some churns which are constructed with a thermometer inserted in the side of the churn itself. These are very convenient, and we advise their use in preference to those not so furnished.

17. Time Occupied in Churning.—It may be laid down as a rule, that the best butter can not be churned in less than 25 to 30 minutes. Many venders of "patent churns" warrant them to bring the butter in 5 to 10 minutes. This is far from being a recommendation. Rapid agitation breaks up some of the particles quickly and mingles them with others unbroken, and the yield of butter is less in quantity, while it is inferior in taste and keeping qualities, by reason of its containing a larger quantity of casein. Time is required for the action of air upon the cream, for a uniform raising of the temperature, and for the aggregation of the particles of butter. The churning should proceed quite slowly for the first 10 or 15 minutes, and the speed be gradually increased afterward. In cold weather, or with the temperature of the cream low, a more rapid motion may be given, but with the cream pretty warm at first, or in warm weather, it is better to complete the entire churning by a moderately slow motion. What is lost in time will be far more than made up in the quantity of the butter. We said that the best butter can not be made in less than 25 or 30 minutes. We are well satisfied, both from our own experience and observation and from the united testimony of the most successful butter makers, that it is not desirable to attempt to bring the butter in less than from 1 to 1½ hours. The following two sets of carefully conducted experiments throw some light on this subject. The first series was made in August and September, each churning hav-

ing 15 gallons of cream, weighing 8½ lbs. to the wine gallon. The second, between June and August with 8 gallons of cream, weighing 8 lbs. to the gallon, except in the fourth experiment, where the cream weighed but 7½ lbs. to the gallon.

No.	TEMPERATURE,		Time in churning. Hours.	Quantity of Butter to the gallon. lbs. ozs.	Quality of Butter.
	Begin'g.	End.			
1.	50°	60°	4	1 15½	Very best, rich, firm and well tasted.
2.	55	65	3½	1 15½	Much like No. 1.
3.	58	67	3	1 14	Good, but softer.
4.	60	68	3	1 12½	Soft and spongy.
5.	66	75	2½	1 10½	Inferior in every respect.
1.	56	60	1½	1 1	Inferior, white, softer than No. 2 below.
2.	52	56	2	2 0	Unsurpassable in flavor and quality.
3.	52	56	2	2 0	Do. do. do. do.
4.	65	67	½	1 15	Soft, white, milky.
5.	50	53½	3	1 15½	Good, but evidently injured by churning.
6.	53½	57½	1½	2 3	Most excellent solid as wax; high flavor and color.

These experiments show that the best butter was produced when the cream at the commencement was not above 55°. When above this, the butter was soft, white, spongy, &c. In this single circumstance, too great warmth of cream, we think, is to be found the chief source of poor, soft butter, so common throughout the country. The larger quantity of the poorer cream (15 gallons), in the first experiments above, required more time in churning. With the smaller quantity (8 gallons), in the second table, long churning injured the butter. In churning sweet cream, almost every family practices "adding something," if the butter is long in coming. A little vinegar, or alcohol, (spirits of wine or whisky,) may sometimes be beneficial. We would recommend no other substances, and these are seldom necessary if the proper temperature is provided for. If the churning is done in a warm place, as by the side of a fire, or in a very cold room, the temperature of the cream will soon be increased or diminished, and by so much will the result be less satisfactory. In a cold day let the churning be done in a room moderately warm, but at a distance from the fire, and in a hot day seek a cool place, where the thermometer stands not above 60°; or, if this can not be done, let the churn stand in a tub or barrel partly filled with cold water.

18. Treatment of the Butter.—As soon as the butter is gathered in the churn, remove it to a cool place and commence washing it immediately. This should be done thoroughly, for upon the rapidity and completeness of the separation of all traces of the buttermilk, will depend the quality—especially the keeping

quality—of the butter. As before stated (6 and 7) the casein and sugar, and not the pure butter itself, furnish the elements of rancidity and bad flavor. The better plan, where butter is designed for long-keeping, is to work or knead it till *all* the buttermilk is removed, then work it over with a little cold water in which a small quantity of soda has been dissolved—never more than half a teaspoonful to a gallon of water. The soda will assist in dissolving out the remaining casein and in neutralizing any acid already formed. When butter is not designed for keeping, the washing may be omitted, as, to some tastes, it slightly deteriorates the peculiar flavor of new butter. If the working is thoroughly done, there is less need of washing. In all cases let all water used be of the purest quality obtainable, and avoid all foreign substances. The smallest particle of lint, or organic substances of any kind, in butter, becomes the center of decay. The perspiration from the hands of the operator, is frequently the beginning of deterioration.

19. *Salting Butter.*—The first requisite is to get good salt. Most of that sold in market contains considerable quantities of the chlorides of magnesia and lime. These impurities are easily removed, and it is best to do this in salt for butter or cheese. To 8 or 10 lbs. of salt add a quart of boiling water, stir well now and then for an hour or two, pour off the water and hang up the salt in a straining cloth, or bag, to dry. The water will dissolve out the impurities, and some of the salt. This may be set aside to evaporate, and the refuse given to cattle, or used to salt green hay, so that there will be no waste. The salt thus prepared will be far superior for dairy use to that usually found in market. The amount of salt to be added to butter depends upon its freedom from casein—that is, upon the amount of working and washing it has received—and upon the length of time it is to be kept; and also upon the manner of packing, and the climate or degree of heat to which it is to be subjected. If butter is thoroughly freed from casein, and packed in vessels nearly air-tight, with the salt well worked in, and when not to be subjected to high temperature in warm climates, it will keep well with less than half an ounce of salt to the pound. Where none of these conditions are met, one and a half ounces, or even more, is required. About three-fourths of an ounce is the average quantity required. Many of the best butter makers recommend to add one-half of the salt, and let it stand 24 hours; then work over again, adding the other half. This process removes more of the water, and, as a consequence, more of the casein. It should be remembered that a particle of salt should come in contact with *every* particle of casein, and to be sure of this, the salt should be *thoroughly* worked in. To secure uniformity in adding the salt, spread the butter in a thin sheet, sprinkle a little salt all over the surface, roll it together, and repeat the process till all is added.

20. *Packing Butter.*—For home use, stone-ware vessels are undoubtedly the best. For transportation to distant markets, wood-

en vessels must be used. These should always be made of perfectly seasoned timber, and be water-tight. There is so much danger of flavor from the wood, that we have recommended heating the inside of the butter tubs nearly to charring, and then soaking them in a strong brine for a few hours or days. The heating can be done by placing them over a small coal-furnace, or by kindling a fire of shavings on the inside. No harm will be done if the entire inside is charred. The aromatic sap of the wood will by this means be destroyed, and the tubs will be all the more durable. After burning, the inside should of course be scraped entirely clean. The importance of this recommendation will be appreciated when we state, that one-half of all the butter carried to market in this country is more or less changed in flavor by the packing tubs. In putting down the butter, let it be thoroughly pressed together, to free it from confined air, and then let its surface be kept as much as possible from access of air. If the tubs or firkins can be headed up, so much the better. We have kept butter in a tub unchanged for an entire year, by covering it with a strong brine.

We have thus thrown out a few hints, which are probably all well known to good butter makers, but we write not for such especially. We may sum up the whole matter in a few words—cleanliness, temperature, and thorough working of butter. The great points in butter-making are, churning at 50 to 55 degrees, working *out* the casein (buttermilk), and working *in* the salt. Those who have a thermometer and strong arms, have the most essential implements for making good butter. We shall continue our hints upon cheese-making.

THE BEDFORD MOWER TRIAL.

REPORT OF THE JUDGES.

To the President of the Society of Agriculture and Horticulture of Westchester County :

The Committee appointed to decide upon the merits of the Mowing machines shown at the exhibition held under the auspices of the Society of Agriculture and Horticulture of Westchester County, at the farm of A. F. Dickinson, Esq., of Bedford, on the 15th and 16th of June inst., respectfully report :

That they were very greatly pleased with the performance of every machine exhibited, and can confidently say that they believe any one of them would give satisfaction to the farmers of the country, and when all are so excellent, it becomes a matter of considerable difficulty and embarrassment to the Committee to decide which one of them embodies the greatest number of desirable qualities. But as they all possess peculiar excellencies we will specify them under the following heads :

1st.—Operation of the machines on fair ground, driven at first by the same driver and team and afterward by the exhibitor's themselves or under their direction :

On this point your Committee find that the machines of Allen, Hallenbeck, Ketchum, and Manny are of equal excellence.

2d.—The lowest and smoothest cut of each machine :

Your Committee are of opinion that upon this point there is no marked difference in

the four machines just mentioned, (Allen's, Hallenbeck's, Ketchum's and Manny's).

3d.—Trial on rough uncleared bottom :
Your Committee on this point give the preference to Allen's and Russell's machines.

4th.—Evenness of grass as left by the machine for curing :

We find that the machines with the iron cutter bar have the preference in this respect.

5th.—Freedom of knives from clogging :
We are of opinion that the machines of Hallenbeck, Ketchum, Manny, and Russell, on account of the finger caps not reaching back to the finger-board, are least likely to clog.

6th.—Amount of power required to perform a given amount of work :

Your Committee think there is but little difference in this respect between the machines of Allen, Hallenbeck, and Manny.

7th.—Facilities of transportation from one field to another, and for escaping obstructions in the field :

We believe that Manny's machine has advantages over any other in this respect.

8th.—Durability and simplicity of construction :

We believe Allen's and Ketchum's the most durable, and Hallenbeck's the most simply constructed machines exhibited.

9th.—Cost of machines :

Allen's.....	\$120
Forbush's.....	120
Ketchum's.....	120
Ketchum's, made by Hull,.....	120
Manny's, made by Adriance,.....	120
Manny's, made by Ball,.....	115
Russell's.....	125
Hallenbeck's.....	106
Ketchum's, (one-horse machines).....	95

Your Committee in this report have included under the term of Ketchum's machines, that of Hull, and the one-horse Mower manufactured by Ruggles, Nourse & Mason. And also where Manny's is spoken of they mean to include the machines manufactured by Adriance of Worcester, Mass., and by Ball of Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

The machine brought upon the ground by Mr. Griffing, (Forbush's patent,) is not included in this Report, as the proprietors from some cause were not satisfied that it had a fair trial, not being able to have it in proper order.

R. MOTT UNDERHILL, Yorktown.
JEREMIAH HOWE, Lewisboro',
SAMUEL TEED, Somers,
STEPHEN BARNES, Northcastle,
HENRY WOOD, Bedford,
Committee.

We promised an account of the above trial, but the candid and excellent report of the Committee saves us the trouble of saying more than a word or two in explanation. The Tribune gave, on the 16th of June, the only report we have seen, and this is being copied by several exchanges. That report referred only to a *part* of the *first* day's proceedings, and was *very unfair*, inasmuch as the entire work laid out by the Committee was perfectly done, except the first swath.* The hardest and indeed the *only severe* test of the Mowers, was made on the *second* day, upon rough and stony ground; and upon

* The reporter estimated machines present as weighing from 500 to 525 lbs., whose weight was about 675 to 700 lbs. This is a fair sample of his correctness! The machine which he was certain "would take the first prize," did not make its appearance at the bruising trial in the clover field. It is very certain if it had, it would have been dangerous to the driver on such rough ground, and it would probably have come out of its swath worse injured than any other tried that day. So much for his judgment in such matters!

grass thoroughly wet with a hard rain of two hours' duration just before the trial commenced. The crop was clover in full blossom, about 18 inches high; and the ground covered with stones, from the size of a hen's egg to that of a man's head; while there were many sharp rocks projecting above the ground from 3 to 9 inches.

Such was the grass field alluded to in the 3d point in the report, as "rough, uncleaned bottom." The Committee's report tells the result. We will only add that Allen's machine (patented by S. S. Allen of New-Jersey—which seems from some cause to have been singled out by the Tribune's Reporter for special condemnation as "unsatisfactory to the public and the proprietors,") cut cleanly and beautifully over this rough ground, gathering the loose stones upon its fingers and tossing them behind, and gliding smoothly over the fast stones. Instead of being "unsatisfactory," both the proprietor and the spectators considered it a complete triumph. It came out of the rough trial uninjured, save two or three nicks in a knife, not larger than a pin's head.

On smooth ground, all the machines entered did very well; and the whole trial demonstrated the capability of Mowers to take the place of the hand-scythe, even on meadows which were thought to be proof against their use. That this was so, we think is evident from what we have just learned from the manufacturers of Allen's Mower, viz: that they have received a large number of orders from Westchester County since the trial. We presume the manufacturers of other Mowers will tell a similar story.

We are much pleased with the result, both at the above trial and at others, some of which are noticed in our advertising columns, to which we refer our readers. We are glad to see in prospect an end to "back aches" over the old scythe, and also the complaints of a lack of laborers at just the time when grass most needs to be cut. Now that their perfect practicability is established by actual field trials, several thousands of Mowers, and Mowers and Reapers, will be used this season by our farmers.

COL. J. M. SHERWOOD'S SALE OF SHORT HORNS,
AT AUBURN, N. Y., JUNE 20, 1854.

BULLS.

1. Third Duke of Cambridge (5941)—not sold.
2. La Fayette, red, calved June 5th, 1852, got by Vane Tempest (10,469), to Mr. Osborn, of Sandusky, Ohio.....\$350
3. Powhattan, roan, calved September 20, 1852, got by Vane Tempest (10,469), to Mr. Taylor, Ontario Co., N. Y.\$120
4. Novelty, white, calved Nov. 24, 1852—not sold.
5. Pope, red, Jan. 24, 1853, by Earle Seaham (10,181), to S. B. Payne, Geddes, N. Y.\$415
6. Young Cambridge, red, March 4, 1853, by 3d Duke of Cambridge (5941), to Edw. Jones, Stamford, Canada West.....\$500
7. Waterloo, red, July, 1851, by same as No. 2, to Mr. Butler, Seneca Co., N. Y. \$135
8. Chatauque Chief, roan, August, 1854, by imported Harold 2d, to Mr. Birdseye, Onondaga Co., N. Y.\$55

9. Prince Albert, red, April 26, 1855, by Earl Vave, to Mr. Ashton, Galt, Canada West\$75
10. Red Jacket, Nov. 3, 1853, by 3d Duke of Cambridge (5941), to J. W. Wilkin, Orange Co., N. Y.\$500
11. Schenandoah, Dec. 27, 1853, by same as No. 10, to Balkereil & Robinson, London, C. W.\$500

COWS.

1. Red Rose 2d, imported, bred by Mr. J. Stephenson of Durham, Eng., red, Nov. 1846, by Napier (6238), to Ambrose Stevens, \$300
 2. Red Rose 4th, same breeder as last, red, October 22, 1849, by Earle Chatham (10176), to Mr. Ashton, Galt, C. W.\$925
 3. Red Rose 5th, red, by 3d Duke of Cambridge (5941), to B. & S. Haines, Elizabethtown, N. J.\$600
 4. Red Rose 7th, red, October 1852, by same as No. 3, to Mr. Ashton.....\$620
 5. Red Rose 8th, roan, July 24, 1854, by same as No. 3, to Mr. Osborn, of Sandusky, Ohio\$250
 6. Red Rose 9th, red, January 26, 1855, by same as No. 3, to Thomas Gould, Aurora, N. Y., (re-sold to J. W. Wilkin, Orange Co., N. Y.)\$350
 7. Lady Sale 2d, roan, bred by same as No. 1, got by Earl Chatham (10176), to Mr. Ashton\$610
 8. Lady Sale 4th, white, Nov. 20, 1854, by same as No. 3, to J. R. Page, Sennett, N. Y.\$400
 9. La Polky 2d, roan, April 9, 1853, by Vane Tempest (10469), to J. W. Wilkin, Orange County, N. Y.\$410
 10. Phantom 3d, roan, April 24, 1853, by same as No. 9, to J. W. Wilkin\$450
 11. Lady Brown, roan, 3 years old, by Gen. Halsey, to Mr. Osborn.....\$200
 12. Style, roan, by imported Young Waterloo (2817) to Mr. Osborn.....\$220
 13. Lady, red, Dec. 1851, by imported Windle (5667) to Mr. Osborn\$310
 14. Flower, Aug. 18, 1853, by imported Wolviston, to Mr. Osborn\$260
 15. Pink, Aug. 31, 1854, by Woolviston, sick, unsold.
 16. Red Rose 10th, roan, May 30, 1855, by same as No. 3, to Mr. Ashton\$350
- Nine Bulls sold for\$2,650
Average per head ...\$294 44
Fifteen Cows sold for\$6,255
Average per head ...\$417 00
Total—24 Animals sold for\$8,905
Average per head ...\$371 04

PRESERVATION OF WHEAT FROM THE ATTACKS OF THE WEAVEL.—M. Caillat, in the *Comptes Rendus*, a French journal, says:

"The efficacy of tar in driving away the weavel and preserving the grain, is an incontestable fact. My father had, a long time ago, his granaries, barns, and the whole house, infested with these insects, so much so that they penetrated into all the chests, and among the linen. He placed an open cask impregnated with tar in the barn, and then in the granaries; at the end of some hours the weavels were seen climbing along the walls by myriads, and flying in all directions away from the cask. On moving this tarred vessel from place to place, the premises were in a few days completely cleared of these troublesome and pernicious guests. The agriculturist who wants to get rid of weavels, may, as soon as he perceives their presence, impregnate the surface of some old planks with tar, and place them as required in his granaries. Care must be taken to remove the tar from time

to time in the course of the year, to prevent the return of the insects."

HOW TO USE A MOWING MACHINE.

Some of our best tools upon the farm are entirely useless for want of a little ingenuity or practical knowledge of the best method of using them. We lent our seed sower this spring to a neighbor, but he soon returned it unable to use it, through we had found it an indispensable article, doing the work of a half dozen men and doing it better. This is especially true of more complicated tools such as the new mowers and reapers that have lately come into use. Some farmers purchase these or take them on trial and pronounce them a failure, when the difficulty lies in the operator, and not in the machine. We requested an intelligent farmer, whom we found last summer mounted upon his mower, and doing a sweeping business with it, to give us some notes of his mode of operating the machine. We received the following private communication, which he will pardon us for laying before our readers, as it contains some hints, that will be of service to those who are just beginning to use these labor-saving machines:

WALNUT GROVE, Stonington, Ct., June 20, 1855.

DEAR SIR: * * * My machine was not so perfect as they make them this year; but after overhauling, fitting, wedging, oiling, and filing, so that every wheel would work freely, I started it with two horses. It went on very well for 10 or 15 minutes in rather light grass, but when coming into a spot of little heavier, it rolled up the cut grass under the shoe or flat iron brace, that goes from the under side of the cutter to the main frame, which clogged it up so much that the cutter was raised off the ground, and I was brought to a stop. This occurred every few moments, owing to this shoe not being polished or smoothed on the under side. [I found after it became worn a little it did not occur so often. The next difficulty was from the sharp shoe or tooth at the outer end, which would also gather, and take the grass along until it accumulated a large mass, which would raise the cutter over the grass. In order to guard against these two difficulties, I started a man to follow me with a rake, and told him to watch the weeds, and if he saw the grass accumulating, to pull it quickly and carefully off and over the knife. This I found answered the purpose well, and as they got worn smoother the trouble was less. But I found it necessary to have a man follow it with a rake, as when I stopped to clear the grass out it was necessary to haul the machine back a foot or so, and clear the hay all out from the teeth to let the motion get well started before it struck the grass. The next thing I discovered was that the knives must be kept quite sharp, stopping often to touch the edges with a stone and Rifler; also a fine flat file was useful when we had been in contact with a stone. We easily rubbed them up, by blocking up the end of the cutter. These short stoppages made a good rest for the horses, which is necessary as it is pretty heavy work.

I also found it important to grease the knife frame throughout. Care should be taken, while sharpening, to throw the wheel out of gear; as you might lose a finger, if the horses should start. After these discoveries I got it to working very well. Further experience showed that it cut much faster and easier, after the dew was off. The wet grass clogged up the slats in the teeth and sometimes hung to their points. I found

could do fifty per cent more work in dry grass than in wet.

It saves time to go round a large area in mowing rather than a small one and to have a space cleared at each end to drive the machine out upon, and to work the knives free of grass. They also are very convenient for the purpose of sharpening.

Let no one become discouraged by the failures and difficulties of the first day, and conclude that a machine is worthless because it does not work well at once. After four days of hard work, I got to understand it well, and worked it very much to my satisfaction. With two men at the corners and edges, with scythes about half the time in the morning, and the machine commencing at 7½ to 8 o'clock, we got done by 12 as much hay as all my force could get up by night, working till 7½ to 8, and I frequently had 14 men in the field. I cut for myself 45 acres, and 8 for Mr. Noyes. Some of my hay cut 2½ tons to the acre. The work is hard for horses, but as you use them but half a day and rest and water them often, they get along very well with it. And, take it altogether, I think it a very useful and saving machine. I calculate it cleared more than half its cost last year. I can well imagine that many persons would soon be discouraged in starting one of them, but I am very certain if they will persevere, and understand how to work it, they will never be without it, especially when good mowers are so hard to get in these days. I have no doubt ere long some improvement will be made in them, making them run with much more ease. I should have added above that, I go into the field with three knives all sharp, but two generally does the work of the day, changing during the forenoon once. If you can make out of this hasty description of my experience, an article that will enable some one else to use them successfully, I shall be very glad, as I think they meet the wants of farmers who cut much hay.

Respectfully yours,
JAMES J. DAY.

ST. PETERSBURG BIRD MARKET.

Perhaps for a stranger, the most interesting portion of this world of markets is that of the Tshukin Dvor, where the birds are sold. Two long rows of booths are full of living specimens of ornithology; pigeons, fowls, geese, ducks, swans, larks, bull-finches, siskins, and hundreds of other singing birds, are there collected, and form the most picturesque and variegated menageries that can be imagined. Each booth is of wood and open at the front, so that the whole of its contents may be seen at once by the passing stranger, who is saluted with such a concert of cackling, crowing, chattering, cooing, piping, and warbling, as would suffice to furnish the requisite idyllic supply of melodies for a hundred villages. Between the opposite booths are usually such bridges as I have already described, from which the pictures of saints are suspended, for the edification of the devout. On these bridges and on the booths whole swarms of pigeons are constantly fluttering about, the peaceful Russian being a great lover of this gentle bird. Each swarm knows its own roof, and the birds allow themselves to be caught without much difficulty when a bargain is about to be concluded. The pigeon is never eaten by a Russian, who would hold it a sin to harm an animal in whose form the Holy Ghost is said to have manifested itself. Pigeons are bought, therefore, only as pets, to be fed and schooled by their masters. It is curious to see a Russian merchant directing the flight of his docile scholars. With a little flag fastened to a long staff he conveys his signals to them, makes them at his will rise

higher in the air, fly to the right or left, or drop to the ground as if struck by a bullet from a rifle.

The poor little singing birds—the larks, nightingales, linnets, bullfinches, &c.—must be of a hardier race than in more southern lands; for in spite of the bitter frost they chirrup away merrily, and salute with their songs every straggling ray of sunshine that finds its way into their gloomy abodes. The little creatures receive during the whole long winter not one drop of water, for it would be useless to offer them what a moment afterwards would be converted into a petrified mass. Their troughs are accordingly filled only with snow, which they must liquefy in their own beaks when they wish to assuage their thirst.

Moscow is famed for its cocks, and here the Moscow cock may be seen proudly stalking about, in cages and out of them. The best pigeons are said to come from Novgorod, and Finland furnishes the chief supply of singing birds; geese are brought even from the confines of China, to be sold as rarities in the Tshukin Dvor, after a journey of more than 4,000 miles; grey squirrels may be seen rolling about in their cages like incarnate quicksilver; while rabbits and guinea-pigs, without number, gambol their time away in their little wooden hutches. Within the booth, a living center of all this living merchandise, behold the merchant, closely encoined in his wolfskin, and ready to dispose of his little feathered serfs at any acceptable price. At the back of the booth, be sure, there hangs a saintly picture of some sort, its little lamp shedding a cheerful light to guard the feathered crowd against the evil influence of intruding demons; but there are evil spirits that the good saint can not banish. Man is there to hold in chains or to sentence to death, according as it may suit his calculations of profit, or the caprices of his palate. On shelves around are ranged the trophies of his murderous tribe, and the northern swans, the heathcocks (*reptshiki*), and snow-white partridges (*kurapatki*), are piled up under the very cages from which the captive larks warble their liquid notes.

It is astonishing what a quantity of these birds are yearly consumed at the luxurious tables of St. Petersburg. In winter the cold keeps the meat fresh, and at the same time facilitates its conveyance to market. The partridges come mostly from Saratoff, the swans from Finland, Livonia and Esthonia supply heathcocks and grouse, and the wide steppes must furnish the trapp geese which flutter over their endless plains, where the Cossack hunts them on horseback, and kills them with his formidable whip. All these birds, as soon as the life-blood has flown, are converted into stone by the frost, and packed up in huge chests are sent for sale to the capital. Whole sledgeloads of snow white hares find their way to the market; the little animals are usually frozen in a running position, with their ears pointed and their legs stretched out before and behind, and when placed on the ground look at the first glance as if they were in the act of escaping from the hunter. Bear's flesh is also sometimes offered for sale in this market; and here and there may be seen a frozen reindeer lying in the snow by the side of a booth, its hairy snout stretched forth upon the ground, its knees doubled up under its body, and its antlers rising majestically into the air; it looks as if, on our approaching it, it would spring up, and dash away once more in search of its native forests. The mighty elk, likewise, is no rare guest in this market, where it patiently presents its horns as a perch for the pigeons that are fluttering about, till, little by little, the ax and the saw have left no fragment of the stately animal,

but every part of it has gone its way into the kitchens of the wealthy.

Similar markets for birds and game will be found in every large Russian city. Indeed the habits and fashions of the Russian markets are completely national. Those of Moscow vary but little from those of Tobolsk; and Trkhutsh, Odessa, and Archangel have shown themselves equally servile in their imitation of the metropolitan bazaars.

J. G. Khol's "Russia."

CROPS, FRUIT, &C, IN DELEWARE.

Mr. Jesse Higgins, writing from McDonough, Del., under date of June 23, says:

Much is said about the flattering prospect of the crops. The wheat in this section is backward, and will not be ready to cut before the first of next month. I have no reason to believe there will be a large crop—though the country could present few finer fields than we have had here in years past—the seed having been put in very late, in consequence of the drouth, and the winter acting on it severely, on account of the little snow. It now promises to head well, and we may have an average crop, but not more. The oat crop will be larger than we have had for years. Corn is backward yet, but as we have warm weather now, the prospect is good. Peaches are rather too plentiful, it being necessary to shake many trees to prevent their breaking.

NARCOTICS.

The learned Dr. James T. Johnson, whose valuable work—"The Chemistry of Common Life"—is receiving great attention in England and our own country, has the following interesting statement in regard to the narcotics mankind indulge in. It will be inferred that the man of science has but slight faith in the virtue of legal enactments. He says:

Siberia has its fungus—Turkey, India, and China, their opium—Persia, India, and Turkey; with all Africa from Morocco to the Cape of Good Hope, and even the Indians of Brazil, have their hemp and haschisch—India, China, and the Eastern Archipelago their betel-nut and betel-pepper—the Polynesian islands their daily ava—Peru and Bolivia their long-used coca—New Granada and the Himalayas their red and common thorn-apples—Asia and America, and all the world, we may say, their tobacco—the Florida Indians their emetic holly—Northern Europe and America their ledums and sweet gale—the Englishman and German their hop, and the Frenchman his lettuce. No nation so ancient but has had its narcotic soother from the most distant times—none so remote and isolated but has found within its own borders a pain allayer and narcotic care-dispeller of native growth—none so savage which instinct has not led to seek for, and successfully to employ, this form of physiological indulgence. The craving for such indulgence, and the habit of gratifying it, are little less universal than the desire for, and the practice of consuming the necessary materials of our common food. Thus it may be estimated that the several narcotics are used:

Tobacco.....	among.....	300 millions of men.
Opium.....	".....	400 "
Hemp.....	" 200 to 300	"
Betel.....	".....	100 "
Coccol.....	".....	10 "

SCARCITY OF HORSES IN EUROPE.—A correspondent of the Spirit of the Times, writing from Paris under date of May 31, remarks on the state of the London horse market as follows:

Ladies' saddle-horses are not to be had neither are carriage horses, which will sur

prise you. In thirteen days' search I could not find a decent pair for sale at any price. If this war lasts another year, the Europeans will be importing horses from America; and it would be well worth the attention of our farmers and breeders to raise large horses, sixteen handers, fit to draw a heavy carriage, or carry a heavy man. Good gentlemen's saddle-horse are still to be found, by paying for them; a first-rate one stands you in \$800.

EXPERIMENTS IN RAISING RABBITS.

Being well pleased with the Lop-eared or Madagascar rabbits, I endeavored to breed them, but failed in many instances. After much inquiry I came to the conclusion that to insure success we must conform our management and food as nearly as circumstances would permit, to the climate and productions of their native country, and on so doing, our success will mainly depend.

Ex. No. 1.—Erected at considerable expense, a covered building 22 by 12, divided off into pens 4 by 8, with every convenience for a winter or summer residence, and dedicated it "Our Rabbitry." Gave the rabbits good and sweet hay and oats, all they would eat—ripe and sound apples every day—turnips all they would eat, and sometimes gave a medium sized cabbage leaf to a full grown rabbit—sometimes would omit for 2 or 3 days giving anything but hay and oats—gave no water at any time; and the result was they were doing well; and as the man we read of said, "He was doing well, and wanted to feel better."

Ex. No. 2.—We commenced in the spring, and continued to the middle of July, giving them all they would eat of excellent green clover and other succulent food, and lost some of the old stock and every young rabbit before 4 months old.

Ex. No. 3—Commenced cutting short of all green food, cabbage and the like in particular, and was getting along better. Our old rabbits did not die, and succeeded in raising one or so of each litter. Thinking it would do a litter of young (2 months old) good, made a pen out in the open ground, partly covered so as to shield them from a storm, and they all died before 3 weeks.

About this time we were getting over the "rabbit fever;" but our friend handed us "Delamater on Rabbits," &c., and we began to "breathe easier," and quietly submitted to follow out his directions as far as our climate and circumstances would permit, and have succeeded in doing well up to last week, when we thought, as a final and last experiment, we would just try Mr. Rotch's system of feeding, on an old doe, which until this time had been with us through all our adversities. The result was we buried her on the 28th of May, 1855.

To breed successfully, "Madagascar or Lop-eared Rabbits," dry food—temperature, summer and winter, about 75 degrees Fahrenheit—"hands off, or look but don't touch the young," and it will apply to the old—and if you desire to feed grass, cut and let it dry one day in the sun. We have of late given a small handful fresh cut without dew or rain upon it, but give it as a salad. Give no leaves of cabbages or the like at any time.

The past winter we fed the best of hay and oats, all they would eat, together with a medium sized ruta бага or turnip, to a full grown rabbit, each day, and occasionally the stumps of cabbages, but on no occasion leaves, as we feel certain it will do them no good, and will injure in a greater or less degree. Avoid placing your hutches in a damp place or draughts of wind, as it is certain death to the old and young.—J. RAMSEY, in *Country Gentleman*.

For the American Agriculturist.

RECIPES.

SUPERIOR BREAKFAST CAKE.—Three cups of corn meal; one cup of wheat-flour; one egg; two cups of sweet milk, one cup sour cream, or in the absence of cream, a little butter, or one teaspoonful saleratus, do. of salt. Bake in a quick oven. A little molasses improves it.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.—One cup molasses, one egg; one-half cup milk, if sweet, use cream tartar and soda, a large table-spoonful drippings or butter, a little ginger, and salt.

BAG PUDDING.—One pint new milk, one egg, two parts of corn meal to one of wheat flour, handful dried fruit, teaspoonful salt. If sour milk is used add teaspoonful saleratus. Stir not very stiff.

TO TAKE INK OUT OF LINEN.—Saturate the spots with melted tallow, then wash in suds. This is the best way I ever saw.

STARCH FOR LINENS.—I have seen much said about different ways of preparing starch, and have tried many with indifferent success. I like the following as well as any. Allow one teaspoonful starch for each bosom, and dilute with cold water, till it is just thin 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 too thin at first with cold water.

I have observed with regret that of late the *American Agriculturist* contains but few recipes, and wishing to see more I send the above, hoping that it may induce others to do the same. They are not all original with me but I do not remember to have seen any of them in print. LIBBIE.

We thank "Libbie" for her effort to add to the interest of the *American Agriculturist*, and hope she will continue it. We prefer full particulars as to order of adding ingredients, method of mixing, baking &c. One recipe thus fully described will attract more attention—and be adopted by others sooner than a hundred giving an outline only.

We have a large drawer full of recipes, but generally do not publish any thing of this kind unless it possesses peculiar merit, and is attested by some one who speaks from practical experience.—Ed.

NUMBER OF SEEDS IN GIVEN WEIGHTS.—Mr. Melvin stated, in a late discussion at an English Farmer's Club, that, after several trials, he had found that—

1 lb. of red clover, of good quality, gives per acre to each superficial foot	61	seeds.
1 lb. yellow clover, (<i>medicago lupulina</i>)	6	"
1 lb. white clover	16	"
1 lb. rye grass	5	"

But, as a large number of the seeds sown do not vegetate, and many of the plants which come up die, it is necessary to sow much larger quantities than are specified; and Mr. M. recommends, for an acre, 8 lbs. red clover, 2 lbs. white do., 2 lbs. yellow do., with one bushel of rye grass, which, by his computation, affords 100 seeds rye grass, 50 of red clover, 23 white, and 12 yellow clover, per superficial foot. In this country, a good substitute for the rye grass would be the same quantity of red top per acre.

WISE LEGISLATOR.—A shrewd farmer in the Vermont Legislature declined answering the speech of a member who was remarkable for nothing but his pugnastie impudence and self-conceit. "For, Mr. Speaker," said he, "I can't reply to that speech, for it always wrenches me terribly to kick against nothing."

Horticultural Department.

NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

JUNE EXHIBITION.

We are happy to chronicle an interesting and successful exhibition by this society, after a somewhat lengthened period of retirement from public effort; and we confidently hope this is but the beginning of new life and energy. This city has the men and materials for the noblest horticultural efforts. All that is wanting to success is enterprise and confidence. The chief difficulty with the past has been a lack of confidence resulting from one or two unfortunate enterprises. The successful show of last week, notwithstanding the unpropitious weather, will tend to inspire hope and awaken activity in the future.

The show of flowers, &c., was quite large, and embraced a considerable variety. The two most prominent features were the display of choice Roses and elegant bouquets. There were several long tables of Roses and other cut flowers, including many fine specimens of Verbenas, Gladioles, Syringas, Peonies, Carnation Pinks, several varieties of Cactus flowers, fancy Geraniums, Pansies, Callas, Aeschutas, &c. The show of Fuchsias was not very large, but consisted of choice specimens in excellent training. Mr. Thomas Hogg, of Yorkville, exhibited two rare Orchids, one of them the *Coryantha maculata*, or air plant, from Damarara. This, we believe, is the second time it has bloomed in this country. The blossoms are light brown and delicate salmon color. From two minute tubes tear-drops are continually falling into the boat-shaped cup beneath, while a mimic bird sits perched upon the edge of the cup sipping from the fountain. Near these were specimens of the *Caladium bicolor*, *Ardisia crenulata*, *Polypodium aureum*, &c.

The bouquets and baskets of flowers, and the floral design, we will not attempt to describe, for they must have been seen to be appreciated. We do not call to mind any former exhibition where we have observed upon one table an equal number of so large and so tastefully arranged specimens.

There was a good show of Strawberries, including Hovey's Seedling, Schneike's Pistillate or Longworth's Prolific, Crimson Cone, Jenny's Seedling, Iowa, and Burr's Mammoth. Mr. Chorlton exhibited the fine specimens of Grapes noticed last week in our report of the Brooklyn show. We saw also the much admired *Cissus discolor*, noticed in that report. It had visibly increased in size. It is a Brazilian plant, and was exhibited by Martin Collopy, gardener to Mr. J. H. Prentice of Brooklyn.

We have not room for further particulars. The general arrangement of the room exhibited excellent taste, and the whole show was highly creditable to all who participated in getting it up. The names of the principal contributors we have omitted above, as they will be found in the premium list given below.

An address was expected from William

Cullen Bryant, the Poet, but he was absent for the reason stated in the following interesting letter to Wilson G. Hunt, Esq., the President of the Society, which was read to the audience by the Secretary, Peter B. Mead:

NEW-YORK, Tuesday, June 19, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR: May I ask of you to lay before the company assembled this evening in the rooms occupied by the Exhibition of the Horticultural Society my apology for not appearing to address them as I had engaged to do. For some days past I have suffered with a swelled face which has prevented me from preparing myself for the occasion in the manner I wished, and which unfits me for appearing to-day.

It had been my intention to advert to some of the more remarkable triumphs of horticulture in heightening the beauty of flowers and improving the quality of fruits, and thence to draw encouragement for those who follow this pursuit in our own country. The favorite varieties of cherry in France and England decay for the most part the instant they ripen in the warm and often showery weather of our June and the beginning of July, and we have yet to acquire varieties suited to our climate which will preserve their freshness a reasonable time after maturity. The apricot blossoms are so often nipped by the Spring frosts that they can never be relied on to produce fruit, and we have yet to inquire whether more hardy, or, at least, later blooming varieties, could not be found on the declivities of Lebanon, or further North on the skirts of Caucasus, which are in some cases covered in large tracts with apricot trees. I intended to have given some facts from my own observation to show that the grape of Europe in its natural state is not by any means the agreeable fruit we find it in the cultivated varieties. From these and from the tendency of our native grape to run into innumerable varieties, I thought it might be reasonably expected that we should yet produce on vines of a hardier and more luxuriant growth native grapes, rivaling in every respect those of the old world. I meant to show that the American gooseberry naturally passes into varieties very different from each other, and from this to infer the improvability of the fruit to such a degree that we might hope to produce it of as large a size and as fine a flavor as those of England, yet free from the mildew which attacks the English gooseberry in our climate. The fruit of the American blackberry is naturally of a finer flavor than the European and greatly varies in quality even in the fields. We may yet have as many varieties of this fruit as of the raspberry. No attempt, I believe, has been made to improve the fruit of the American plum, whether the Chickasaw, the red or the beech plum, while the art of the gardener has been exhausted in obtaining from the plum of the old world varieties most remarkably different in size and flavor, from the little mirabelle of the size of a bullet to the magnum bonum vieing in dimensions with the peach. If the custard-apple of the West had been a native of Europe, can we suppose it would not have been brought into the gardens centuries ago, cultivated with care, rendered prolific, improved in size and flavor, and made a common table fruit in its season?

One of the most splendid garden flowers is the pansy. Its parent is the little three-columned violet of Europe, pretty, but too small to be conspicuous. By crossing it with other species of the violet and pampering the hybrid plant, a dazzling combination of glowing colors has been produced; the stalks have become tall and the petals broad. We have among the flowers of our own

fields a little white violet of intense fragrance. By the same process of hybridization it is probable that its size might be enlarged and its fragrance retained, and a new ornament be added to our gardens. We have other beautiful flowers in our forests and fields for which art has yet done nothing to make their bloom less transient. In the prairies of the West flourish bulbous plants worthy of a place on our window-sills in March with the hyacinth, narcissus and the Syrian anemone.

These are some of the topics on which I intended to dwell, and I mention them now because it seems to me that as suggestions of what may yet be accomplished in horticulture, they may be considered as not entirely without value.

I am, Sir, respectfully and truly yours,
TO WILSON G. HUNT, Esq. W. C. BRYANT.

After this letter was read, Rev. Mr. Osgood was called out, and taking the stand, he gave a short address, which was received with frequent bursts of applause. The following is an outline of his remarks:

In this world of sharp corners I have tried to do a few good-natured things, but I think to consent to come here and speak where Bryant was expected is certainly no small sacrifice. You are disappointed, and I am inclined to believe that the flowers are too; for all beauties have a kind of an understanding with each other and are fond of each other's society; and I have no doubt but there is a sympathetic vaim between the beauty of the flower and the beauty of the fancy of the poet. But I remember once of reading in the poems of a Russian poet of a clod of earth that was fragrant; and they asked of it, "What is this, are you musk or amber that you are so fragrant?" And the clod replied, "Oh, no! I am nothing but earth; but the roses have dwelt near me, and their sweetness has penetrated all my being." So then listen to me, although I may be but a clod among the flowers. You expected Bryant to address you to-night. It is a pleasant thing that our great American poet has been so much interested in the culture of flowers; and it is also pleasant that he has written a letter that shows so much knowledge as well as so much heart. We find that his majestic imagination is willing to stop and see beauty in a way-side flower. Now, ladies and gentlemen, I will not conceal it from you that I am in a difficulty. I am here to say something. What shall it be? I suppose that Wall-street is here to-night in good numbers. Wall-street is everywhere. I believe that he is sometimes very much calumniated. I am inclined to think that old Cent Per Cent when he is counting his dollars in Wall-street once in a-while dreams of green fields and blooming flowers. Whenever a little child comes to him with a bouquet of flowers I warrant you that his heart beats in the impulses of true humanity, and old Cent Per Cent is, after all, a man. Goethe, in his Faust, makes Mephistophiles fear the influence of flowers. When he was claiming Faust a shower of roses fell about them, and soon Mephistophiles became alarmed for himself, and was so affected that he was obliged to close his nostrils lest he should be converted and be no longer a devil. The value of flowers is not what they bring in the market, but in their own loveliness. When we ask of the little flower what is its use, it can ask back to many of us, "Sir, of what use are you?" There are many of us who live a wordly and not a beautiful life, who would find it pretty hard to stand the test of the little flower's catechism. When we make a present we find it difficult to direct what to give. We desire that a gift be valuable. But there is one coin which in the market of sentiment is always gold—it is the coinage

of Nature's sweet flowers. The language of flowers always goes to the heart. It is a language not in books, but is written in the hieroglyph of Nature itself. I do not know how they learned it, but we have all had proof that they understand it; and if a person who has reached the years of discretion has never felt this language of flowers go direct to his heart, I can only say that I look upon him with feelings of commiseration. So much for the beauty of flowers, those messengers of Heaven that are constantly rebuking our gross utilitarianism, and teach us that God has made life to be lovely as well as useful. I believe that we are Americans, for I think a great deal of being an American. If we try to be something else than what we are, we simply make ourselves ridiculous. If we try to be Counts and Dukes, we are just nothing at all, neither Counts, Dukes, nor Americans. The true course is for a man to be himself, the son of his own father, and the fellow-citizen of his own fellow-citizen. With this great idea in the minds of the people, I can see a noble future for America in social refinements and beautiful tastes. We are to have a life far more beautiful and festive than we have ever known. What a connection there is between the cultivation of flowers and the refinements of home! With horticulture we have seen a new system of architecture. What name stands higher than that of Downing? Go where you will and you will see some memorial of his fine fancy—some monument of his architectural skill. We are a business people, but we believe in being a refined people, and will welcome the day when in our homes, in the green fields under the spreading trees, we shall enjoy ourselves with childhood and age, man and woman, music and flowers, and will receive the benediction of God smiling down upon us.

Previous to reading Mr. Bryant's letter, the President gave a short address, returning thanks to the gardeners and amateurs for their valuable contributions, and to the Mercantile Library Association for the use of their Hall, which had been generously tendered to them gratuitously. He stated the objects of the Society to be to familiarize the people with the science of Horticulture, to awaken a love for the beautiful, and to cultivate a taste for this chaste and elevating occupation.

PREMIUMS.

At the conclusion of Mr. Osgood's remarks, the Secretary announced the following list of premiums were awarded to the competitors in the exhibition:

Plants in Pots.—Best collections of Fuchsias, premium of \$5; awarded to David Scott, gardener to Mrs. Holbrook, 19th-st., New-York.

Best single specimen-plant in bloom, premium of \$3; awarded to David Scott for Azalea Danielsiana. A special premium of \$3 for the same, to Martin Collopy, gardener to J. H. Prentice, Esq., for Cissus Discolor.

Seedling Plants.—Premium of \$2; awarded to J. Suttle for a fancy Pelargonium.

Premium of \$1; awarded to Mr. Cranston for seedling Antirrhinum.

Premium of \$2; awarded to D. Boll, 49th st., for the best seedling Verbena.

Diploma awarded to James Weir, Gowanus, L. I., for second best seedling Verbena.

Roses.—Best collection, premium of \$8; awarded to M. Donadi, Astoria, L. I.

Second best collection, premium of \$5; awarded to D. Boll, 49th-st.

Roses.—Best twenty-four, premium of \$3; awarded to G. Marx, Astoria, L. I.

Second best twenty-four, premium of \$2; awarded to M. Donadi, Astoria.

Roses.—Best twelve, premium of \$2; awarded to M. Donadi.

Second best, premium of \$1; to G. Marx. The Judges also make favorable mention of two Seedling Roses furnished by Mr. Cranstoun.

Hardy Herbaceous Plants.—Premium of \$5; awarded to J. Hewett, gardener to A. Bridgeman, Astoria.

Second best, premium of \$3; awarded to W. Cranstoun, gardener to Edwin A. Stevens, Hoboken.

Verbenas.—Best collection, premium of \$3; awarded to W. & J. Park, Brooklyn. Second best, premium of \$2; awarded to James Weir, of Long Island.

Bouquets.—Best pair of hand-bouquets, premium of \$5; awarded to J. Cranstoun, Hoboken. Second best, premium of \$3; to T. O'Connor. Best Parlor Bouquets, premium of \$5; awarded to J. Weir. Second best, premium of \$3; to W. Wilson of 14th-st., New-York.

Baskets of Flowers.—First premium of \$5; to W. Wilson, New-York. Second best, to W. & J. Park, Brooklyn.

Floral Design.—Special premium of \$2; awarded to George Saul, gardener to Shepherd Knapp, Washington Heights.

Anchusa.—Diploma awarded to D. Boll for a seedling Anchusa.

Strawberries.—To Dr. I. M. Ward, of Newark, N. J., for the best collection, a premium of \$5.

To J. Rapeleye, Astoria, for the best quart, called Longworth's prolific, a premium of \$3.

To Edward Decker, gardener to J. Q. Jones of Staten Island, a premium of \$2 for the second best quart.

Gooseberries.—To William Cairns, of Newark, N. J., \$2 for the best quart.

To Edward Decker for the second best quart, a premium of \$1.

Grapes.—To William Chorlton, gardener to J. C. Green, Staten Island, a premium of \$5 for the best four bunches of hot-house Grapes.

To William Chorlton a premium of \$3 was awarded for the best two bunches of one kind.

Cherries.—To Dr. I. M. Ward, of Newark, for the best collection of Cherries, a special premium of \$2.

Vegetables.—To Wm. Cranstoun for two extra fine Cauliflowers, a premium of \$2 was awarded.

To Cicero H. Ripley of Port Richmond, Staten Island, for a collection of Vegetables, a diploma was awarded.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.

THE GARDENS OF VERSAILLES—FLORAL EXHIBITION IN PARIS, &c.

[The following letter is from a lady correspondent, now in Paris.—Ed.]

PARIS, May 30, 1855.

My brain has become such a labyrinth of beautiful flowers, pictures, statues, and cascades, that the ideas can no longer find their way to my pen. I have seen Versailles in all its glory—its never-ending galleries of horrid old kings and frightful queens—its histories and allegories, its busts and vases, its fine views and splendid decorations, and have feasted my eyes until even the sight of a bed was a comfort—if it was the death-bed of one of France's most naughty kings. Latona was very beautiful, half hidden in the torrent those transformed Lybians poured upon her, to turn aside the vengeance of

Jupiter, whose aid she had sought in her dire distress. Apollo with his heavenly steeds made a charming feature in the distant landscape. The gardens were crowded in every direction with the Parisians in their tasteful dresses.

We did not visit the Trianon Orangery, or Floral Exhibition, for what we did see fatigued us sufficiently. Under one of the palace windows there is an arabesque garden of box-wood and grass, with narrow paths forming the patterns; the effect of the two shades of green is exceedingly beautiful. The quincecones of flowers do not compare with those of the Tuileries or Luxembourg; but the statues, fountains, intricate paths and wild-looking bosquets, make more variety, and far exceed the others. The laburnums, May horse chestnuts, catalpas and lilacs are still in full glory, and make the air redolent with delicious perfumes. The pink horse-chestnut and purple catalpa are not common with us; I think they are much more beautiful than the white. The Persian lilac trees dotted here and there upon the space in front of the Lux-Palace have a charming effect. There are two trees (lilacs) in a side garden, which are as large as good-sized plum trees, though shaped more like the apple tree. The tulips have been poor—a great variety of colors, and mostly all variegated, but they are not gay enough to have a good effect—and but few double ones. The rose trees are, some of them, of such mammoth size, they approach to that of a peach tree instead of a rose bush. The fashion of covering a whole bed with small pink flowers and having a border of fine blue ones, is very pretty—though I think white and pink would be still prettier. I have seen some splendid Cacti in bloom—one was the snake-species, falling around a hanging vase, with the crest of flowers at the top; it was beautiful.

All the vases in the gardens are kept filled with blooming plants, and are constantly changed as the season advances. It is the same with the beds of flowers, as soon as the blossoms begin to fade the plants are removed, and some later bloomers fill their places. The large bushes of pink peonies are lovely, and to an ignoramus in flowers are easily mistaken for large roses. I fooled Mr. G. by them. The crimson ones are just opening, and have been adding to their richness in color on their long journey to light. Cherries are becoming quite abundant, and are brought to market (the finest of course) packed in wooden boxes lined with paper, and arranged after the manner of figs. Strawberries as yet are sold in little earthen flower-pots, consequently must still be dear. I have not ventured to taste either as yet.

Afternoon.—We have been to-day to the Floral Exhibition, on the Champs Elysees. It seems like the work of a fairy—the change two months has made in that. It was then a barren place, with the exception of the large trees. Now there are green-houses, pagodas, Swiss cottages and temples, erected in all directions. Terraces with their green sides studded with daises, forget-me-nots, and other small flowers—fountains sending

up their waters in all directions—rustic seats—tasteful arbors—trellised fruit trees—refreshment salons—every variety of evergreen—the rarest flowers, both of earth and water—wire temples filled with birds surrounded with flowers—artificial lakes, with a variety of aquatic birds; one is of a pigeon-shape, with a pointed pinkish bill, which looks strangely floating on the water. There is one house devoted to ornamental vases, stands, and other ornamental constructions for holding flowers. Little glass hot-houses, to be kept warm by a lamp underneath; they are intended for tiny jars of cactus, or for starting seeds. There is one fountain—the basin is filled with aquatic plants in full flower—the water spouts from every petal both of plant and flower. An electric pump which could raise 70 to 150 litres* in a minute, and some small iron garden plows, with wheels at the back, attracted much attention; the share is like a scything-blade across the front, and is graduated as to depth by a spring, upon which the foot is placed.

I saw one pair of garden-shears, which took the lead of those we have—about three times as large, and moved on a pair of small wheels. They know how to mow here better than at home, a little! The display of fruit was great for the season in point of variety, but small in quantity; the imitation fruit was very perfect. We had lavished many longings upon one large basket of fruit before we discovered that it was artificial. The peaches had all the down which nature gives. The largest pears are the Belle Angelica, which are as big as a good-sized decanter. There were models of some foreign fruits, which were both rare and beautiful.

The display of Azaleas was splendid, with such masses of flowers that the leaves and branches could hardly be seen; geraniums were fine. One of a brown and white color was very odd-looking. Fuschias, poor; Calceolarias, splendid; Roses, faded. The famous Green Rose is certainly uncommon, but not at all pretty. The petals are formed like the green ones which surround the bud. Verbenas were scarce; Gilliflowers, very fine; Peonies in all shades, but few fragrant. There were beautiful aerial plants, and an endless quantity of such as I had never seen before. I can not find language to express all that I have seen of the exquisite and lovely in the last few days.

*A litre is 68.028 cubic inches, or about one and one-fifth quarts.—Ed.

GAIN OF TIME.—The difference between rising every morning at six instead of eight o'clock, in the course of forty years, amounts to 29,500 hours, or three years, 121 days and sixteen hours, which is eight hours a day for exactly nineteen years; so that rising at six will be the same as if ten years of life were added, wherein we may command eight hours of every day for the cultivation of our minds and dispatch of business.

It has been truthfully said by a satirist, that if some men could come out of their graves and read the inscriptions on their tombstones, they would think they had got into the wrong graves.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, June 28.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

FOR RATTLE-SNAKE BITES.

The following, says the New-York Sun, is an Indian recipe for rattle-snake bites, and said to be the same remedy used a few years ago by a certain tamer and exhibitor of these reptiles in this and other cities, who, it may be remembered, allowed them to bite him frequently during the exhibition

Pulverized Indigo..... 4 drachms.
Pulverized Camphor..... 8 drachms.
Alcohol..... 8 ounces.

Mix, and keep it in closely corked bottles. The directions for using are simply as follows: After shaking the bottle, soak the bitten part in the mixture for five minutes, and the cure is complete.

The difficulties that surround the above are too great for our feeble faith. Indigo will not dissolve in alcohol at any common temperature. The mixture consists, then, of nothing but every-day spirits of camphor—simple enough and convenient enough in case of accident; but we should be very loth to depend upon it, to the exclusion of more efficient means. The wound should be immediately sucked with the tongue, (these poisons produce no effect even if swallowed,) after which its surface may be burned with a hot iron. Fortunately the means of this treatment are always at hand, and it may be resorted to before the physician arrives, after which, if he directs an application of spirits of camphor, we have nothing to say.

Because the famous snake-tamer alluded to above was not poisoned by bites, it does not follow that this nostrum saved him. Rattle-snake bites are not generally fatal when no treatment is resorted to. A friend of ours, a physician, who has spent thirty years in a region of this State infested by them, informs us that he has known a number of instances of bites, but never knew a death to occur. The reptile further south is generally supposed to be more venomous. It is but a few years since a physician of this city lost his life by carelessly handling one of these southern serpents, that had been sent to him as a zoological specimen, and appeared to be torpid. The condition of a person's system is supposed to make a difference, too. Dissecting wounds are some-

times of no account, and at other times give rise to dangerous or fatal erysipelas.

But why call this mixture "Indian"? The Indians were not acquainted with a single one of its ingredients—Indigo, alcohol, or camphor. They were ignorant of the virtues of most of the simples that grew around them, their method of cure consisting in a system of incantation, as senseless as the ravings of a maniac or those whispers that drive away the bots. Why is it that nostrums pretend to be Indian to secure a sale? or that an Indian doctor always has a certain amount of a certain kind of business? This disposition to believe in the marvelous seems to be most rife in the affairs of medicine. People never think of consulting an Indian lawyer or an Indian divine. They put too high an estimate on their property and their souls. Why will they risk their lives on any such recipes?

Not long since a worthy old Methodist preacher was complained of before the Conference for dabbling in medicine. "How is this, brother H—?" said the Bishop, "do you presume to meddle with such matters?" "Never," was the reply, "except to give advice in difficult cases." "But such cases," continued the Bishop, "are the very ones you have no business with." "Ah," returned the old gentleman, "I advise them to send for a doctor." We need not add the complaint was dismissed.

So, in the case of a rattle-snake bite, or any other serious accident, our recipe is only for immediate use, and ends with "Send for the doctor."

DETESTABLE VANDALISM.

We see it reported in the Rural New-Yorker, that ten fine Durham cattle, from the imported stock of Col. L. G. Morris of Fordham, have been stolen and slaughtered, and sold in the New-York market. This is an error. The animals stolen were *grades*, belonging to W. H. Morris, a cousin of L. G. Morris. The act itself is no less reprehensible, and we hope the miscreants who perpetrated it will all be arrested, and put upon salt-beef rations at Sing Sing to the longest limit permitted by law. Farmers, and stock raisers, however, will be glad to learn, that the missing animals are not from Col. Morris's imported herd, so highly prized and so valuable.

BREADSTUFFS, &C., FROM CALIFORNIA.

We stated two weeks since that several ships were loading at San Francisco, with flour and grain, for this country and Australia. By the last California arrival we learn that extensive shipments of these commodities are still going on. The clipper ship Charmer, sailed for New-York the last of May, with the following products of California soil: 5,025 bags barley, 6,900 quarter bags flour, 15,030 bags wheat, 192 bales wool, 333 do. sheep skins, 410 sheep skins, 275 calf skins, 1,442 hides, 37 casks mint sweepings, 700 flasks quicksilver, 108 bales rags. And of returned goods of which there was a surplus there: 1,300 doz. shovels, 13 pairs

smiths' bellows, 60 cases tobacco, 6 do. dry goods, 68 cases and casks hardware, 197 casks, cases and bbls. merchandise.

The clipper ship S. S. Bishop, for this port, had on board one million two hundred thousand (1,200,000) pounds of flour and wheat, and one hundred bales of wool. The clipper ship Telegraph, had on board, June 1st, 800,000 lbs. of wheat and barley, and would sail for New-York with a full cargo soon. The ship Adelaide, was also loading for the same destination, with over two millions lbs. of breadstuffs (1,000 tuns). In addition to these we have reports of similar shipments to Liverpool Australia, &c. If these exports take place now, what are we to look for but a few years hence?

BEE-STING AND TOOTH-ACHE—The pain of a bee-sting may be at once relieved, and the subsequent swelling prevented, by wetting the part with spirits of hartshorn (water of ammonia). The sting is hollow, and there is a little drop of poison at its root that is driven through it by the pressure of its insertion, and deposited in the wound. The poison is said to be of an acid nature, and to be destroyed by this volatile alkali.

The pain of tooth-ache, also, is relieved oftener by a few drops of hartshorn on a bit of lint inserted into the cavity of the tooth, than by any other application. Keep a vial of it, well corked, in the house, and if you are fortunate enough to need it for nothing else, use it to restore the color destroyed by fruit stains.

SUCCESSION OF DELICIOUS FRUITS.—Strawberries, which have been abundant, are slowly diminishing in quantity, but raspberries will soon be ready to take their place; and from all accounts, there will be a large yield the present year. These will be followed by blackberries, which also promise to be in abundance. Following these, we shall this year have peaches in quantities and at prices to suit every taste and every purse. What is lacking in the above will be made up by whortleberries, cherries, early plums, &c.

LABORERS WANTED.—The Nebraska City News mentions that the farmers and mechanics of that territory complain loudly of their inability to procure workmen. They offer, it says, extravagant wages, but work hands are not to be had. The difficulty does not seem to be that laborers are lazy or even scarce; but every one who goes there immediately sets up for himself—becomes an employer instead of a seeker for employment.

THE GRAPE CROP in the vicinity of Cincinnati has been much damaged by recent heavy rains, and the Commercial says that from present prospects but little more than half a crop may be expected.

About 2,600 immigrants were landed in the City of New-York from Europe on Saturday last.

The markets of San Francisco were filled with delicious fruits and garden vegetables on the first of June.

SOUTH SALEM (N. Y.) FARMERS' CLUB.—We learn that some twenty members of this Club met upon the farm of Mr. Henry Keeler, on the 21st inst., and had an interesting and profitable time in examining his general method of cultivation, agricultural implements, grapery, &c. The Club adjourned to meet upon the farm of Mr. S. G. Howe, on the third Tuesday in August. We had an interesting visit at Mr. Keeler's farm a few weeks since. His improved implements, and various ingenious contrivances in and about his house, barns, &c., will repay any one for going to see them; and we doubt not the club were pleased with their afternoon's entertainment.

THE JAMESBURG (N. J.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its annual Fair on the 18th of September. This has heretofore been strictly a Fair—that is, a meeting for exhibition and sale, and not for competition. It is proposed to give diplomas for the best articles exhibited at the next Fair. The following officers were elected on the 9th inst. for the ensuing year:

President—James Buckalew.
Vice Presidents—Ralph C. Stults, Alexander Redmond, Benjamin Budd, and Frederic Farr.
Corresponding Sec'y—Jas. C. Magee.
Recording Secretary—Wm. H. Courter.
Treasurer—John D. Buckalew.
Committee of Arrangements—Andrew McDowell, James Applegate, Peter Voorhees, Geo. Farr, and Thos. S. Snediker.
Committee of Ways and Means—Thos. S. Mershon, Wm. Redmond, G. P. Metcalf, J. B. Thompson, and S. Van Wickle.

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY (PA.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY holds its next Show at Norristown, October 3d and 4th. The premiums amount to some \$1200, and a spirited Show may be looked for. The present officers are,

President—Edwin Moore.
Vice Presidents—Samuel Roberts, Thos. P. Knox, Wm. H. Holstein.
Treasurer—D. C. Getty.
Corresponding Sec'y—A. W. Corson.
Recording Sec'y—George F. Roberts.

THE WALDO COUNTY (ME.) AGRICULTURAL SHOW will take place at Belfast, October 3d and 4th. The present officers are,

President—A. W. Burrill, Waldo.
Vice Presidents—E. P. Brown, John Heagan.
Secretary—Robert White, Belfast.
Treasurer—Wm. T. Colburn, Belfast.

THE MERCER COUNTY (N. J.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its first annual Exhibition at Hightstown, September 25th. The officers are,

President—Isaac Pullen.
Vice Presidents—C. S. Hutchinson, E. T. R. Applegate, Jas. C. Norris, Wm. Conover.
Recording Sec'y—C. P. Johnson.
Corresponding Sec'y—J. S. Ely.

John Wilkes was once asked by a Roman Catholic gentleman, in a warm dispute on religion, "Where was your church before Luther?" "Did you wash your face this morning?" inquired the facetious alderman. "I did, sir." "Then, pray, where was your face before it was washed?"

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

The attractiveness of a room does not depend on the richness and expense of its furniture, but on the taste which selects and arranges it. A city parlor is no model for one in the country. That which is suitable for one may be entirely inappropriate to the other. Elegant furniture, rich curtains, showy mirrors, and velvet carpets belong to those who have nothing pleasant to look upon without the walls of their dwellings, but in the country far more simplicity is desirable, and in better taste. I do not like a profusion of gilding anywhere. It always has a tawdry and vulgar look, but in a country house it is shocking.

There should be a correspondence in the furniture of a room. People who have never thought of this would be surprised at the beautiful effect of harmony in color that can be secured by proper attention. They are pleased, but they do not know why they are pleased. I well recollect the impression made upon my mind years ago by a simple parlor furnished in a most economical style. The wood work was painted cream color. The paper was of a small figure, buff and white. The carpet was brown and wood-colored. There was a sofa in the room. The chairs had mahogany-colored frames and cane-seats. There were various smaller seats made of soap-boxes and shoe-boxes, covered with brown and buff striped furniture calico. The effect was exceedingly pleasing. "What a pretty room this is," was the exclamation of almost every visitor. There were but two colors in the room, although there were various shades of them—brown and buff. These afforded an agreeable contrast, and harmonized admirably together.

Another room has often pleased, me where the furniture is all bird's-eye maple. Instead of a stuffed sofa there is a cane-seated one similar to the chairs. A hair cloth sofa may be comfortable, but where it affords a violent contrast to chairs and tables it is not so pretty as something more simple. Damask and plush, I do not consider at all desirable in most country houses. Where there are curtains they should be of a color which either corresponds with, or contrasts well with the carpet and paper.

Furniture should not be stationed in a row against the wall, as if drawn up in military order, but should be placed where it would most naturally and socially be used. No particular directions can be given about these things, for each individual's taste must preside in her own house, but hints we often find to be of value to us.

If you wish to add an ottoman or two to your parlor, and think you can not afford the expense, I would recommend a resort to soap-boxes. These can be made as comfortable as anything you can purchase. Springs can be procured for two or three York-shillings a dozen. Five of these are sufficient for one box. Secure large blocks in each corner of the box inside. Castors can be firmly inserted in these. Saw a board to fit the box. On this at each corner fasten a spring by nailing it down with

tacks and bits of leather. Place one in the middle. Then tie the springs together at the top to keep them in a proper position. This board may rest on the corner blocks, at such an elevation as shall raise the springs a few inches above the box. Put a few folds of cloth upon the springs and nail a coarse covering over the whole. When this is neatly done a cushion of cotton or rags may be secured by a second covering. Over it all you can use hair-cloth, furniture calico, or anything you please. If you can not easily get springs, or consider it too troublesome to use them, a stuffed cushion answers very well.

Lounges can be manufactured in the same way as ottomans by having a frame made the proper size. A convenient way to dispose of the contents of the rag-bag is to stuff hassocs with them. From coarse, strong cotton cut two circles fourteen or sixteen inches in diameter. Stitch around the edges of these a strip of cotton about six inches wide. Stuff it as hard as possible with rags, and cover it with carpeting or drugget. This makes a soft footstool or a convenient low seat.

I write from experience in regard to home manufactured furniture. At another time I will make some suggestions about toilets, work-tables, &c. ANNA HOPE.

EXPERIMENTS IN AGRICULTURE.

It is an excellent thing for those farmers who have means and opportunity, to make frequent experiments. That many of them prove useless, is no argument against the practice. This has often been the case in every branch of science and art; and yet the world owes more to those experiments which have been successful, than to any other means of human investigation. The way to fortune may indeed be easier or more certain to those who follow in the wake of custom; but as all nature is full of truths, rarely will the investigating mind long continue its researches without making some new discoveries.

Few farmers are aware of the scope and capabilities of agriculture, and, doubtless, think the arts a much more suitable place for study and experiment. And yet agriculture is more extensive in its relations to other sciences and is much more difficult of comprehension, than any of the mechanic arts. But it is exceedingly difficult to persuade most persons of this fact. They appear to think agriculture a simple matter, and easily understood, requiring rather muscular powers, than skill and intellect, to carry on its operations successfully. More enlightened times, however, are fast superseding these old and unprogressive ideas. It certainly were ill-deserving the manifold praises bestowed upon it, if agriculture will admit nothing more than the achievements of bodily exertion. And it should be the principal object of agricultural experiments to bring to light such facts as shall lessen the labors, and enlarge the rewards of the husbandman. We should avail ourselves of every means by which we may add to our knowledge, and increase the facilities of labor. Let science

and mechanics facilitate the work of hands. Let contrivance and skill take the place of bone and muscle; and nothing, we are confident, can give greater impulse to the cause of the farmer. This is the reason why so many young men have hitherto fled to the city in pursuit of fortune; because the toils of agriculture are so great, and the rewards so meager and remote, compared with many branches of trade, as to offer no incentive in this direction. It is vain to appeal to the ease and happiness of rural life, and caution against the dangers that beset the town. So long as those objections lie in the way, these things will be little desired on the one hand, or feared on the other. Once show that agriculture is capable of as great and as speedy returns, and with as little labor, as other pursuits, and we shall see as much talent and influence attracted to its ranks, as to any avocation or profession whatever.

WATERMELON JUICE.

A correspondent copies the following, which originally appeared in the *Prairie Farmer*, and sends it with his own endorsement. Keep this till the melon season.

I endeavor to raise a good watermelon patch. They are a healthy and delightful fruit. I cultivate the *Icing* variety; plant early in May, and again towards the close of the month, so that they may come in succession. When they begin ripening we commence cutting and using them freely during the hot weather. When the weather becomes cool in September, we bring a quantity of them to the house, split them open, with a spoon scrape out the pulp into a colander, and strain the juice into vessels.

We boil it in an iron vessel to a syrup, then put in apples or peaches like making apple-butter, and boil slowly until the fruit is well cooked; then spice to the taste, and we have something that most people prefer to apple-butter or any kind of preserves. Or the syrup may be boiled without fruit down to molasses, which will be as fine as the sugar-house molasses. We have made in a single autumn as much as ten gallons of the apple-butter (if I may so call it) and molasses, which kept in a fine condition until May.

Tomato Preserves.—Take the round yellow variety as soon as ripe, scald and peel; then to seven pounds of tomatoes add seven pounds of white sugar, and let them stand over night. Take the tomatoes out of the sugar and boil the syrup, removing the scum. Put in the tomatoes and boil gently fifteen or twenty minutes, remove the fruit again and boil until the syrup thickens. On cooling put the fruit into jars and pour the syrup over it, and add a few slices of lemon to each jar, and you will have something to please the taste of the most fastidious.

AN ANECDOTE FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.—The *Buffalo Commercial* copies the following letter from an officer in the Crimea, to a citizen in Buffalo:

A curious thing occurred yesterday. A sapper was brought from the trenches with his jaw broken, and the Doctor told me there was a piece of it sticking out an inch and a half from his face. The man said it was done by a round shot, which the Doctor disbelieved, but the poor fellow insisted and said: "Yes, and it took off the head of the man next me." This was conclusive, and the Surgeon proceeded to remove the bone;

it came out quite easy, when the Doctor said to the man, whose face appeared to preserve its form pretty well, "Can you move your jaw?" "Oh, yes, sir," was the reply. The Doctor then put his finger into the man's mouth, and found the teeth were there, and at length assured the soldier that it was no jaw of his that was broken, but that of his headless comrade, which had actually been driven into his face, inflicting a severe but not dangerous wound. Upon this the man's visage, which had been rather lengthened, rounded up most beautifully.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

THE THISTLE-BLOSSOM.

BY E. S. SMITH.

In a beautiful meadow, daintily spread
With clover-blossoms, white and red,
And sweet wild flowers of varied hue,
An ugly thistle flourished, too—
Loftily there,
In the soft summer air,
Up rose its rude form o'er the fragrant and fair.

Many a golden butterfly
Came, like a sunbeam, hovering nigh,
And one, the brightest of all his race,
Folded his wings in that perilous place.
Why did he go,
This gayly-dressed beau,
To a flower that was armed like a deadly foe?

A little ground-sparrow, flitting near,
Sang aloud in the butterfly's ear,
And kindly warned him to hasten away—
Weaving these words in his tuneful lay—
"Foolish one, flee!
Or soon you will be
Pierced thro' by those countless thorns you see!"

Beau-Butterfly never heeded the song—
For so fickle a wooer his courtship was long;
And the very moment he took his flight,
A honey-bee came, with a hum of delight,
And, hiding his head
In that thorn-guarded bed,
Forgot the rich clover all round him spread.

The sparrow sang in a louder strain
His friendly song of warning again;
But, though its notes were breathed so near,
The bee was too busy to heed or to hear—
With thirsting lip
He continued to sip,
'Till heavy with wealth was his golden hip.

Ah, the butterfly knew, and so did the bee,
Not all sweet flowers are fairest to see;
And though the thistle was homely and rough,
Yet the heart of its blossoms had honey enough—
Honey to spare—
Some for the air,
And plenty for fly and for bee to share.

How oft is it thus, in the bowers of earth,
With human blossoms of lowly birth;
Their garb may be rude, and their forms uncouth,
Yet their spirits enshrine the sweetness of truth—

When such you spy,
Oh, pass them not by
With haughty step and averted eye,
But pause to speak in a kindly strain—
A recompense sweet you will surely gain.

Home Journal.

HOW SHALL I PRESERVE THE HEART I HAVE WON!—Endeavor to make your husband's habitation alluring and delightful to him. Make it a repose from his cares, a shelter from the world, a home for his heart. Invariably adorn yourself with delicacy and modesty. Let your husband suppose you think him a good husband, and it will be a strong stimulus to his being so. Cultivate cheerfulness and good humor. Conceal his faults, and speak only of his virtues. Shun extravagance. Let your home be your empire, your world. In its sober, quiet scenes

let your heart cast its anchor, let your feelings and pursuits be centered.

DR. FRANKLIN ON SPELLING.—You need not be concerned in writing to me about your bad spelling; it is generally the best, as conforming to the sounds of the letters. To give you an instance, a gentleman received a letter, in which were these words: Not finding Brown at home I delivered your message to his *yf*. The gentleman called his wife to help him read it. Between them they picked out all but *yf*, which they could not understand. The wife proposed calling her chambermaid, "because Betty," says she, "has the best knack of reading bad spelling, of anybody I know." Betty came and was surprised that neither of them could tell what *yf* was. "Why," says she, "*yf* spells wife—what else can it spell?" and indeed, it is a much better as well as a shorter method than *doubleyou-i-f-e*, which in reality spells *double-wifey*.—*Franklin's Letters.*

RUSSIAN BULLETS.—A soldier who had received three musket wounds at the battle of Inkerman, one in his leg and two in his shoulder, was taken to Scutari, where the bullets were extracted. He soon recovered, and one day gave the bullets, as a keepsake, to an invalid chum who was coming home. The disabled soldier who received the disfigured pieces of Russian lead having said, "I think you should keep the bullets yourself," received the following answer, which in its own way has, we think, never been paralleled—"Oh, they are of no use to me, I am going back to the Crimea, where I will soon get plenty more of them."—*Glasgow Herald.*

INDIAN PPEACHER.—"John, what do you do for a living?"
"O! me preach."
"Preach! and do you get paid for it?"
"Sometimes me get a shilling; sometimes two shillings."
"And isn't that mighty poor pay?"
"Oh! yes—but it's mighty poor preach."

D'Aubigne, in his history of the Reformation, says, "The Gospel triumphs by the blood of its confessors, not by its adversaries."

Those who excel in strength are not the most likely to show contempt of weakness. A man does not despise the weakness of a child.

Robert Hall said of family prayer, "It serves as an edge border, to preserve the web of life from unraveling."

God requires the service of the whole being. Strive therefore for a pure heart, a clear mind, and a sound body.

The men who jump at conclusions seldom reach any that are worth having. These must be got by climbing.

The ardent reformer moves the multitude, but the calm philosopher moves the ardent reformer.

The world seems to the old to have gone backward, because they have gone forward.

It is hard work to teach people who can learn nothing without being taught.

A man is slow to perceive his own slowness of perception.

ROBERT OF LINCOLN.

BY WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.

Merrily swinging on briar and weed,
Near to the nest of his little dame,
Over the mountain-side or mead,
Robert of Lincoln is telling his name;
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
Snug and safe in that nest of our,
Hidden among the summer flowers.
Chee, chee, chee.

Robert of Lincoln is gaily drest,
Wearing a bright black wedding coat;
White are his shoulders and white his crest,
Hear him call in his merry note—
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
Look, what a nice new coat is mine,
Sure there never was a bird so fine.
Chee, chee, chee.

Robert of Lincoln's Quaker wife,
Pretty and quiet, with plain brown wings,
Passing at home a patient life,
Broods in the grass, while her husband sings
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
Brood, kind creature; you need not fear,
Thieves and robbers while I am here,
Chee, chee, chee.

Modest and shy as a nun is she,
One weak chirp is her only note.
Braggart and prince of braggarts is he,
Pouring boasts from his little throat—
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
Never was I afraid of man;
Catch me, cowardly knaves, if you can.
Chee, chee, chee.

Six white eggs on a bed of hay,
Flecked with purple, a pretty sight!
There, as the mother sits all day,
Robert is singing with all his might,
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
Nice good wife, that never goes out,
Keeping house while I frolic about.
Chee, chee, chee.

Soon as the little ones chip the shell
Six wide mouths are open for food;
Robert of Lincoln bestirs him well,
Gathering seed for the hungry brood,
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
This new life is likely to be
Hard for a gay young fellow like me.
Chee, chee, chee.

Robert of Lincoln at length is made
Sober with work, and silent with care;
Off in his holiday garment laid,
Half forgotten, that merry air,
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
Nobody knows but my mate and I
Where our nest and our nestlings lie.
Chee, chee, chee.

Summer wanes; the children are grown;
Fun and frolic no more he knows;
Robert of Lincoln's a humdrum crone;
Off he flies, and we sing as he goes
Bob-o'-link, bob-o'-link,
Spink, spank, spink;
When you can pipe that merry old strain
Robert of Lincoln come back again.
Chee, chee, chee.

Putnam's Monthly, for June.]

LITTLE AT A TIME.—It is but "little at a time," that the mind can digest; but "little at a time" that the mind can absorb; but "little at a time" that the mind can assimilate. The violation of this law is the reason why, from all this schooling, scholars learn so little—know so little. It is the flax seed story over again. They attempt to take in so much at once, that all slip through their fingers, and lo! their hands are empty! This is simple fact. Look about you, all around you. You will find, a month or two months after term is closed, that the scholars can tell you scarcely anything of the things they

went over in term time, and "recited" to the teacher. Why? They undertook so much that it went through them undigested; they had not the power to assimilate the undigested mass, and all was lost. Occasionally here and there, an item might have been digested; that was assimilated, and was theirs. Now, such might have been the history of every day.—Crandal.

A SHILLING STORY.

Not in yellow paper covers, published by Beelzebub & Co., No. so-and-so, Brimstone Row, and "sold by booksellers generally throughout the United States"—not a repast of tainted morality so covered up and disguised by the spices of love and rhetoric as to conceal the poisonous nature of the dish, so that it may be in this way fed by unsuspecting parents to their children—none of the modern French style of stories, but a real and true history of the adventures of a shilling. A story hummed by a coin in my vest pocket as it turned itself over into an easier position, and communicated with the world through me as a medium. There is an "esprit du corps" that we see referred to almost daily in some way or another; there is spirits of hartshorn, and spirits of wine, and spirits of lavender; there is the spirit of '76; there are "black spirits and white; blue spirits and gray;" and why, pray, should not the shilling have a spirit too? I am satisfied that it has, and that the voice I heard came from the very substance of the silver. It proceeded: "I am a shilling—a York shilling; a Connecticut ninepence; half a quarter of a dollar; twelve and a half cents. At least I was that once, but from continual wear the image of the old Castilian on my obverse, commonly known as "head," and the pillars and "Dei gratia Rex" on my reverse, that makes the "tail," have become so effaced that one can scarcely distinguish between the two—so that I am literally fulfilling the proverb. As long as I retained the original superscription, the dress that I took from the mint when stamped, I found no difficulty in passing for all that I was worth; indeed, being generally preferred to the pure metal, as that was said to be too soft and too sensitive to bear the wear of active everyday-life, and to be improved by a sufficient admixture of brass to make it keep its face. In this way a kind of factitious value was conferred on me by the stamping process, and I was allowed privileges such as I had not enjoyed before, and such as were not conferred on my uneducated, unsophisticated brethren of uncoined bullion. I was made money, while they remained only property. They were forbidden to assume my shape, and yet I must say that after long experience, I do doubt whether any enactments that confer an artificial value on any of us, the coin family, can make money any more plenty. It was made our business to pass daily to and fro among men, to even and equalize their little business transactions. For this purpose men have agreed that the use of the members of our family, from the gold double eagle to the copper cent, is worth so much per cent per annum.

The younger and smaller members of our family, like the corresponding members of the society of men, labor the hardest and earn fastest, according to the amount of capital invested, the rate of annual interest on small change being highest, so that they are generally at a premium. In this way I came to be worn so smooth that it was impossible to tell without a close inspection whether I had an eagle or pillars on my reverse, whether, in fact, I was ten cents or a shilling; and a grocer in a pet drew two hair lines across me at right angles to each other, with his penknife, and immediately I fell in value to

the worth of eight cents. One would suppose *a priori* that I should have stopped my descent at the half-way house of a dime, but it is with shillings as it is with many men, when they get to going down hill they go wonderously fast.

"I am of Spanish descent, and when my worth came to be designated in Federal currency, it chanced that it took an odd half cent to make me an even fraction of a dollar, and from this it occurs that though of good sterling, honest metal, I have unfortunately, from a necessity of my form, been a great cheat, rarely changing masters in a lifetime without filching half a cent from some one.

"The sums that I have thus unintentionally transferred, are, for the lifetime of a shilling, very considerable. One business transaction of that sort a day would amount to one dollar and eighty cents a year, and presuming the odd eighty cents to be honestly accounted for in making up "quarters" out of shillings, we shall still have a dollar a year for the sum of a shilling's annual discrepancies, while the amount that it is legally presumed to have earned during that time in this State, is seven-eighths of a cent. I am more than a hundred years old, and you will see I have been a great sinner. If these transgressions were computed at compound interest, my own value would be quite inappreciable compared with the sum.

"It is said that in the earliest periods of history, flocks and herds alone were wealth, and that in this way the word *pecuniary*, a word of the greatest influence and widest range in the English language, was derived—in other words, that live stock was the *summum bonum* among men, and the enormous prices now commanded by all varieties of butcher's meat, would seem to indicate a disposition in society to return to first principles. However this may be, it is certain that gold and silver were very early recognized as of paramount value; for there is no nation under the sun too rude to acknowledge the power of gold. No matter what inscription may be stamped on the face of our family—no matter in what language any of us may speak, we are known and read of all men; we speak all tongues. Philosophers have told how we were only of value from the difficulty of obtaining us, how inherently we were worth less by the pound than iron, how when gold should become more plenty, silver would become higher, and yet the relative values of the principal metals have never varied much from what they are now. Because we have weight, and yet are believed to be in our essence after all worthless, men have endeavored to make paper effigies of us that should do our work as well as we, and save the trouble of moving us about from place to place. If they could only contrive some way to even their transactions without the use of money, it would be a great saving. As society grows older, it improves in the matter, and less specie is moved about to correspond to "transactions." Yet from the imperfect nature of human intellect, it results that there must be a limit to the complicated character that successive bargains may make affairs assume; that there must be settlements, and balances must be adjusted with cash.

"Strange—isn't it," said the crossed shilling, with an attempt at pleasantry, "that I should have worn myself out in completing calculations that men could not? I've cheated you, I'm sorry to own it, for I'm worth now only eight cents; but I've passed a long life in the company of men and have gathered some wisdom, and let me tell you, a secret worth more than the four cents. The men that have trusted to us to keep their accounts have grown rich, while the men that have kept their accounts long unsettled and trusted to their heads to remember them

have uniformly grown poor, and have had "hard scratching" to get along.

"So never trust to memory—settle often, and keep a good stock of small change with which to do it."

"Is that all," said I, "four cents?"

"It is enough," said the shilling.

NEW-YORK.

W.

Country Gentlemen.

WANTED—AN ANGEL OF HEAVEN.

And so death closed those little eyes—shrouded their bright glances. Oh, that the sun would not come streaming in upon his shrouded form as if there were no grief in the world!

How sweetly he sleeps, that little coveted angel! How lightly curl those glossy ringlets on his white forehead. You could weep your very soul away, to think those cherub lips will never, never unclose. Vainly you clasp and unclasp the passive, darling hand, that wandered often over your cheek. Vainly your anguish glance tries to read the dim story of love in those shaded orbs. The voice sweet as winds blowing through wreathed shells slumbers forever. And still the busy world knocks at your door, and will let you have no peace. It shouts in your ear; its chariots rumble by; it smiles in your careworn face; it mocks you as you sew the shroud; it meets you at the church, at the grave; and its heavy footsteps tramp up and down in the empty rooms, from whence you have borne your dead. But it comes never in the hush of night to wipe away your tears!

Wanted—An Angel of Heaven! Can you look up? Can you bear the splendor of the sight? Ten thousand celestial beings, and your own radiant child in their midst.

"In his eyes a glorious light,
On his head a glory crown."

Wanted—angels for Heaven! Cling not too closely to your beautiful treasures, children of earth.—FANNY FERN, in *Olive Branch*.

SWEARING.—The absurdity and utter folly of swearing is admirably set forth in the following anecdote of Beelzebub and his imps: The latter went out in the morning each to command his set of men, one the murderers, another the liars, and another the swearers, &c. At evening they stopped at the mouth of a cave. The question arose among them who commanded the meanest set of men. The subject was debated at length, but without coming to a decision. Finally his Satanic Majesty was called upon to decide the matter in dispute. Whereupon he said; the murderer got something for killing, the thief for stealing, and the liar for lying; but the swearer was the meanest of all, he served without pay. They were his majesty's best subjects: for while they were costless, their name was legion, and presented the largest division in his (Satan's) employ.

MATERNAL DISCRETENESS.—Traveling a few days since from Niagara Falls to Rochester by rail, the train being stopped at a station, I noticed a very dignified but *anxious* looking countenance entering the car; the possessor, a woman, after making a choice selection of a seat, appeared perfectly composed and comfortably situated for the journey. Thought nothing more of the circumstance until my attention was attracted by a sudden, quick movement on the part of the same female toward the door, screaming to the conductor, "Oh! dear, *can't* you wait two or three minutes, 'till I run up to the hotel and get my baby? *I forgot all about it!*"—*Boston Post*.

The more a man is envied, the less he is spared.

WOODEN NUTMEGS OUTDONE.—There is a Parisian dandy, who, we think rather out-does Connecticut:

"C— had at his residence a complete costume of a groom. When offering an attention to one of the fair sex, he used to say, "Permit me to send you a bouquet by my black servant."

"He then repaired to his garret, took out his black bottle, polished his face and hands, put on his livery, and knocked at the lady's door.

"Here," he said, "are some flowers by master to madame."

"He had spent the last five francs in the purchase. Madame," was so delighted with the present that she presented a louis to the bearer."

That is a clear pocketing of three dollars, and a lady's favor into the bargain.

SMALL LOAVES.—The high price of flour, of late, has caused the bakers to diminish the size of their loaves considerably, but those in New-Brunswick, N. J., seem to have reached perfection in the article referred to, as the following extract from an exchange will show: "A baker of that place in going his rounds to serve his customers, stopped at the door of one and knocked, when the lady within exclaimed, "Who is there?" and was answered, "the baker!" "What do you want?" "To leave your bread!" "Well, you need not make such a fuss about it; put it through the keyhole!"

WASHINGTON.—M. de Tocqueville, replying a few weeks ago to an invitation to attend a banquet given by Americans in Paris to the memory of Washington, wrote: "There is no grander name in history; and if it was permitted me to choose a place among men who have left eternal memorials, I would choose, without hesitation, the place of Washington, and I believe that all who can appreciate moral beauty and are capable of being enamored of it, would compete for his place. May it please God to preserve both the spirit and the works of that great man!"

CREDIT is one of the best things man has devised, and about the worst abused. Thousands live on credit who have no right to any such thing. None but an honest man ought to be able to pass his word instead of coin—a rogue's word is not worth its face, no matter how rich he may be. No one should have facility to run in debt for the means of ostentatious display, of sensual gratification or of hazardous adventure. "Earn before you spend," should be the general rule, the credit should be extended mainly to those who use it to fit themselves with the means and implements of useful, productive labor.

H. Greeley.

Two Yankees took lodgings for about ten days at a tavern in Lancaster County, and fared sumptuously, drinking two or three bottles of wine daily. The last day, and before they had paid their bill, a dispute arose about the speed of their horses—they at last agreed to enter on the "profitable contest." The landlord was appointed judge, each being the rider of his own horse. When they were mounted, the judge, like those of the Olympic games, gave the word—one, two, three, and go. Off they went, and have neither been seen or heard of since; leaving the landlord fully compensated by having had the honor to be their judge.

A little girl of four years had been brought up very properly with regard to correct speech, when one day looking at her doll's feet, she said, "Papa, I know that feet is proper, but I do love to say little tooties."

A DEAD SHOT.—A physician who resides in the southern portion of this City, upon visiting a patient at the extreme north, was asked by the sick man, "if he did not find it very inconvenient to come such a distance."

"Not at all, Sir," replied the son of Esculapian, "for having another patient in the next street I can kill two birds with one stone."

"Can you, Sir!" replied the invalid, "then you are too good a shot for me;" and immediately dismissed him.

A celebrated comedian arranged with the green grocer, one Berry, to pay him quarterly; but the grocer sent home his account long before the quarter was due. The comedian in great wrath called upon the grocer, laboring under the impression that his credit was doubted, said: "I say here's a pretty mul, Berry; you've sent in your bill, Berry, before it was due, Berry; your father the elder Berry, wouldn't have been such a goose, Berry. But you need not look so black, Berry, for I don't care a straw, Berry, and shan't pay you till Christmas, Berry."

One of the townsmen meeting with one of the strolling organ players, was inclined to engage in conversation with him, and asked him:

"What part in the grand drama of life do you perform?"

"I mind my own business!" was the brief and pointed reply.

A HOME THRUST.—A preacher took passage on one of the Lake Erie steamers on a Sunday lately, and before he had been long on board, he applied to the captain for leave to hold a religious meeting. The captain replied, "No—for any minister who would travel on Sunday is not fit to preach on board my boat."

A lady observing one day, that "Garrick had an eye fit to penetrate a deal board," a German musician remarked, "O yes, me understand—what we call a gimblet eye."

Dr Johnson, once speaking of a quarrelsome fellow, said, "If he had two ideas in his head they would fall out with one another."

MONEY is well spent in purchasing tranquility of mind.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour still continues on the decline; nearly all grades having fallen 50c. to 75c. per bbl. during the past week. Flour of common State brands which one month ago sold for \$10 50 per bbl., is now quoted at \$8 25—a fall of more than *two dollars* per bbl. There is a rumor of large orders from France for this quality of flour, when it falls to \$8. If there are such orders of considerable amount, they will assist to keep up the price to that figure, for a time at least. The Wheat crop is already harvested south of Kentucky, and in a part of that State; and a very large yield is now secured. The Nashville (Tenn.) Union, of 20th June, says, that all accounts from all parts of that State concur in representing the Wheat crop of Tennessee as far the largest ever harvested. From both sides of the Ohio River, our latest reports which are nearly up to commencing harvest, represent the prospect as good beyond precedent. Some of these accounts

are doubtless exaggerated, but it is now safe to estimate the Wheat crop in all that region as certain for more than an ordinary yield.

Corn was some higher at one time during the week, but has declined again, and now stands at about 3c. per bush. lower than at our last report. Oats are again in more active request, and have advanced 8c. to 10c. per bush. This is probably but temporary. At 50a55c. they are in demand for export, and such a demand creates a transient rise, until the market is again over-stocked.

Cotton has experienced another uniform decline of 1/2 cent per lb. on all grades. Rice has a trifling advance. Tobacco no material change.

We have abundant rains, and at frequent intervals, in this vicinity. The weather is somewhat cool with occasional days pretty warm, but we have as yet had no really hot weather. It is, however, warm enough to push forward corn rapidly. The reports of the weather, and the state of the crops in different sections of the country—especially of the wheat crop—will be intensely interesting during the next two weeks.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, June 26, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The market is fairly supplied with Potatoes, and the demand good. Old Potatoes are getting scarce. The market is quite overdone with green vegetables, and the trade slow. Green peas are very abundant to-day, having fallen off 3c. per bush since yesterday.

There are scarcely any old apples in market. We noticed a few new ones from the South, but did not learn the price. Strawberries come mostly from northern New-Jersey, being nearly done at Shrewsbury. Cherries are very plentiful.

Butter, just at present, is very dull of sale. Eggs and Cheese the same.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Bermudas	per bush.	\$5 75@6
Charleston, new	do	4 50@4 75
do. round	do	3 50@
Western Mercers	do	3 75@4
White Mercers	do	3 75@4
Nova Scotia Mercers	per bush.	1 20@1 25
Washington County Carters	do	3 @
Western Reds	do	2 75@
Yellow Pink Eyes	do	2 50@
Long Reds	do	2 50@
Turnips—Ruta Baga	do	@
White bunch, new	per 100	3 @
Onions—White	per bush.	@
Bermuda Reds, new	do	3 00@3 25
New-Orleans Reds	do	3 @
Asparagus	per doz. bunches.	1 25@
Cucumbers	per 100	2 @
Rhubarb	per 100 bunch.	@
Lettuce	do.	50@
Gooseberries	per bush.	1 75@
Green Peas	do.	50@
Strawberries	per 100 baskets	4 @4 25
Cherries	per bush.	5@ 8
Apples	per bush.	\$4 75@5
Butter—new	per lb.	20@21c.
Cheese	do.	9@11c.
Eggs	per doz.	@18c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY June 27, 1855.

The supply of cattle to-day is about 500 short of last week. The weather is quite warm, in consequence of which the butchers are somewhat backward in their purchases. Besides, they hang resolutely for last week's prices, but the short supply impels them to make a slight advance. Aside from this, we think there would be no material difference.

The best cattle to-day are selling for 11 1/2c. The average rice is about 10 1/2c. Very few sell under 9c. or over 11 1/2c.

The animals are mostly of good quality, and doubtless the prices will be sustained throughout the day. Last week they fell off very sensibly in the afternoon.

Owing to new arrangements on some of the Railroads we learn that the facilities for transporting cattle are much improved. The new cars on the Michigan Central and Great Western Railroads are said to be very superior, and the route excellent. The cost of bringing cattle by this route from Illinois to Albany, is \$10.

Next week, it should be remembered, the market takes place on Tuesday.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality	11@11 1/2c.
Good retailing quality	10@11c.
Inferior do.	9@10c.
Cows and Calves	\$25@26.
Veals	4c.@6c.
Swine, alive	6 1/2@7 1/2c.
“ dead	7 1/2@9c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK. IN MARKET TO-DAY.

Beesves	1534	1596
Cows	7	—
Veals	521	—
Sheep and lambs	717	—
Swine	555	—

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beesves.. 931

Sheep	—
Swine	120

By the Hudson River Railroad..... 314

Sheep	—
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By the Hudson River Boats—Beesves..... 281

Swine	443
New-York State furnished—beesves.....	—
Ohio, “	468
Indiana, “	214
Illinois, “	602
Texas, “	136
Kentucky, “	140
Wisconsin, “	109

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs	4661
Beesves	221
Veals	93
Cows and Calves	25

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

265 Beef Cattle	8@11c.
65 Cows and Calves	\$25@\$50
5,714 Sheep and Lambs	\$2@\$6 1/2.
114 Veals	4@6c.

The Sheep market is not quite as good as last week. There is a full supply on hand, both at Robinson's and Chamberlain's. The sheep are average quality—but rather slow of sale. The average price is about \$3 50. The supplies come mostly from this State, New Jersey, and Ohio. The total supply for the week is about 12,000.

The following are the sales for the week by Mr. McGraw, sheep broker at Browning's:

201 Sheep	\$609 00
37 Sheep	186 75
256 Sheep	899 75
20 Sheep	71 50
38 Sheep	157 00
47 Sheep	218 25
133 Sheep	596 05
222 do.	667 50
112 do.	288 00
207 do.	802 61
180 do.	577 50
147 Lambs	510 00
31 do.	137 50
20 do.	83 25
25 do.	68 50
13 do.	53 00
29 do.	115 00
1752	Average..... \$3 59.
	\$6,283 16

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes—Pot, 1st sort, 1855	per 100 lb.	@ 6 50
Pearl, 1st sort, 1855	do	6 50@
Bristles—American, Gray and White	do	45 @—50
Beeswax—American Yellow	do	26@—27 1/2
Coal—Liverpool Orrel	per chaldron	@ 7 50
Scotch	do	@
Sidney	do	5 75 @ 6
Pictou	do	5 25 @
Anthracite	per 2,000 lb.	5 50 @
Cotton Bagging—Gunny Cloth	per yard	12 1/2 @

Cotton—

Ordinary	Upland.	Florida.	Mobile.	N. O. & Texas.
10	10	10	10	10
11 1/2	11 1/2	12	12	12
12 1/2	13	13	13	13
13	13	13 1/2	14	14

Flax—

Jersey	per bush.	8 @— 9
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Flour and Meal—

State, common brands	8 25 @—
State, straight brands	8 37 @—
State, favorite brands	8 62 @—
Western, mixed do	8 31 @—
Michigan and Indiana, straight do	8 75 @ 9
Michigan, fancy brands	9 12 @—
Ohio, common to good brands	@ 9 37
Ohio, fancy brands	@ 9 50
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do	@10
Genesee, fancy brands	9 25 @—
Genesee, extra brands	10 75 @12
Canada	10 37 @—
Brandywine	10 50 @—
Georgetown	10 50 @—
Petersburg City	10 50 @—
Richmond Country	@10 50
Alexandria	@10 50
Baltimore, Howard-Street	@10 50
Rye Flour	7 25 @—
Corn Meal, Jersey	5 @—
Corn Meal, Brandywine	5 25 @—
Corn Meal, Brandywine	per punch. @22 50

Grain—

Wheat, White Genesee	per bush.	@
Wheat, do. Canada	do	@ 2 50
Wheat, Southern, White	do	2 40 @ 2 50
Wheat, Ohio, White	do	2 45 @
Wheat, Michigan, White	do	2 45 @ 2 53
Rye, Northern	do	1 70 @
Corn, Round Yellow	do	@ 1 04
Corn, Round White	do	@ 1 12
Corn, Southern White	do	@ 1 12
Corn, Southern Yellow	do	@ 1 03
Corn, Southern Mixed	do	@
Corn, Western Mixed	do	@ 1 02
Corn, Western Yellow	do	@
Barley	do	1 12 @
Oats, River and Canal	do	58 @
Oats, New-Jersey	do	56 @
Oats, Western	do	64 @
Peas, Black-Eyed	per bush.	2 50 @

Hay—

North River, in bales	do	@
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Lime—

Rockland, Common	per bush.	@—87
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Molasses—

New-Orleans	per gallon.	30 @— 32
Porto Rico	do	27 @— 30
Cuba Muscovado	do	26 @— 32
Trinidad Cuba	do	27 @— 29
Cardenas, &c.	do	@—26

Oil Cake—

Thin Oblong, City	per tun.	@42
Thick, Round, Country	do	@

Provisions—

Beef, Mess, Country	per bush.	10 50 @12
Beef, Mess, City	do	10 @—
Beef, Mess, extra	do	16 25 @16 50
Beef, Prime, Country	do	@ 9
Beef, Prime, City	do	@
Beef, Prime Mess	per tce.	21 @24
Pork, Prime	do	15 12 @
Pork, Clear	do	19 @
Pork, Prime Mess	do	15 @
Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels	per bush.	10 @
Hams, Pickled	do	@ 94
Shoulders, Pickled	do	@ 74
Beef Hams, in Pickle	per bush.	@21
Beef, Smoked	per bush.	@
Butter, Orange County	do	23 @— 24
Cheese, fair to prime	do	5 @— 10

Rice—

Ordinary to fair	per 100 lb.	5 75 @ 5 87
Good to prime	do	5 87 @ 6 50

Salt—

Turk's Island	per bush.	@— 26
St. Martin's	do	@
Liverpool, Ground	per sack.	85 @—
Liverpool, Fine	do	1 20 @ 1 30
Liverpool, Fine; Ashton's	do	1 40 @

Sugar—

St. Croix	per bush.	@—
New-Orleans	do	5 @— 6 1/2
Cuba Muscovado	do	5 @— 6 1/2
Porto Rico	do	5 @— 6 1/2
Havana, White	do	7 @— 7 1/2
Havana, Brown and Yellow	do	5 @— 7

Tallow—

American, Prime	per bush.	11 1/2 @—
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Tobacco—

Virginia	per bush.	@— 6 1/2
Kentucky	do	7 @— 13
Maryland	do	@—
St. Domingo	do	12 @— 15
Cuba	do	12 @— 20
Yara	do	35 @— 43
Havana, Fillers and Wrappers	do	20 @ 1
Florida Wrappers	do	15 @— 60
Connecticut, Seed Leaf	do	6 @— 12
Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf	do	@— 18

Wool—

American, Saxony Fleece	per bush.	38 @— 42
American, Full Blood Merino	do	36 @— 37
American, 1/2 and 3/4 Merino	do	30 @— 33
American, Native and 1/2 Merino	do	25 @— 28
Superfine, Pulled, Country	do	30 @— 32
No. 1, Pulled, Country	do	23 @— 25

TO NURSERYMEN.—WANTED.—To negotiate, as Agent for a Company, for a large quantity of NURSERY STOCK, suitable for stocking a Nursery in Illinois. Address (inclosing stamp), WM. DAY, 91—96n1204 Morristown, N. J.

Advertisements.

The Allen Patent Mower Triumphant.

MANY are now inquiring, "What Mower shall I buy?" That question has been satisfactorily answered during the past fortnight.

At a trial at Bedford, Westchester County, in heavy, wet clover, and on rough, stony ground, the ALLEN MOWER performed better than any other in competition, being the only one which cut a smooth, even swath and spread it well; and it came out of the field unscathed, while others were badly broken or seriously injured. It has since been repeatedly tried in New-Jersey, on Long-Island, and other places, and worked admirably, whether in short, thin, fine grass, or in tall, thick and badly-lodged grass or clover. It also works well on a side hill, and on salt meadows.

The draft of this Mower is uncommonly light. It is simple in construction, very strong, and not liable to get out of order, and when so, easily and cheaply repaired.

It is the only Mower perfectly safe to the driver, the gearing being all covered; and he sits so firm in his seat, it is almost impossible to throw him out. In fact, this machine is better fitted for all kinds of work than any Mower yet manufactured.

The following letter from one of the best known and largest farmers in New-Jersey, will testify to its merits:

JAMESBURG, N. J., June 22, 1855.

MR. R. L. ALLEN, New-York:

Sir—I made a trial yesterday with the new Mowing Machine I purchased of you, and do not hesitate to say that the improved [ALLEN] machine is the best I ever saw worked with—and I have seen a goodly number. I have a field of very heavy grass, and it had fallen down and lodged so I could not cut it with the old machine; and the grass was very wet, having rained nearly all day previous to my giving it a trial. I expected to see it choke up, but to my great surprise it choked up but very little, and that was owing to mismanagement. To be plain, Sir, I feel it my duty to inform you that the improved Mower works beautifully, and I am satisfied works nearly one-third lighter for the team than the Mower I used last year, and that was called one of the best in the market. JAMES BUCKELEW.

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April 24, 1855. 86-tm1194

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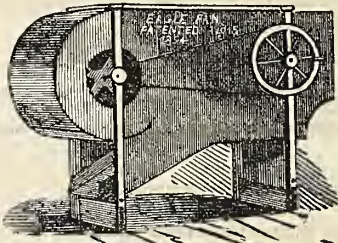
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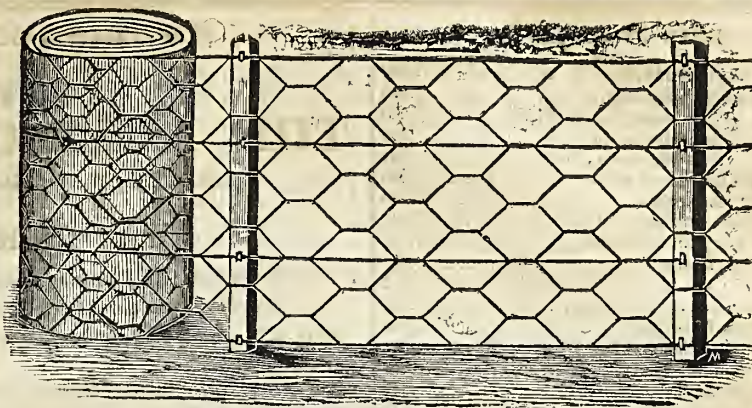
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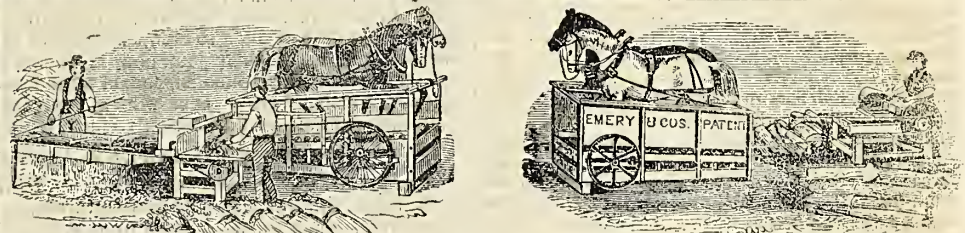
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SUBSCRIPTIONS can begin with any number, but it is preferable to commence the 15th of March or the 15th of September, as a half yearly volume of 416 pages, with a complete index, begins on each of those dates.

IN sending money it is advisable to make a note of the name, number, letter and date of the bills sent, and then inclose them in presence of the Postmaster. Give the Post-office and the County and State. Write these very plainly.

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THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,

THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

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Each volume will contain all matter worth recording, which transpires either at home or abroad, and which can serve to instruct or interest the Farmer, the Planter, the Fruit-Grower, the Gardener, and the Stock-Breeder; thus making it the most complete and useful Agricultural Publication of the day.

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SUCH A PAPER IS DEMANDED BY THE FARMING COMMUNITY.

The Publishers confidently believe that the Agriculturists of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow *monthly* issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and *reliable* character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

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The *Agriculturist* will not depart from its legitimate sphere to catch popular favor, by lumbering up its pages with the silly, fictitious literature, and light, miscellaneous matter of the day; it has a higher aim; and a small part only of its space will be devoted to matters not immediately pertaining to the great business of Agriculture. The household as well as the out-door work of the farm will receive a due share of attention. The humbugs and nostrums afloat in the community will be tried by reliable scientific rules, and their worthlessness exposed. It is the aim of the publishers to keep this paper under the guidance of those who will make it a standard work, which shall communicate to its readers *only* that which is safe and reliable.

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The *American Agriculturist* stands upon *its own merits*; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is *untrammelled* by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the *organ of any clique*, or the *puffing machine* of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

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The *American Agriculturist* is under the control and management of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an experienced farmer, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness and reliability* of every department of this Journal.

MR. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 95

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

WHEN SHOULD CROPS BE GATHERED.

SOME SCIENCE AND SOME PRACTICAL HINTS, WHICH EVERY FARMER SHOULD UNDERSTAND AND PRACTICE.

[The following editorial appeared nearly a year since, but the suggestions are so important to every farmer at this particular period, we give the article again for the benefit of our thousands of new readers.]

The prevailing opinion is, that grass, and especially grain crops, should not be cut till ripe; or whatever may be the opinion, such is the general practice. This is an error, and one of no little consequence; and we offer some considerations, which, if understood, will, we trust, set this matter in a clearer light. Let us first look at one or two lessons plainly told us by chemistry.

Wood, starch, sugar and gum are almost exactly alike in their composition. The same elements that put together in one form produce sugar, if arranged differently would make wood, and if arranged in still other methods, they would produce starch or gum. To illustrate; suppose four men should each have 100,000 bricks, 1,000 bushels of sand, 600 bushels of lime, 20,000 feet of lumber, including beams, boards, shingles, &c., three hundred pounds of nails, and 100 lbs. of un-mixed paints of two or three different colors. Now suppose these four men, having precisely the same amounts of the different materials or elements, set about putting up four structures, each having a different object in view. One might construct an elegant cottage dwelling, the second a church, the third a barn, and the fourth a prison; and by mixing and applying the paints differently, each of these structures would differ from the others so much in form and color, that one might be supposed to be built of stone, another of brick, a third of iron, and a fourth of wood, and they would be as unlike in form, color, and outward appearance, as starch

gum, sugar, and wood. Either of these buildings might be taken down, and by simply *rearranging the materials*, be changed to the form, shape, and color of one of the other buildings, and be made like it in every particular. Just so can a pound of wood be changed to a pound of sugar. We have often taken a board weighing a pound, and by a chemical process rearranged the elements, and changed the same board to a pound of sugar. Just so a pound of starch, gum, or sugar, can be changed to a pound of wood. By artificial means this change is somewhat expensive, but in the natural laboratory of the cells and tubes of a plant, it is daily going on upon a large scale, although the elements are in themselves so small, that the change is not perceptible to the human vision.

We are not stating theories but absolute facts. While a stalk or grain is unripe it contains but little woody fiber, and its pores or cells are filled with sugar, starch and gum. The presence of sugar is readily perceived by the sweet taste of soft kernels of corn and other grains, and it is also found abundantly in the sap of the stalks. The starch and gum are not so readily perceived by the taste, though they are easily shown to be present. Now as the grain and stalks ripen, a large portion of the starch, gum, and sugar is changed into woody fiber. If the natural growth of the plant be arrested by cutting it, this change is stopped, and it dries up, with its pores filled with the starch, gum and sugar, there is comparatively little hard woody matter.

But we all know that the three substances first named are digestible, nourishing articles of food, while the fourth—woody fiber—is comparatively indigestible, and is on this account little nourishing. Here, then, is a plain reason why all such grasses and grains, as are designed for food for animals, should be gathered before they are fully ripe—that is, while they contain a large amount of digestible matter. Wheat, for example, if cut eight or ten days before fully ripe, contains a large proportion of starch, with a thin skin, and will yield a large amount of flour; but when it is fully ripe it is covered with a thick, hard, woody skin, or bran, which has been formed out of a part of its starch, and it will then yield a much smaller proportion of flour. The same may be said of its sugar and gum. This reasoning applies equally to other grains, as well as to straw, corn-stalks, grasses, &c.

Those portions of the grain which are to be used solely for reproducing the plant—and this is the *natural* design of all seeds—may be left to ripen naturally. The woody coating is designed as a protecting covering.

Having thus endeavored to state very briefly some of the *reasons* for *cutting grain early*—and it must be interesting to every one to understand these reasons—we will close this article with two or three rules which are not only sustained by theory, but have been fully proved by careful practice and experiment.

1st. All grasses should be cut as soon as possible after flowering. Much more than is gained in weight after this, is lost by the conversion of the nourishing substances into hard, woody matter.

2d. Corn, wheat, and all other grains designed for food, should be gathered eight to twelve days before fully ripe. A simple method of determining this, is to try the kernels with the thumb nail. Let the gathering commence immediately after "milk" begins to harden, but while the kernel still yields to a gentle pressure of the nail.

An acre of wheat, that if cut when fully ripe would yield 800 lbs. of fine flour, will, if cut ten days earlier, yield from 850 to 1,000 lbs. of flour of a better quality, while the straw will be much more valuable for feeding.

An acre of grass, which when cut fully ripe would yield 1,000 lbs. of nourishing digestible materials, and 2,000 lbs. of woody matter, will, if cut 12 days earlier, yield from 1,500 to 1,800 lbs. of nourishing matter, and only 1,200 to 1,500 lbs. of woody materials.

COAL.—The Cincinnati Railroad Record says that sixty million bushels of bituminous coal are annually raised and consumed in the Ohio Valley alone. The coal fields of the Ohio Valley are estimated at nearly one hundred thousand (99,000) square miles, or over sixty-three million acres. Great Britain has only 12,000 square miles, or less than eight million acres, and yet produces nine hundred and twenty-five million bushels annually.

OLIVE TREES AT THE SOUTH.—Mr. R. Chisholm writes, in the Charleston (S. C.) Mercury, that he has three hundred olive trees under cultivation, and that he has had two varieties growing for ten years past. He says the fruit ripens fully in the low countries of the South; but he believes it can not be profitably cultivated for the oil at present, since cotton is a more remunerative crop.

HOUSE FURNITURE.

BY MINNIE MYRTLE.

A house may be comfortably furnished in these days, with what it used to require to purchase a bedstead, a feather-bed and a bureau.

"Give me some boards, a hammer and nails, and I will furnish a house," said a young lady, not long since, who was about to be married, and yet whose tastes had been most expensively cultivated; and if she had been compelled, by necessity, she would have surrounded herself with very comfortable articles for all household purposes, with these simple materials.

We hope, for the credit of human intelligence and progress, that feather-beds have been discarded from every house in the land. We used to read the following lines with great commiseration for her whose miserable state they depict—

"See, saw, Margaret Daw
Sold her bed and slept on straw"—

but now, we should have much greater pity for those who were so stupid as to sell their straw and sleep on feathers. No family need complain that has plenty of clean straw for beds, and a mattress made of fine hay is good enough for the *parlor chamber* of the richest lord in the land. Husks combed upon a *flax-hatchel*, or *hackle*, are better still, and birch split into fine threads, will make a very hard bed, but one that will last a lifetime. All these substances are very cheap, and much more easily kept in order than feathers, for it is scarcely any labor at all to make beds when there is no beating and smoothing to do.

Feather-beds are unhealthy, because they keep the body at almost fever-heat, and keep it also at an unequal temperature, as the part which is in contact with the feathers is much warmer than the other.

We can remember, too, when it was thought necessary that every bedstead in the house should be of heavy, hard wood, and fashioned by a skillful cabinet-maker, and every bureau of mahogany. Of course no family could have many, as each of these articles is very expensive. But now a whole cottage may be prettily furnished for what was once required for one room. What is usually denominated "Cottage furniture," is made of pine wood, tastefully painted, and we have seen all the necessary articles for a sleeping-room—bedstead, bureau, wash-stand with marble top, chairs, and various little *et ceteras*—for less than forty dollars, the price of one old-fashioned feather-bed.

We were not long since in a family where there were some half dozen children, who each slept in a bed by himself—as it is always best they should do—and each little bedstead was pine slabs nailed together and painted, at a cost, perhaps, of fifty cents each. The children were remarkably healthy—and certainly in no worse condition for their simple accommodations.

Lounges have become almost universal, and made of light wood and covered with strong chintz, may occupy any apartment at less expense than one old-fashioned bedstead. We have seen very comfortable

wash-stands, made by fitting an octagon-shaped board to the top of a barrel, and nailing to it a curtain to fall around and conceal the barrel. And where two or more persons are obliged to occupy the same room, a screen may be made like the two wings of ordinary clothes-bars, with curtains of blue, or green, or parti-colored cambric, so that the morning and evening ablutions may be performed as entirely alone as if in a separate room. To say any thing of the importance of morning and evening ablutions, we hope, is quite unnecessary in these days of light and knowledge.

Chairs may be almost dispensed with, by substituting boxes of two, three, and four feet in length, according to the position they are to occupy, with cushions upon the top, and neat chintz coverings for the sides.

Very pretty vases may be made of paste-board covered with fancy paper, open at the bottom to admit the mug or tumbler which holds the flowers; and prettier than mahogany picture-frames are those of paste-board covered with the layers of the cones of the pine and fir tree, tastefully arranged and varnished.

We have even seen barrels converted into very comfortable and cozy-looking chairs, by sawing away half the front, leaving the back whole, and making the sides a little lower for arm-resters. A board for a seat, and the whole neatly covered, is a chair fit for a prince.

Stair carpets have gone out of fashion even for the rich, and white paint has gone out of fashion for almost every thing. Stairs and the wood finish of all rooms are more agreeable to the eye, and richer, *grained* or made to imitate walnut, curly maple and some kinds of oak. Finger-marks are not so visible upon this color, and it does not need to be so often repainted, which are very cogent reasons for adopting it.

Some other improvements upon old fashioned housekeeping may be enumerated at a future day.

HEN-ROOST GUANO.

Noticing an article in a former number about hen manure, I take this opportunity to try to encourage the saving principle among the agricultural community. Some individuals are annually paying small sums of money for guano to use in their gardens and small pots, which will in time amount to quite a sum, which they might save were they only prudent enough to keep shelves or boxes under their poultry roosts. I do not mean to say that buying guano is not a profitable investment for the farmers. Yet I do say that saving their own guano, made on their own premises, is more profitable. A large amount of this powerful manure or fertilizer is allowed to go to waste, without even being thought of, by those individuals who are annually paying sums of money for Peruvian Guano, and who think that they could not get along without it. It may look like a small business to some, but let them remember that this mighty globe is composed of small atoms. Well, let me state some experience to those who think that saving the manure from hen-roosts is a small business. I have a flock of about 35 hens, and winter a pair of turkeys.

Last fall my attention was called to the subject of saving my hen manure. I con-

structed a hen-roost in one of my manure sheds, by nailing up four pieces of boards to the timbers overhead, letting them hang down about two feet, and then, about a foot from the floor overhead, bore holes through the board and put in poles, and then laid on poles at right angles with the former ones. This forms two poles to perch upon besides the ends. I take boards a little longer than the frame, and fit them together, flooring over the bottom poles as tight as possible, and let them run out at the ends as far as needed to catch what is dropped from the end poles. In making the perch I laid my perching poles far enough from the edge to prevent the dropping over at the edges.

I have another on a similar principle. It will take but a couple of hours at the most to make a roost of this kind, and but a small outlay of money for materials, as they can be made of old scraps and fragments of boards, of which every farmer has enough. I built mine at the time the ground froze last fall, and shall save six barrels of the most powerful fertilizer that exists in the knowledge of man. This is encouraging to me, and falls short of the amount that I shall have by the first of May. I used this article in my garden some last year, and, from the estimate that I made, in comparison with crops that were not manured with poultry manure, I judged it to be worth at least one dollar per bushel. Thus you see that with an outlay of perhaps one dollar, in time and material, I shall save this winter eighteen dollars worth of manure, which, taking out the dollar for time and material, leaves me seventeen dollars worth of property that has heretofore gone to waste.

Read this, farmers, and go immediately to the work, and you will find that "a penny saved is as good as two pence earned."—A. HUTCHINS, in *Maine Farmer*.

SPECIFIC MANURES.

No very important movement for the general good ever yet had uninterrupted success, and as it is struggle and opposition that best acquaints, even the advocates of any measure with its strong and weak points, it is not best it should; indeed, for this reason fair and honorable opposition is to be desired, but the attacks of calumny, deceit and meanness are particularly difficult to be met.

No set of men ever had more up-hill work and greater difficulties to face, than the advocates of improved agriculture, and that they have triumphed through them, and in spite of them, is shown by the strong interest felt by the community in general in agricultural matters; in the establishment of means for the diffusion of useful knowledge among the rural population, in our well attended autumnal cattle shows, in the growing use of various specific manures, &c.

Any careful observer of the respective theories and "isms" of the day would decide that the agricultural is the most popular one, and that it is likely in the end to be triumphant; but let no one suppose this popularity has come unsought, or with small effort. How many men have devoted years of gratuitous labor to the cause; remember the untiring efforts of Pickering, Coleman, Buel, Phinney, Lowell and numerous others; or in our own day, it is only necessary to point to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, who, with an immense amount of gratuitous, and apparently almost thankless labor, persevere undismayed in their efforts to improve and benefit the agricultural condition of their friends and neighbors, whether of the same town, county or State.

It is most worthy of laudatory notice, that twenty or more men could have been selected from various parts of the State, who would be willing to devote a large portion of

their time, unremunerated, to the duties of the Board, and renders them deserving of the State's gratitude. We are apt to but lightly esteem advice gratis, and it is not impossible that these men's efforts are underrated for that very cause, and perhaps many who are aware of their existence suppose them to be the incumbents of fat offices, which are mere sinecures, instead of which they give a very large amount of time, labor and money without any other present or prospective reward than the success of their measures, and the benefit of their countrymen.

Since the first establishment of this Board, in spite of opposition, and of the narrow-minded attacks of men who judge only by evidences of their senses, they have accomplished an immense amount in the way of undermining prejudices, enlightening darkness and introducing improvement.

But they too have to meet the low-minded and mean opposition, and to suffer from the most aggravated and least defensible attacks, the stabs of pretended friends; they, and the agricultural press besides, have been for years urging the extensive trial of specific manures, whether to supplant, assist, extend or enhance the benefits and use of barnyard manures.

To secure a judicious application of the material used, repeated directions have been given of the amount to be used, and the best way of applying it, in some cases, even, with details of carefully tried experiments, as further guides; and as a result of this action, a larger quantity of specific manures has been sold this year than ever; how disastrous, then, must be the effect upon novices, who have been excited to try such aids to culture by this continuous advice, if they buy in good faith, and relying upon the assurance of the seller, a spurious article, perhaps at a high price, which will prove either useless or perhaps positively injurious to their crops.

If, for instance, any one purchases guano, trusting to the statement of the vender that it is a genuine and valuable article, paying \$40 or \$50 a tun for it, which is in reality a miserable combination of lime, plaster, salt, coal-ashes, and a pinch of guano to give it smell and color, (see analysis of Chilean guano below, taken from the London Agriculturist of May 24,) which will give no remunerative return for its application, he does not condemn the article he used, so much as the spirit of improvement which prompted him to make the trial, and the entire discredit of the operation falls, not as it should on the head of the vender, but upon the advocates of progressive agriculture; and the untiring efforts of the friends of improvement are all laid under suspicion. But such must this year be the fate of many, for it has been discovered by the editors of the Country Gentleman, that an article denominated Chilean guano has been largely manufactured and sold over the country, and some even shipped to England, at the price of \$40 a tun, that is not worth \$10 the tun. It is composed of

Water.....	4.0
Sand.....	2.4
Organic matter, (Sugar-house scum).....	15.3
Phos. Lime.....	24.5
Plaster.....	9.5
Salt.....	6.2
Chalk.....	37.6
	99.5

of which there is 1.06 per cent of ammonia—and this abominable preparation is endorsed by Dr. Hayes of Massachusetts, and Prof. Mapes, of New-York, and some others, and has been widely recommended as a valuable fertilizer.

What a terrible stab from behind is this, coming, too, from the very men who make the largest protestations of zeal and enthusi-

asm in the agricultural cause. It is an outrageous and abominable piece of quackery and imposture, nor can too much indignation be felt against its perpetrators; no confidence will hereafter be felt by the victims of this fraud in any so called agricultural improvements. But we can not too strongly urge upon those who have suffered this year, not to be discouraged in the future, but with renewed zeal make other efforts, only hereafter being careful to purchase their material from men of solid and well-established reputations, and never to purchase any recommended preparations because they are cheap, nor unless heartily endorsed by men who can be depended upon.

It is to be desired the exposure of this humbuggery as published in the Country Gentleman and *American Agriculturist* should have the largest publicity, that the public may become so thoroughly awakened to a sense of the benefit good special manures may do, and of the worthlessness of the bad, that there may be a larger use of the former every year. And we can not help believing that those interested in agriculture in our Commonwealth have so large a share of good sense to be able to discriminate between the good and the bad, and while they award the largest share of praise and encouragement to all who are honestly laboring to forward the cause among us, no less thoroughly to condemn all quacks, and venders of patent agricultural medicines, whether for men, animals or the crops.—*New-England Farmer*.

POOR FARMING AN EXPENSIVE BUSINESS.

The truth is, poor farming is an expensive business. The cost exceeds the income. If from a very low grade of farming, which must of course be unprofitable, we ascend to a better condition of the art, we shall come to a point where there is neither loss nor gain; the income equals the outgoes; the ends meet, as they say. And this, if we understand these matters, is the very condition in which nine-tenths of our farming now is.

The farmer of a hundred acres puts on his farm in his own labor, in the labor of his wife and his children, in taxes, insurance, &c., \$500. And he takes off in some marketable produce or for home consumption, \$500. "The ends meet;" and if there were no better way he need not complain; for he is working his way through the world as quietly and as easily as most men; for the development of high moral qualities he has the advantage of most others; and what is more, he has the best possible means of training his children to those habits of industry and frugality which more than conspire to make them good men and women and worthy citizens. Let him not, therefore, complain. But if there is a better way, let him fall into it. We do not believe that farming is necessarily limited to the operation of putting on \$500 and taking off \$500, and living by the operation, only because what is put on is mostly in the form of labor done by the family. If a farm will give \$500, with the labor of one man, it will give a great deal more with the labor of two men; and the excess will more than balance the wages and board of the second. Instead of putting on \$500 and taking off \$500, the better way is to put on \$700 and take off \$900; and then to put on \$900 and take off \$1,200. There is doubtless a limit beyond which the income could not be made to increase above the expenditures; but very few of us are in danger of going beyond the limit. There is much more danger of falling short of it. Our standard is too low. Men are afraid to trust their land, lest it should not pay them. It is the best paymaster in the world.—J. A. NASH, in *The Farmer*.

STILTON CHEESE.

Most of your readers have no doubt heard of the famous Stilton Cheese. This cheese was first made, we are told, by a near relative of the landlord of the Bell Inn, near Melton, Leicestershire, England, where its reputation was such that it sold for a long time for half a crown per pound. I am not aware that any attempts have as yet been made to produce Stilton Cheese in the United States; but Mr. Henry Parsons of Guelph, Canada, has manufactured it of a quality said by good judges to be equal to that made in the mother land. There appears to be nothing very peculiar in the process as detailed by those who understand it, and considering the cheese really possesses the high superiority justly claimed for it, the only thing surprising at all to me is, that its manufacture has not become not only common, but universal.

As some of your readers may have a curiosity to know the process, I will give a recapitulation recently given me by a dairyman from the "old country," who is perfectly familiar with the details, having lived many years on a farm where Stilton Cheese, of the first quality was the principal dairy product. By way of premising, allow me to say that I am assured that the excellencies of this cheese have by no means been exaggerated. The entire product of the very extensive dairy of which he was honored with the general supervision, sold ordinarily for about double the price of other cheese, and the demand for it was such that the regular customers often bid upon each other, and not unfrequently took it in its immature state, or before it had become sufficiently ripe to cut. I will now proceed to give his directions in the fewest possible words:

The night's cream, without any portion of the skimmed milk, is put to the milk of the next morning, and if cheese of a superior description and richness is desired, an additional allowance of cream is afforded, mixed with a little sweet butter. The rennet, without any coloring, is then put in, and when the curd has come, it is immediately removed without being broken, and put whole into a sieve or drainer where it is pressed by means of weight until the whey is completely expelled. It is then put with a clean cloth into a hooped chessart (mold), and pressed, the outer coat being first salted. When sufficiently, it is removed, and placed on a clean, dry board, bound closely in a cloth (which is changed daily) to prevent its cracking. When the cheese is dried tolerably well, the cloth is removed, and no further care is required, except turning it daily and occasionally brushing the surface.

The cheese is never large, seldom weighing more than ten or twelve pounds, yet it requires two years to perfect its excellencies, and bring it to complete maturity, for they are not supposed to be fit for use till they have begun to decay. To accelerate the process of ripening, and prepare them more speedily for the market and the table of the fastidious epicure, they are often placed in warm, damp cellars, where the putrefactive process is often quite rapid, or they are even wrapped in strong paper and sunk in hot beds, which prepares them much quicker than they can be by the former process. The shape of these cheeses bears little resemblance to that of the common kinds, pressed in wide hoops—being that of a sugar loaf, though somewhat less lengthy and of larger diameter.—J. B. J., in *German-town Telegraph*.

"Patrick Maloney, what do you say to the indictment? Are you guilty or not guilty?"
"Arrah! musha, yer worship, how can I tell till I hear the ividence."

SHORT HORN VS. ALL OTHER CATTLE.

Wm. Creasor, a Butcher of New-port Market, recently wrote to the editor of the Mark-Lane Express as follows :

The Short Horn or Durham cattle are not only spreading over every country in England, but Ireland; and the Long Horns will soon become extinct both in England and Ireland. There are many first-rate Durhams to be found in Scotland, and many fine Short Horns have crossed the Atlantic Ocean, and will soon spread all over the globe. They are a large size at an early maturity. In England, the cows and heifers are worth more than any other kind for the milkman in the metropolis and other towns. It is rare that you see a Hereford, Devon, or Long Horned cow among the milkmen in London. The best Durham oxen have thick, wide, fat backs, with a handsome frame, and plenty of lean flesh, with heavy thighs, and generally, when made fat, weigh all the weights they are laid at; they are longer than the generality of Herefords and Devons, and a great many Short Horns are as large and as heavy at three years old as the Devons and Herefords are at four. They carry plenty of tallow according to age, and the best of them have a fine silky grain, with marbled flesh. I find no beast come to the scale better, with the exception of the thickest, lean-fleshed, short-legged, polled Scots; and I have purchased many half-breeds between the best polled Scots and the Durhams fed in Scotland; these half-bred bullocks weigh exceedingly well according to size—no beast better. The Herefords have beautiful, fine-grained, marbled flesh; but many of them are light in their thighs and lean flesh, and deceive the butchers in weight, especially when they are patchy with pomels of fat flesh without, and but little tallow within. I consider the Durham cattle, take them all in all, are the best breed for the farmer or breeder for profit; and Sir Charles Knightley's Durham oxen, when cut up, are as good flesh as the best Hereford, and are worth as much per pound. When I speak of Durhams, I do not mean coarse Short Horns.

BUCKWHEAT.

Few crops can be turned to better account on a poor, light, gravelly soil, than buckwheat. It possesses a chemical action on the soil, by which the coarser particles are disintegrated or rendered finer, and the soil is thereby improved. Pure, inorganic earth—that is, carbon mixed with animal or vegetable matter—is produced by the disintegration or pulverizing of rocks. Silix or sand is the oxide or rust of silicium; or, to make it more familiar, it is pulverized quartz. Clay is produced by the decomposition of feldspar. Now all the quartz and feldspar in the world, while existing in the form of rock, will not produce a blade of grass; it is only when decomposed or pulverized; and the finer the particles, the better the soil.

If a soil, then, is coarse, the object of the farmer is to pulverize it, which can only be done by some chemical application, or the growing of some crop which has this chemical power. Buckwheat, by a process yet undiscovered, has that power, and the longer it is cultivated, on a given piece of ground, the finer will be the particles of the soil. It injures land for corn, but leaves it in fine order for potatoes, and is the best crop to kill out bushes, wild grass, and mellow greensward. To fit the land for the next succeeding crop, in rotation, plow in a crop of buckwheat in blossom.

As food for man, except in small quantities we could not recommend it, as cakes made from it, though light when hot, are heavy as

cold liver when cold. A constant use of it has a tendency, also, to produce cutaneous diseases; but, boiled with potatoes, apples or pumpkins, it is first rate for hogs. When ground, it is excellent for milk cows. Fed raw, or left standing in the field, it is great for shanghais, (they being allowed to harvest for themselves.) The blossoms afford material for the very best honey, and at a season of the year when other flowers are gone.

It should never be given in any form to horses, as it bloats them rather than fattens; and what appears to be fat, put on a horse by buckwheat in a week, will disappear by hard work in a day.—*Ohio Farmer.*

USE OF OPIUM.

Opium eating and laudanum drinking, as evils of great magnitude, are attracting some attention. A recent writer in the New-York Evening Post presents a deplorable picture of the case of a friend who is a slave to the habit. The picture is not overdrawn; we have been personally acquainted with cases equally unfortunate. One now in our mind, is that of the wife of a physician in Ohio, a lady of intelligence and high respectability, who is a victim of this unfortunate "disease."

So completely is she the slave of the appetite that, while in all else she is the very soul of honor and truthfulness, she hesitates not to the grossest deception to procure regular supplies of the drug. She resorts to every possible artifice, will importune friends, bribe servants, fabricate stories of somebody's illness, and herself make long journeys, and leave no means untried to procure it.

For a time she fed her appetite, unknown to her husband. When he learned the fearful truth, he tried to arrest her fatal career, but neither argument, persuasion, management or commands would restrain her, and he now quietly permits her to procure and make use of the vile drug.

She was once a brilliant ornament of the large society in which she moved—now a source of inexpressible mortification and pain to her husband and family.

When under the influence of the narcotic, she is sociable in the extreme, and a very pleasing companion; but when deprived of her now daily portion, she is lifeless and inefficient, careless of all that surrounds her and indifferent to her children. The use of opium, in its various forms, has made a perfect wreck of a lovely woman, the mother of an interesting family, and reduced her to the level of the drunkard.

This evil is growing fearfully. What remedy can be proposed, we know not. Those who have become habituated to its use have not the power to break off, no matter how high an order of talent they may possess. The case of the unfortunate De-Quincey is a striking proof of this fact.

All that can be done then is to guard carefully the rising generation, and prevent the spread of the evil, which, if as general, would be ten-fold worse than that of intemperance.

TOADS.—A correspondent of the Cambridge (Mass.) Chronicle puts in a plea for toads, and justifies his partiality by the following, which we extract from his communication:

"We have in our garden a small nursery of plum trees, which have been nearly destroyed by the canker worms. Last season we commenced shaking them off. One day we observed many toads about these trees, that on our approach became frightened and retreated in great haste to their retreats in the neighboring bushes. Soon finding that they were not pursued, they commenced

hopping back, and caught with avidity each canker worm, as it descended on its tiny thread. We counted at one time thirty immediately round our feet. Day after day we fed them with their favorite food, and they became so tame as to follow us, watch our hand, and take the worm from our fingers."

This is new to us, though it may not be to many of our readers; but whatever taste the toad may have for canker worms, we are quite sure that it does a world of good in a garden, by destroying earth worms, of which it eats large numbers. We once tried to surfeit a toad with earth worms, but our patience was appeased, and we have always held that to destroy one of those disgusting looking reptiles was doing one's grounds a deal of injury. There is no charge brought against the toad but its disagreeable appearance, and it might well quote the old saw to those who despise it without seeking to learn its real value—looks are nothing, behavior is all.

WETTING BRICKS.—As it is important that every one engaged in building should be well informed in regard to the durability of materials, we publish the following from an exchange paper:

Very few people, or even builders, are aware of the advantage of wetting bricks before laying them, or if they are aware of it, they do not practice it; for of the many houses now in progress in this city, there are very few in which wet bricks are used. A wall twelve inches thick, built of good mortar with bricks well soaked, is stronger in every respect than one sixteen inches thick built dry. The reason of this is, that if the bricks are saturated with water, they will not abstract from the mortar the moisture which is necessary to its crystallization; and on the contrary, they will unite chemically with the mortar, and become as solid as a rock. On the other hand, if the bricks are put up dry, they immediately take all the moisture from the mortar, leaving it too dry to harden, and the consequence is, that when a building of this description is taken down or tumbles down of its own accord, the mortar from it is like so much sand.—*Scientific American.*

AN ANECDOTE WITH A MORAL.—A friend not long since told us a story in relation to one of our subscribers, which contained a good moral for husbands, and also furnishes an example for wives which is not unworthy of imitation under similar circumstances:

The subscriber referred to, said to our friend in the presence of his wife, that it had been his intention to call at the Down Easter office, pay up his arrearages, and discontinue his paper. His wife promptly asked,

"Why do you wish to discontinue the paper?"

"Because," said the husband, "I am so much away from home on other business, and I have so little time to read, there seems to be very little use in my taking the paper."

"Yes," responded his wife, "it may be of little use to you, but it is of great use to me. I remain at home while you are gone and I wish to know what is going on in the world. If you discontinue the paper, I will go straight to town and subscribe myself."

As the paper has not been discontinued, we suppose the wife's reasoning was conclusive.

The moral of this incident must not be overlooked. A husband should consider the gratification and profit afforded to his wife and children by the paper, as well as his own, and not discontinue the paper simply because he may not have an opportunity to read it regularly. And, further, it may remind some good husbands, not now subscribers, that it is their duty to take the

paper that their wives and children may know what is going on in the world.—*Down Easter.*

STATE AGRICULTURAL SHOWS FOR 1855.

Name.	Where Held.	Date.
Georgia,	Atlanta.....	Sept. 10—
Vermont,	Rutland.....	" 11—13
Canada East,	Sherbrook.....	" 11—14
Rhode Island,	Providence.....	" 11—15
" " Horse and Cattle, do.	".....	" 11—15
New-Hampshire,	".....	" 12—14
New-Jersey,	Camden.....	" 18—21
Ohio,	Columbus.....	" 18—21
Pennsylvania,	Harrisburg.....	" 25—28
West Virginia,	Wheeling.....	" 26—28
Kentucky,	Paris.....	" 25—28
Tennessee,	Nashville.....	Oct. 1—6
New-York,	Elmira.....	" 2—5
Connecticut,	Hartford.....	" 9—11
Illinois,	Chicago.....	" 9—12
Canada West,	Coburg.....	" 9—12
North-Carolina,	Raleigh.....	" 16—19
Indiana,	Indianapolis.....	" 17—19
East Tennessee,	London.....	" 23—25
Maryland,	Baltimore.....	" 29—
Virginia,	Richmond.....	" 30—2

NEW-YORK COUNTY SHOWS.

Putnam,	Carmel.....	Sept. 18—19
Reusselaer,	Lansingburg.....	" 18—20
Dutchess,	Washington Hollow... "	" 25—26

OHIO COUNTY SHOWS.

Ashtabula, (Horse)	Jefferson.....	July 4—
Belmont,	St. Clairsville.....	Sept. 3—5
Champaigne,	Urbana.....	" 4—6
Hamilton,	Carthage.....	" 4—
Clermont,	Bantam.....	" 11—14
Butler,	Hamilton.....	" 12—14
Conneaut,	Independent.....	" 29—
Warren,	Lebanon.....	" 25—27
Warrison,	Cadiz.....	" 26—28
Clinton,	Wilmington.....	" 27—28
Portage,	Ravenna.....	".....
Ashtabula,	Jefferson.....	Oct. 2—4
Mahoning,	Canfield.....	" 2—3
Clark,	Springfield.....	" 2—5
Medina,	Medina.....	" 3—5
Monroc,	Woodfield.....	" 3—4
Preble,	Preble.....	" 2—5
Stark,	Canton.....	" 3—5
Summit,	Akron.....	" 3—5
Muskingum,	Zanesville.....	" 4—5
Crawford,	Bucyrus.....	" 11—12

PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY SHOWS.

Delaware,	Media.....	Sept. 20—22
Montgomery,	Morristown.....	Oct. 3—4

NEW-JERSEY COUNTY SHOWS.

Jamesburg (Town)	Jamesburg.....	Sept. 18—
Mercer	Hightstown.....	" 25—
Cumberland,	Bridgeton.....	" 26—
Monmouth,	Freehold.....	" 27—
Salem,	Salem.....	" 27—
Somerset,	Rantan.....	Oct. 3—4

COUNTY SHOWS—MISCELLANEOUS.

Philadelphia, Pa.,	XXIVth Ward.....	Sept. 12—14
Windham, Conn.,	Brooklyn.....	" 19—20
Lake, Ill.,	Waukegan.....	" 26—27
Waldo, Me.,	Belfast.....	Oct. 3—4
Kane, Ill.,	Elgin.....	" 3—4
Oakland, Mich.,	Pontiac.....	" 17—18
Ag. Association, Ky.,	Louisville.....	" 9—14

MEANNESS DOES NOT PAY.—There is no greater mistake that a business man makes than to be mean in his business. Always taking the half cent for the dollars he has made and is making. Such a policy is very much like the farmer's, who sows three pecks of seed when he ought to have sown five, and as a recompense for the leanness of his soul, only gets ten when he ought to have got fifteen bushels of grain. Everybody has heard of the proverb of "penny wise and pound foolish." A liberal expenditure in the way of business is always sure to be a capital investment. There are people in the world who are short-sighted enough to believe that their interest can be best promoted by grasping and clinging to all they can get, and nev-

er letting a cent slip through their fingers. As a general thing, it will be found, other things being equal, that he who is the most liberal is most successful in business. Of course we do not mean it to be inferred that a man should be prodigal in his expenditure; but that he should show to his customers, if he is a trader, or those whom he may be doing any kind of business with, that, in all his transactions, as well as social relations, he acknowledges the everlasting fact that there can be no permanent prosperity or good feeling in a community where benefits are not reciprocal.—*Hunt's Merchant's Magazine.*

WILLIE'S GRAVE;

OR, WE ARE TOO POOR TO PAY.

Yes, it was a lovely spot, that village grave-yard! Such a one I fancy, as inspired the "Elegy in a Country Church-yard." There was less pomp and show than in our city burial places, but what of that as Jeremy Taylor says, "we cannot deceive God and nature, for a coffin in a coffin, though it be covered with a sumptuous pall." So a grave is a grave though it be piled over with sculptured marble.

Then that little girl! How her image comes up before me, bending over her mother's grave. I marked her when she entered, and was soon drawn towards the spot where she was kneeling. I approached cautiously—there was something so sacred in the picture of that child weeping at a new made grave, that I feared my presence might break the rapture of her mournful musings. I know not how long I might have stood apparently reading the rude grave stone, had not the child raised her eyes and timidly said—

"Our little Willie sleeps here. We's too poor to get a tomb-stone; we and the angels know where he lies, and mother says that's enough."

"Are you not afraid to be here all alone?" I asked.

"Oh, no; mother is sick and couldn't come, so she said I must come and see if the violets are in bloom yet."

"How old was your brother?" I asked, feeling interested in the little girl.

"He was only seven years old; and he was so good, and he had such beautiful eyes; but he couldn't see a bit."

"Indeed! was he blind?"

"You see he was sick a long time; yet his eyes were blue and bright as the blue sky with stars in it, and we did not know he was getting blind, till one day I brought him a pretty rose, and he asked—

"Is it a white rose, Dora?"

"Can't you see, darling?" asked mother.

"No, I can't see anything. I wish you would open the window, it is so dark."

"Then we knew that poor little Willie was blind; but he lived a long time after that, and used to put his hand on our faces to feel if we were crying, and tell us not to cry, for he could see God, and Heaven, and the Angels. 'Then, never mind, mother and Dora,' he would say, 'I'll see you too, when you go away from this dark place.'

"So one day he closed his eyes and fell asleep in Jesus. Then we brought him here and buried him; and though we are too poor to get a tombstone, yet we can plant flowers on his little grave, and nobody'll trouble them, I know, when they learn that little Willie sleeps here."

Punch is a good doctor at times. He gives the following for the benefit of wart wearers:

"Put your mouth close to the wart, and tell it in a whisper that if it will not go away you will burn it out with caustic. If it does not take the hint, be as good as your word."

Horticultural Department.

RHODE-ISLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

JUNE EXHIBITION, 1855.

This Society held its semi-annual exhibition of fruits, flowers, and early vegetables in Art Association Hall, Providence, on the 19th and 20th inst. This Association was formed in 1845, and incorporated in 1854, but owing to its connection with the R. I. S. for E. Domestic Industry, who have controlled their exhibition, it has not been known or recognized as having any interest separate from that body, but we learn it has now a separate organization, and takes a stand of its own with the other Horticultural Societies. It has at the present time some one hundred and thirty members, many of whom are laboring earnestly to cultivate a taste for the practice of Horticulture among the different cities and towns of the State. That their efforts have been in some measure successful, the exhibitions of the Society give ample evidence. The citizens of Providence and vicinity can hardly spend a little money and effort in a manner which will yield them more real pleasure and enjoyment, and at the same time beautify and adorn their city and towns, than by becoming active and paying members of this Society.

The recent exhibition was held in anticipation of a fine display of roses and early fruits and vegetables. The backwardness of the season, however, in some measure disappointed the expectations which had been formed. Still the show was very fine, especially the display of cut flowers and flowers in pots. In this department George W. Chapin, Esq., a wealthy and respected citizen of Providence, who has a splendid conservatory, by the way, took the lead. His collection embraced a great variety, among which was a very excellent show of Fuchsias, including the Duchess of Lancaster and Fair Rosamond, two new and beautiful varieties; some new varieties of Geraniums; fine specimens of the Gloxinia, of Pansies, and some beautiful bouquets and baskets of flowers.

To Mr. Chapin the Committee awarded the first premiums for June Roses, for Fuchsias in pots, for Pelargoniums, for greenhouse plants in pots, for Pansies (which were very fine), and for the best basket of flowers. The last-named contributions deservedly received much commendation from the visitors.

Mr. Wm. Nesbit, of Elm Grove, also made a grand display of flowers, of various kinds, cut and in pots. Among the latter were some which are quite rare. He also added several handsome bouquets to that department of the exhibition. His display of herbaceous plants was excellent. The Committee on Flowers awarded him the first premium. Mr. Nesbit's contribution deserves great credit for the neatness and correctness with which each article exhibited was marked, and any one on visiting his garden would feel impelled to exclaim, "He is a thorough gardener."

There was a good display of hardy perpetual Roses. Some of them were of fine form and color. Among the contributors in this department were Ezra Hubbard, Walter Craddock, R. Dalglish, and S. Hawkins. Mr. Craddock received the first premium for table bouquets and for hand bouquets.

For wild flowers, Mr. Geo. Hunt, of Providence, received the first premium.

The show of early fruits and vegetables was not large. Mr. S. Dalglish exhibited several baskets of magnificent Hovey's seedling, early Virginia and Jenny's seedling Strawberries. Charles E. Hall, of North Providence, exhibited one basket of tempting-looking Strawberries. Hovey & Co., of Boston, exhibited a basket of Jenny Lind Strawberries, by its originator, Mr. Isaac Day.

Some fine Cucumbers were contributed by J. Watson; fine Tomatoes, Beans, &c., by Mr. Dalglish; splendid Cauliflowers, by Mr. Ryan, from the garden of Mr. E. A. Wright, of Newport; fine Peas, Rhubarb, Beets and Lettuce, by J. J. Cooke; a good selection of vegetables, consisting of Peas, Cucumbers, Rhubarb and Beans, by Mr. Nesbit. The exhibition in this department shows a decided improvement over last year, and we hope the farmers and amateur gardeners will contribute more fully of their productions, as many articles which might have been shown had no representatives. We append a list of the principal premiums awarded:

Strawberries.—To R. Dalglish, for best varieties, \$3; to Chas. E. Hall, for best dish, \$2.

June Roses.—To Geo. Anderson, gardener to G. W. Chapin, for best exhibition, \$3; to Thos. M. Hawkins, for 3d best, \$1.

Hardy Perpetual Roses.—Best, \$3, to E. Hubbard; 2d best, \$2, to Silas Moore, of Cranston; best two specimens, \$1 to W. B. Spencer, of Phenix.

Fuchsias in Pots.—Best, \$2, to Geo. Anderson, gardener to Geo. W. Chapin; 2d best, \$1, to David Cook, gardener to A. D. and J. Y. Smith.

Peonies.—Best, \$2, to John Watson, gardener to Gen. James; second best, \$1, to R. Dalglish.

Herbaceous Plants.—Best, \$2, to W. Nesbit, Elm Grove; 2d best, \$1, to David Cook, gardener to A. D. & J. Y. Smith.

Flowering Shrubs and Creepers.—Best, \$2, to David Cook, gardener to A. D. & J. Y. Smith; 2d best, \$1, to Wm. Nesbit.

Pelargoniums.—Best, \$2, to Geo. Anderson, gardener to Geo. W. Chapin; second best, \$1, to David Cook, gardener to A. D. & J. Y. Smith.

Greenhouse Plants in pots.—Best, \$3, to G. Anderson, gardener to Geo. W. Chapin; 2d best, \$2, to Wm. Nesbit.

Beside the stated premiums of \$2 and \$1, for bouquets, baskets of flowers, &c., &c., of which we have already spoken, a large number of gratuitous awards were made, for both flowers and vegetables—the lack of space precluding further detail.

STRAWBERRIES IN CALIFORNIA seven inches in circumference, are said by the papers of that State to be quite common; while those only a little smaller come into the markets by the wagon load. Some of our friends there will please forward us a few of the

plants for propagation, and we will return the compliment by sending them some roots of the New-Rochelle blackberry.

GENEVA, N. Y.—Our correspondent, J. A. Collins, sends us a long report of the June Exhibition of the Seneca (Town) Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Geneva, on the 29th, from which we condense the following: The show was too early for vegetables, the season being backward. Strawberries were well represented. Hovey's Seedlings were largest, but Burr's New Pine were preferred for flavor. Roses were also numerous; the largest collection being from the nursery of Messrs. W. T. & E. Smith. Mr. W. S. Burgess, of Waterloo, exhibited large pie plants, of a variety called Mayett's Lincaas (?); the stalks were two to three feet in length, and nearly two inches in diameter. Stalks of rye seven feet nine inches were shown.

For the American Agriculturist.

THE NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY,

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY,

Or what I shall call

THE SEACOR MAMMOTH BLACKBERRY.

Not only in agricultural papers, but from several other sources, I have heard great dissatisfaction manifested at the name given to this now famous berry by the New-York Farmers' Club. I believe there is a general opinion that great injustice is done to Mr. Seacor by that Club; and, although I am in no way pecuniarily interested in the sale of these plants, I think the subject should be thoroughly investigated. The object of this communication is to call out a statement of facts from those persons who are familiar with the circumstances of the origin and subsequent history of the plant. I would inquire.

1st. Was not Mr. Lewis A. Seacor the discoverer and preserver of this delicious fruit, and did not he first bring it into garden culture, and was not Mr. Lawton fully aware of these facts when he made his statement at the Farmer's Club?

2d. Was not the action of that Club irregular, inasmuch as it is a standing rule, if not custom, to decide no questions brought before them, but simply to hear facts and statements from both sides of all questions?

3d. Supposing that action regular, was it not entirely too hasty, since no previous notice was given of the introduction of this question, and was not the subject decided without investigation, and upon the *ex parte* statement of an interested individual only?

4th. Does not the action of that Club tend greatly to injure Mr. Seacor and others, by giving Mr. Lawton an unjust monopoly of the name and sale of the plant; and is not the community at large injured by the impression thus conveyed, that in order to get the plants they must buy them of Mr. Lawton at a higher price than is asked for them by others?

5th. Did not Mr. Seymour, Mr. Roosevelt, and Mr. Carpenter, as well as Mr. Lawton, get their original stock from Mr. Seacor; and if so, are not their plants as pure as his, and are they not entitled to an equal share of patronage and at as good prices?

I hope these questions will be fully answered, as the history and the facility of obtaining this plant has become a matter of public interest. I would further ask, whether the Farmers' Club should not reconsider and reverse their action, if it be a fact that Mr. Lawton is not entitled to the name? If I mistake not, you, Mr. Editor, are a member

of that Club, and was present at the meeting when the name was given. If so I would inquire of you whether any chance was given to investigate the matter?

If the persons who know its history will reply to this as far as they well can, they shall hear from me again, for I think the matter should be thoroughly sifted.

T. B. G.

We leave the discussion of this matter to our correspondents and to those more immediately interested in the subject. In answer to T. B. G.'s direct question to us, we have only to say, that we are in no way responsible for the action of the Club. We occasionally attend with other invited "outsiders." From the rules of the Club, as we have heard them laid down, we should not suppose the Club had authority to decide any question of this character. Indeed, some three or four weeks since, samples of wire fence were exhibited, and some action requested, but it was distinctly stated by the officers, and concurred in by the members present, that it was not the province of the Club to pass any resolutions recommending or commending anything brought before the Club. As to the other matter, we believe the only discussion had at the time of the naming the blackberry, was a *discussion* of the excellent flavor of a large basket of fine fruit, and some remarks upon its wonderful size, &c., followed by a paper read by Mr. Lawton. We think the Club, to be consistent, should reconsider their former action, and leave the decision of this question to the Horticultural Societies of New York and Brooklyn, to whom it legitimately belongs. We suggest to one or both of these Societies the propriety of appointing a committee to inquire into the value, proper naming, &c., of this new, and, as we think, valuable addition to our summer fruits. If Mr. Lawton's efforts in preserving and propagating the fruit entitle him to the name, by all means let him have it, and if not, let it be given where it belongs. The sooner this question is settled the better for all parties, and especially for the public.

A STRAWBERRY PLANTATION.

The editor of the Columbus Times describes a visit to the country of Mr. Charles A. Peabody, of strawberry celebrity, five miles distant from that city:

The sight surpassed our most sanguine expectations. It consisted of a ten acre field, and every foot of ground was red with the ripe and luscious fruit. The Hovey seedling was the prevailing growth; but we found a part of the ground covered with the Peabody seedling, a cross between the Hovey and a native wilding, which pleased us better even than the Hovey. The vine is larger, the fruit quite as large, more luscious and abundant. It is like the Hovey, a continuous bearer. We saw vines of this seedling which contained over two hundred berries, some just forming, others turning, and others again ready to melt on the tongue. It was a sight to tempt an epicure. The most astonishing feature in the condition of this crop is that it has been produced without artificial watering. We attribute the success of Mr. Peabody to his system of culture in which mulching forms a conspicuous feature.

In the same field Mr. Peabody has 2,000

watermelon vines, many of which have fruit already formed, and he expects to supply the market with this delightful fruit by the 10th proximo. In each hill of the melon vines was a tomato plant. Mr. Peabody informed us that the tomato does not interfere with the melon while it protects it from the bugs that prey upon it. If this be true, it is a fact worth remembering by cultivators of the watermelon.

PAULOVNIA IMPERIALIS.

The Imperial Paulovnia is decidedly one of the most ornamental deciduous trees we yet possess. It grows in its native country (Japan) from forty to fifty feet high. Notwithstanding this, we have plants in this country, extending from the middle to the south of England, twenty feet high—and particularly in the south, where it attains a greater height, growing spontaneously, producing in one season large robust shoots three or four feet long, and at the same time bearing ample foliage. I once observed (at a nursery in Sussex) a large healthy plant twenty-five feet high, lifted from the situation in which it had been established eight years, and removed to a gentleman's estate, there re-planted, and to his great satisfaction, the plant re-flourished in a most luxuriant manner. But in this part of England, as well as the midland localities, we find our strongest plants with their terminal shoots nipped, and more or less killed by the autumnal frost, or, what is worse, the biting north-east winds of spring. Three years ago I beheld a plant coming nicely into bloom, it had expanded three lilac-colored, Gloxinia-like flowers, on a spike six inches long, but unfortunately it experienced one frosty night, which destroyed the whole, but in the same summer, at the Bishop of Exeter's favorite and beautiful grounds, at Bishopstow, near Torquay, a plant bloomed most profusely, from which specimens were forwarded to the conductors of the Botanical Magazine, in which it is mostly splendidly figured, Tab. 4666. "The flowers," his Lordship writes, "are produced in terminal clusters, and the odor is of a delicate violet-like character." He states that the effect to the eye is rather disappointing, for the bloom precedes the leaves, which were not then half out. His Lordship's statement concerning the structure of the flower exactly corresponds with what I have myself perceived. Great difficulty has been experienced in propagating the Paulovnia, as the robust shoots which our English summers seldom ever half-ripen, will not strike, though it has been in many instances rooted from layers; but the most successful method of effecting propagation is by taking the roots in the autumn and cutting them into parts about one inch and a half long, and inserting one half of the subterranean cutting into some good sandy soil, and leaving the other half exposed to the light; let the soil be pressed rather firm, and kept rather moist; then let the pot be plunged into a medium bottom heat, and a handglass placed over the whole.

The soil which is best adapted for this plant is that of a dry sandy nature, and the situation in which it should be planted ought to be exposed to the powerful rays of the sun; by these means the abundant flow of sap in moist weather would become checked; the plant would form its bloom at a much earlier period, and be more likely to expand its flowers, before the inclemency of the weather would injure them. This plant, as well as a great many other semi-hardy plants, would form ornamental objects in the Crystal Palace. The whole beauty of many of these plants we have not yet discovered, and particularly those of New-Zealand, because they can not withstand the various tempera-

tures to which our island is so subject.—G. G., in *London Florist*.

THE PLEASURES OF FLORICULTURE;

WITH REMARKS ON DIVIDING THE FAMILIES OF PLANTS, AND CREATING NEW GENERA FROM THEM.

BY J., OF JERSEY.

The love of flowers, and of their culture, has been very great in me from my childhood. It was imparted to me by my good Aunt Mary, who was considered as having always the prettiest, most healthy, and best-looking flowers in Jersey; except, perhaps, those rare sorts which were then cultivated in the few greenhouses which there were at that time in the island. Her garden was, from early spring until late in the autumn, replete with the enlivening blossoms of the beautiful objects of her care. To the pleasing occupation of out-of-door culture she added another, in which she took much pleasure, and which is now called *Window-gardening*. In this she certainly excelled; her windows looked as if there had been spread over them a screen of various tints of cheerful green, over which some fairy hand had strewed fragrant blossoms of the fairest hues in the utmost profusion, which, while imperious to the ardent ray of mid-day sun, readily admitted every zephyr, fraught with perfume, into the cool interior of the rooms. The plants which produced these pleasing effects were then called *Geraniums*.

I was removed for a time from my pleasant home for the purposes of education, but I carried with me and retained the love of floriculture, which had been so early implanted in me. I continued to look on my old friends, the *Geraniums*, with undiminished, perhaps increased pleasure; and on my return home, some years afterward, having a little time on my hands, one of my principal sources of recreation was the growth of flowers. A little success in this had the effect of putting me in communication with regular amateur florists, from whose experience I derived most important benefit; but, when talking one day with one of them about some of my favorite *Geraniums*, I was mortified by his telling me that they were no longer called by that name, and had been replaced by that of *Pelargonium*, but he could not tell me for what reason. Another friend, more learned and versed in the recent changes, informed me that the name of *Geranium* was preserved, but that it had been divided into two genera, *Geranium* and *Pelargonium*, because there existed differences in character, easy to be distinguished. He had the kindness to define them for me as follows:

The *Geranium* (Crane's bill), alternate leaves, regular flowers, with ten prolific stamens.

The *Pelargonium* (Stork's bill), having leaves opposite, irregular flowers, seven prolific stamens, and the upper division of the calyx a little larger than the others.

I was forced to agree to the propriety of this arrangement, but knowledge, ever on the march, was not satisfied with so imperfect a classification, and I was soon called upon to adopt a *new name*, which had been given to a genus formed out of the two others; this was—

The *Erodium* (Heron's bill), having for characters alternate leaves, flowers regular and five fertile stamens.

Thus were formed, from the original *Geranium*, two additional genera—*Pelargonium* and *Erodium*.

Years have passed away, during which my time has been too much occupied by other matters to permit me to take much thought about floral matters, but now being, through

ill health, unable to give so much time to business, I am glad to devote some of my leisure hours to a pursuit which afforded me so much gratification in past days; but I find things have much altered. There has been a stupendous improvement in the culture, and an infinite number of superb hybrids has been produced; but I find that the names have been changed, and am at a loss to distinguish by which of them I should call my plants.

Thus, *Erodium* is seldom heard of now; the only instance in which I have met with it lately being in Messrs. Harrison & Co.'s "Catalogue of Herbaceous and Alpine Plants," *Erodium Reichardii*. As to *Geranium*, when I read of it in the Cabinet, the word is followed by *so-called*, in a parenthesis; and reading in the Times, of 11th May, the report of the Botanic Society's Flower Show in the Regent's Park, on the 9th, I find it stated that "the *Geraniums* of Mr. Turner, of Slough, were of the best;" but I look for them in vain in the list of prizes—the two awarded to Mr. Turner are for *Pelargoniums*.

In order to remove my uncertainty, with respect to the names, I have thought I might take the liberty, as a subscriber to the Cabinet from the commencement, upwards of twenty-two years ago, of applying to you for information; and therefore request you, or some of your correspondents, will have the kindness to tell me what is a *Geranium*, and what is a *Pelargonium*. Also, if the name of the class is changed, and if so for what reason—which, in that case, I hope is a good one; for otherwise I think that *Geranium* is much the prettier name, and should have been retained.—*Floricultural Cabinet*.

THE GOOSEBERRY.

Gooseberry growers are not very successful in our State. Their culture is so attended by difficulties that it is not very unusual to see whole plantations dug up and thrown away. These difficulties can not wholly be obviated, but much may be done to nullify them. The great cause of failure is the aridity of the climate at certain seasons of the year, which induces mildew. Whatever contributes to the moisture of the atmosphere in which the gooseberry grows, assists their perfect development, and aids in warding off the attacks of mildew. The gooseberry here fails most generally in proportion to the dryness of the soil in which it grows. In England and other countries famed for their mammoth gooseberries, a dry rich soil is not so unfavorable, because the superior moisture of the atmosphere supplies the necessary humidity. The best soil in our district for the gooseberry is one which retains a good supply of moisture through the summer, and one which at the same time will not *bake in dry weather*. Where it is unavoidable to plant in dryish soil, thorough soakings of water while the fruit is setting, and a *mulching* of loose litter thrown over the soil around the roots, is of vast benefit to it.

Another excellent mode of generating moisture about them is to sprinkle the soil under the trees occasionally with *salt*—not too much; just enough to make the ground look white. As a practical man, and writing for practical people, I need not explain why or how salt aids humidity; that it does so, will be a useful fact to those who wish to grow—if not "inonstrous," at least superior gooseberries.—THOMAS MEHAN, in *Progressive Farmer*.

The New-York Evening Post says: "The Navy is a good place for bad boys, and a bad place for good ones."

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, July 5.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

AGRICULTURE OF ANCIENT EGYPT.

WE spent a few hours last week in examining the Agricultural part of the Egyptian Museum, in this City. The remains of that ancient and most interesting people that are deposited here are, many of them, in a wonderful state of preservation. They were gathered from the tombs about Sakhara and Thebes, by Dr. Abbot, and are attested by such names as leave no doubt of their authenticity.

These primitive farmers did not differ so much from us in their implements and practices as we might suppose. Their plow was shaped something like our old-fashioned "bull-tongue," though but a small portion of the sole ran in the ground—this part extending back until it met the beam, and made a joint with it, so that the instrument resembled fire-tongs with one short leg. The opening between the two sticks was secured by a piece of chain. There seems to have been no idea of turning the furrow, or of distinguishing between the land and the mold sides; so that the thing must have been driven around over the ground very much after the manner of our harrow. The back end of the beam was elevated so much, that a perpendicular wooden pin inserted into it answered the purpose of a handle.

Like some Connecticut farmers, these Egyptians preferred ox teams; and they had an odd way of yoking them, by lashing a stick to their heads in front of their horns. The plowman, in one picture, holds the implement with his left hand, and flourishes the goad vigorously with his right. He wears a simple cloth about the loins, while the more pretentious farmer, who precedes him carrying a basket of grain on his arm from which he sows, is dressed in a kilt that reaches to his ankles. So it seems that they plowed in their grain as we now recommend for wheat, when a drill is not used.

In another picture, oxen are treading out the grain, in the way that some farmers in this country do with horses. Champollion tells us that the peasants that drove the cattle enlivened their labors with songs, and he

has given us a translation of one, written in hieroglyphics over such a picture, of the date of fifteen hundred years before Christ:

"Tread ye out for yourselves,
Tread ye out for yourselves,
O, oxen!
Tread ye out for yourselves,
Tread ye out for yourselves
The straw;
For men, who are your masters,
The grain."

There are here three mummied bulls, preserved in bulk, resting with their limbs drawn under them. Their horns are straight and divergent. These animals are so wound in bandages that it is impossible to judge of their actual size, but we can judge something of this from a separate jaw-bone and a portion of a back-bone. There is an idea prevalent that the domestic animals and the races of men are continually improving. In order to test the matter, in the case of the genus *bos*, we examined this jaw-bone, and found that the teeth were identical in number, in position, in shape, and in protuberances, with those of our common ox. Hence we conclude that the species was the same; and this conclusion is still further strengthened by the fact that, on measurement, this bone does not differ essentially in size from specimens in our butcher shops. We made accurate measurements and drawings of this jaw-bone, and of one from a modern animal, which the curious in such matters can examine at our office.

The edge tools are made of bronze—a mixture of copper and tin. There are no eyes to the axes, the blade being inserted in a groove in the handle, and secured by plaited leather. In some of the knives the handle extends the whole length of the blade along the back of it, so that the ax is only one of these knives with a very long handle and a very narrow blade. The hoe is a clumsy thing, that looks very much like an adz. The sickle is shaped like the letter Z, only the cutting part is long and curved.

Of the manufactured articles, much of the linen looks like our "tow cloth," though part of it is as fine as ordinary sheeting, and some small pieces are equal even to cambric. Sometimes one thread in every dozen or so of the filling, is coarser than the others, and this thread is looped at about an equal space along the warp, so that the texture has a kind of nap on one side, like shaggy woolen mittens. Some of the cordage is as finely and evenly twisted as if it had been made by our best spinners.

We noticed that these ancients affected to increase their stature, by contrivances equivalent to the modern stove pipe hats. The gods generally wear something of the sort, with a steeple-top; and the artist who cut the statue of Thotmes III, or the Pharaoh of Moses's time, has carried the crown of the head upward and backward to a deformity.

Among their games was a kind of checkers or draughts, the *men* for which were made of porcelain, and distinguished from each other by difference in height, instead of color. Another consisted in tossing up a set of sticks, and guessing which side would fall up—as boys toss up a stone and say "wet or dry" for innings. The doll babies were

cut out of flat pieces of wood, and had no joints.

Horns were finished, for some purpose, in the same style that we finish powder-horns now, only the small end was expanded into a spoon, so that it held a certain quantity, like the nose of a modern powder-flask.

Blue was a favorite color, and it was a compliment to be represented as "true blue." The Egyptian mother called her baby her "chicken," and it was as much an insult to be called a "goose" in those days as it is now.

They spoke of the cow as the *moo*, the dog as the *bow-wow*, a serpent as a *hiss*, and a cat as a *mew*. The principal men wore "goatees," and braided them as a Chinaman does his hair.

After a few hours of pleasant reverie, we came away well satisfied with our visit to the realms of the Pharaohs, and more than ever inclined to believe that King Solomon was right when he said that there was, even in his day, nothing new under the sun.

TO OUR EXCHANGES:

Every paper has a species of property in its original articles, especially when—as is the case with this journal—considerable expense is incurred to procure the best matter for its columns. It is admitted on all hands that when such articles are copied by other journals, they should receive due credit; but we are sorry to find that nearly or quite one-third of our exchanges copy from us, week after week, giving no credit, or rather doing what is equivalent to this, they append a simple Am. Ag., which amounts really to no credit at all. We have called attention to this matter before, without producing the desired effect; and, as the cause of complaint is daily increasing, we now give notice that, hereafter, we shall strike from our exchange list such papers as continue this course.

CORRECTION.—Mr. Keeler, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, requests us to say, that in his card published in the *American Agriculturist* two weeks since, he inadvertently omitted to mention that Mr. John Jay, of Bedford, sent up a bountiful collation for all on the ground at the trial of Mowers, on Friday, the 15th June; and that on the second trial, before his house, the next day (16th June), Judge Jay furnished a handsome collation to all present. The Messrs. Jay, and their neighbor, Mr. Lyon, also generously placed their grass land at the disposal of the Committee, to take any quantity they desired for a trial of all the Mowing machines present.

It is not yet too late to plant corn for fodder. If sown or drilled in now, it will be ready for use the latter part of August.

We direct attention to the advertisement of Morrison's shingle machine.

In our advertising columns will be found the announcement of the Woodstock Academy, to which we call attention.

HAY CAPS.

In January last we advised farmers to prepare a supply of hay caps at that leisure season, to use at this time. Our suggestions were followed by several persons, and we hope to hear from them in reference to the result. Our article is now being copied by several agricultural journals, and for the benefit of a large number of new readers, we will reprint a portion of our suggestions. It is not too late to procure those caps; and if such frequent showers as we have had for a few days past continue during the haying season, they will be found highly useful.

Most farmers are doubtless aware that on an average one-fourth of the value of all hay gathered, is lost by its exposure to rain and heavy dews. This loss may be saved by simply being provided with a supply of HAY CAPS. These can be made of pieces of cotton sheeting, say a yard and a half square, with the torn edges hemmed, and a loop of tape or string sewed upon each corner. They would be rendered more effectual if slightly coated with oil; or by dipping in water made quite milky with chalk, or whiting, and after drying dipping them into alum water. If prepared in the latter manner, they will shed water quite freely.

When grass is cut down and put up in small stacks of two to four hundred pounds each, it can then be protected by one of these cloth coverings, the corners of the cap being fastened down by thrusting little wooden pins through the loops into the sides of the stacks. Protected in this way, hay can stand in the field unharmed through rain and dews till it is thoroughly cured. Let us estimate briefly the cost and profit of this process.

If we allow one of these caps for 200 lbs of hay, ten will be required for a tun. As the cloth may be quite coarse, the expense of each will not exceed 10 to 15 cents. The caps may be used two or three times in a season, and if taken care of they will last for five or six years, or longer, and then the paper-makers will buy them at one-fifth of first cost; so that every two caps, costing 25 cents, at most, will serve for curing at least a tun of hay.

No one will deny but that hay thus cured will, on an average, be worth at least a dollar more on the tun, than if subjected to the usual damage of rain and dew. We advise every person raising hay to prepare a few dollars' worth of these caps during this leisure month, and have them laid away in readiness for the haying season. The same caps may be used to protect shocks of wheat and other grain. They will very often much more than pay for themselves in a single season. If not quite satisfied as to their utility, prepare 20 or 30, and try them one season, and see if they do not pay. If they do not, the cloth will not be lost.

There is no particular necessity for any preparation added to the cloth, as a piece of simple cotton thrown over a rounded haystack will generally conduct off even the heaviest shower of rain.

Lo € inquiring for *Drain Tile Machines*,
had something of interest to them in

our advertising columns. Ditch Diggers and Brick Machines are also announced.

RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

The above Society is making extensive preparations for a Horse and Cattle Show to commence on Tuesday, the 11th of September, and continue through the week.

The sum of *Seven Thousand Dollars* is appropriated for the premiums and expenses of the Horse and Cattle Show alone. Exhibitors and competitors are invited from other States. Judging from the past exhibitions of this Society which we have attended, and from what we know of the men engaged in the enterprise, we predict a splendid and successful show. It will take place earlier than most other State exhibitions, which will give exhibitors of animals from other States an opportunity to participate in its exercises without neglecting their own.

In addition to the special Show for Horses and Cattle, liberal premiums, to be awarded at the same time, are offered for the best cultivated Farms, for agricultural experiments, and for a variety of agricultural productions. We give a few of them—as follows:

Best Cultivated Farm, \$100; 2d do., \$60. Best cultivated acre of Corn, \$15; 2d do \$10. For best acre of Rye, Rutabaga, and Potatoes, and for best ¼ acre of Carrots, Parsnips, and Onions, \$10 each. \$20 each for best experiments with ¼ acre of Cranberries upon bog land, and for best comparative experiments in keeping Apples in quantities. \$30 for best experiments in feeding Cattle, Sheep and Swine. Premiums of \$10 to \$15 are offered for experiments with *Yellow Locust Trees, Fish Manure, Irrigation, Top-dressing, raising and grinding Madder in New-England, Use of Lime, Phosphate of Lime, Feeding one kind of Animals, Superiority of one breed of Hogs over another, &c.

Inquiries may be addressed to the President, Joseph J. Cooke, Providence, or the Secretary, C. T. Keith, Providence.

THE DUTCHESS COUNTY (N. Y.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its next annual Show at the Society's grounds in Washington Hollow, September 25th and 26th. Letters of inquiry and previous entries to be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. Geo. Sweet, at Washington Hollow.

From the premium regulations (for a copy of which we are indebted to Mr. George W. Coffin, Treasurer of the Society,) we select the following:

"Premiums on Milk Cows to be determined by the following trial, viz: Time of trial from the 10th to the 20th of June, and from the 10th to the 20th of August; cows to be kept on grass only during the experiment, and for 15 days previous to each trial. Statement to be furnished of the age, breed of cows, time of calving, quantity of milk in weight, and also of butter made during each period of 10 days. Samples of butter made to be exhibited at the Fair, and statement to be verified by the competitor's affidavit.

CALIFORNIA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

—Our agricultural friends in the golden State are preparing for a State Show, to be held at Sacramento, in September—the precise day is not yet announced. As money is more abundant with them, they are going ahead of their brethren of older States in the amount of premiums offered. As an example, we give the following:

For the best Farm, \$200; for 2d do., \$100; for best Imported or American Stallion, \$150; 2d do., \$75; for best Bull, \$100; 2d do., \$50; for best Vineyard, best Nursery, and best Steam Engine, each \$75; for best 10 acres of Wheat, \$100; for best 5 acres of Potatoes, best 10 acres of Barley, do. Oats, do. Corn, do. Buckwheat, &c., each \$50; best Threshing Machine, \$50. Other premiums are in similar proportion.

SQUIRRELS.—The Boston city authorities have procured a number of red and gray squirrels from Vermont, and set them at liberty upon the celebrated Boston Common. This is the finest city Park in this country. It contains nearly 50 acres of beautiful un-lululating lawn, well stocked with magnificent elms and other trees, and is provided with graveled walks, fountains, miniature artificial lakes, &c. The new inhabitants thus introduced will be vigilantly guarded from boys and dogs, and will add much to the life and animation of the grounds. This plan was adopted some time since in the Philadelphia parks, and the squirrels have become so tame as to take food from the hands of visitors.

TO PREVENT METALS FROM RUSTING.—Melt together three parts of lard and one part of rosin. A very thin coating, will preserve Russia-iron stoves and grates from rusting during summer, even in damp situations. The effect is equally good on brass, copper, steel, &c. The same compound forms an excellent water-proof paste for leather. Boots, when treated with it, will soon after take the usual polish when blacked, and the soles may be saturated with it.

YOUNG SALMON.—The papers say it has been discovered that young fry of salmon must remain in fresh water two years before emigrating to the sea, instead of one year, as has been heretofore supposed. We can not learn where or by whom the discovery was made. Is the statement true?

BOOK NOTICES.

LEAVES FROM THE TREE IGDRA SYL; By Martha Russel. John P. Jewett & Co., Boston.

"I like, too, that representation they [the old Norsemen] have of the tree Igdasyll. All life is figured by them as a tree. Igdasyll, the ash-tree of existence, has its roots deep down in the kingdom of Hela or Death; its trunk reaches up heaven-high—spreads its boughs over the whole universe; it is the tree of Existence. Is not every leaf a biography—every fiber there an act or word?"—*Carlyle*.

This is a pleasant summer-book of sketches, well written, abounding with fine sentiments, and gentle, womanly thoughts. Here is indeed a portraiture of the affections, for

in them is woman's province, her very life, else how could she make home so beautiful? Yet on this Tree Igdrasil grow many other beautiful leaves, upon which pictures of life and lessons of heart-knowledge are daguerreotyped with exquisite truthfulness. We will pluck but one :

"I confess I am not philosophical enough to get quite above this matter of dress. I think there is more in the mind's craving for perfect harmony and fitness in outward things than many of our sages admit. The dress of every woman should be evolved from her mind—an indication of the grace, truth, purity and beauty within. * * * * Only as the 'outward and visible sign' of the inward harmony should dress be made a study; never for vulgar display."

For the American Agriculturist.

PRESERVED VEGETABLES AND FRUITS.—The season is close at hand when those desirous of securing a late fall and winter's supply of the above, must set about preparing them. I should be greatly obliged if some of your lady readers who are most intelligent on the subject, would give us the best methods for preserving both as vegetables and sweetmeats, some of the leading products of the garden, and especially the tomato for cooking, when wanted as a vegetable.

AN INEXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER.

POUGHKEEPSIE—ITS ENVIRONS.

BY C. N. BEMENT.

Poughkeepsie, to the traveler passing up or down the Hudson, either on the river or Rail-Road, presents nothing prepossessing or very attractive worthy of note. Bold and craggy bluffs line the banks, and here and there may be seen docks or landings cosily ensconced between the projecting cliffs. The city proper lies on an eminence about 150 or 200 feet above the level of the river, and is reached by a tolerably broad, paved, and nearly straight road to the plateau on which the city is situated. At the termination of this road, Main, the principal business street commences and stretches off in an easterly direction some three-fourths of a mile, losing itself in the great eastern turnpike. Other beautiful streets, running parallel and across Main-street, are studded with shade trees, gardens and shrubbery, in which residences, all very pretty, and many splendid mansions, have been erected.

Until 1836 Poughkeepsie remained nearly stationary, when a company was formed, called the "Improvement Company," of which the late Mr. Walter Cunningham was the energetic and principal mover or actor, and to whom much credit is due for carrying out the views of the company. From this period Poughkeepsie commenced to expand; farms and lands were purchased, streets and parks laid out, trees planted, and houses erected, many of which were elegant mansions, surrounded with fruit trees, ornamental shrubbery, gardens, &c. The spirit of improvement once started, seemed to diffuse itself throughout the whole length and breadth of the village (it has since grown into a city), ornamental trees and shrubbery planted, houses and fences newly painted,

giving an air of neatness, comfort, beauty and freshness, truly pleasing.

The good roads, the picturesque scenery, the Catskill Mountains on the north, the Highlands and Fishkill Mountains on the south, added to a healthy climate, have all tended to attract the attention of those seeking country residences, and many wealthy families have purchased and located in the vicinity. The sites most sought after appear to have been eminences, overlooking the river and country—no matter how rough, rocky, or sterile, so much the better, as it offered an opportunity of expending their taste and money in improvement by art over nature.

Among the many charming seats or residences in the suburbs of Poughkeepsie, we will mention "Spring-side," the beautiful and picturesque country seat of Mr. Vassar, situated on the south line of the Corporation limits of the city.

On a recent visit to Poughkeepsie we had the pleasure of a stroll through these grounds. It was on one of those lovely mornings in June, succeeding a refreshing shower, the sun beaming forth in its full radiance and glory, and vegetation dressed in its most gaudy attire, fresh and blooming, that we might have been seen winding our way to this lovely abode. After passing nearly the whole front, which is inclosed with a substantial stone wall, surmounted with a beautiful evergreen hedge, we enter the gate, near which stands the Porter's Lodge, a tasteful and beautiful structure, in the Gothic style.

The first object meeting the eye, after passing the gate, is a small pond or lakelet, crossed by a very pretty foot-bridge. In the center of the pond is a small island, in which stands a house for aquatic birds, of which the stately swan, or white Chinese goose, (which most resembles the swan in its light and airy appearance on the water), would be appropriate. But we found no such ornamental birds there.

The next object of attraction was "Willow-dale," so named by us, from the great number of weeping willows with their long and delicate branches reaching to the ground. On the left, a little further on, we passed "Penguin knoll," which we so named in consequence of the unique and singular appearance of certain long narrow stones set on end, and giving the appearance of a flock of penguins standing about as sentinels. These knolls, by the way, are covered with large native forest trees, giving them quite a romantic appearance.

Further on, in the center of a vale, surrounded by knolls studded with evergreens, flowering shrubbery, &c., stands an elevated vase of water, in which sits the figure of a beautiful white swan, withoutstretched neck, and head pointing upward, spouting from its bill a jet of water high in the air, falling in a basin or tank of pure crystal water, in which sports quite a number of gold fish, now poising on easy fin, and now sculling about in playful mood. We noticed also several other fountains and pools of water with gold and other fish, which give a pic-

turesque and pleasing view to the scenery.

On leaving this charming valley, the road takes a short curve to the right, which brings in view "Monumental Hill" (our name again), from the peculiar position in which long pieces of rock are placed upright, and capped by other pieces of stone, giving the appearance of numerous monuments. Around on these knolls and hills, among the rocks, rustic seats are placed, on which the weary may rest.

We now take a sudden turn to the left, which presents to our view a beautiful frame cottage, in old English style, with carved verge boards and pendants, irregular outlines, and in Gothic order of architecture. This cottage, standing as it does, nestled among the knolls, has quite a picturesque and romantic appearance. About one hundred yards north of this cottage, Mr. Vassar has caused to be erected a large and commodious grape and green-house, which may be considered one of the best finished and well-arranged edifices for the purpose in the State. It is heated by Hitching's improved steam and hot water apparatus. Near this stands the Gardener's cottage, a very neat and pretty Gothic structure, corresponding with the other buildings. It must be recollected that all the improvements on these premises are new, having been made within the last four years. On the east of the cottage is the vegetable garden, bounded on the north by a high, thick stone wall, intended for the protection of plants and fruits in the garden from the cold north winds. The garden is well stocked with choice varieties of fruit, and dwarf fruit trees in full bearing. Adjoining is an apple, plumb, peach and cherry orchard in a thriving condition.

We will now return to that point of the road which brought us in view of the English cottage, for here stands the model carriage-house and stables, beautiful and nice enough for farmers' residences. It is upon the side of a hill, the lower story is appropriated to the work horses, for stables, harness room, and room for storing vegetables. The second story, which is level with the ground in front, is the carriage house, harness room, and sleeping room for the driver on one side, and stable for the carriage horses on the other, with hay-loft in the attic. This building is Gothic in style, also. Near by, on the side of the same hill, stands the dairy building, with an ice-house inclosed on the principal of a refrigerator, the shelves for the milk surrounding the exterior of the ice-house.

But by far the most interesting to me, was the group of buildings or sheds forming the poultry establishment. They form an oblong square, the roof on three sides pitching outward. The space, or inner yard, is protected with lattice wire work to prevent the ingress of birds of prey from without or the egress of the fowls within. One side is divided off into coops for gallinaceous fowls, so that the different varieties can be kept separate for breeding pure birds of each kind. The opposite side is devoted to aquatic birds, having tanks of flowing spring water within the inclosure. Overhead are accommodations for

pigeons, of which he has a large variety of fancy birds. Under this shed, near the tank of water, in a secluded nest, one of our beautiful little wood ducks was sitting on six eggs. In a yard, with high paling, outside this shed, were the larger aquatic birds, such as the wild or Canada geese, the African, the Bremen, and the Barnacle geese, the Muscovy, Aylesbury, Cayuga, and Top-knot or Crested ducks. In this yard, the waste water from the tank under the shed is conveyed, forming quite a large pool for their accommodation.

The lower end of the shed is divided off into a room for the larger fowls, such as pea fowls, turkies and Guinea fowls. In front, on both sides of a large latticed gate, stands square building, one of which is filled with draw-nests, and secured from cold, for the fowls to lay in the winter. The other building has conveniences for cooking or boiling food for the poultry. We noticed also in another yard adjoining quite a number of fancy rabbits, and several deer, one doe of which had a pair of beautiful fawns by her side. One great objection to this poultry establishment is, the contracted space allowed for the fowls to roam—they require more room for exercise and pure air.

In the general arrangement of these grounds, the hand and spirit of the lamented Downing is visible at every turn. There are two miles of drives and walks, girding the knolls and encircling the hills, through gentle sloping vales up to the summit; arbors erected on the most elevated points of observation, overlooking unsurpassed landscape views in the distance, and are appropriately deserving their significant ancient name of "Eden Hills." Such a variety of surface formation for rural and picturesque scenery, springs of pure water supplying the jets for fountains, fish ponds, and pools for aquatic birds by its own gravitation, can scarcely be found on so limited an area of land. And it would appear now that all the necessary substantial buildings and embellishments were completed except the "Villa" residence, which still remains on paper only.

Staten Island, June, 1855.

THE LOVER'S LEG.—The following story, which is calculated to make "each particular hair to stand like quills upon the fretful porcupine," is said to have happened in St. Lawrence County, in this State, and is given on the authority of a gentleman of undoubted veracity:

"A young man addicted to intemperate habits, during one of his periodical 'sprees' took a sudden notion to pay a visit to his 'sweetheart.' On the evening alluded to, the young lady and a female associate were the only occupants of the house where she resided. About ten o'clock in the evening the young man arrived at the house, considerably worse from the use of 'beverages.'" His strange manner in approaching the door excited the suspicions of the young ladies, who supposed the house was attacked by robbers. He knocked at the door, and demanded admission; but his voice not being recognized, from the thickness of his tongue, the ladies refused to comply with the demand. Determined to force an entrance he commenced a series of assaults upon the barred and bolted door by kicking and pounding. After a number of desperate kicks, the

panel of the door gave way, and the leg of the besieger went through the aperture, and was immediately seized by one of the ladies and firmly held, while the other, armed with a saw, commenced the work of amputation! The grasp was firmly maintained, and the saw vigorously plied, until the leg was completely severed from the body! With the loss of his leg, the intoxicated wretch fell back, and in that condition lay the remainder of the night. In the meantime the ladies were frightened almost to death. With the dawn of morning the revelation was made that one of the ladies had participated in the amputation of her lover's leg! The wretched man was still alive. His friends were immediately sent for, and he was conveyed to his home, where, with proper treatment he gradually and miraculously recovered, and is now alive and well. We hardly credited," says the editor of the journal from which we quote, "the latter part of the story, and contended that the man must have bled to death on the spot, insisting, indeed, that it could not be otherwise. But we were mistaken. *The leg was a wooden one.*

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

'TIS SUMMER!

'Tis Summer, fond Summer; adorning he kneels,
To offer bright bounties at foot of the Earth;
And she turns to him blushing; full surely she feels,
That no other can equal his love and his worth;
Young Spring may woo softly, with wist in his eye;
Proud Autumn may lavishly deck her with gold;
And old Winter may clasp his bare bosom and sigh;
But the fond Summer wins, for his love ne'er grows cold!

'Tis Summer, sweet Summer; the sunniest hours
The bright skies can deck forth are his jubilant train;
Rich-laden he comes with ripe fruits and choice flow'rs;
And the woods peal in concert a welcoming strain,
And the hills echo back the glad notes of their song
As they lift their tall heads o'er the valleys below;
Where the minstrel-streams, caroling, wander along,
Gathering blossom gifts, dropped by charm'd winds as they go.

'Tis Summer, bright Summer; rare blessings he yields.
With his gifts, smiling Plenty is filling her horn;
He throws a free hand o'er the supplicant fields,
And turns then a-golden with treasures of corn!
For the harvests he brings us, our thanks then are due;
O, we all have a share of his bountiful grace;
And like good men, God bless them! with hearts warm and true,
He gives what he gives with a smile on his face!
NEWARK. T. E.

ANECDOTE OF CHANCELLOR KENT.—The late Chancellor Kent was one of those men whose innate dignity enabled him to take in good part familiarity—the result of ignorance and accident. He was exceedingly fond of martial music; and hearing the drums of a recruiting party, who had taken a station at the corner of the street, beat a point of war, he walked out to listen to it nearer. Insensibly he was whistling the burden of the tune when the man of war accosted him thus:

"You are fond of such music, then, my fine fellow?"

"Very," was the reply.

"Well, then," said Sergeant Kite, "why not join us? Good quarters—good bounty—large bounty! besides our Captain is a glorious fellow. Why don't you, now? You can't do better."

"Well," said the Chancellor, "I have one pretty strong objection."

"What is it?" asked the Sergeant.

"Why, just now I happen to have a better trade."

"What trade is it?" said the inquisitor.
"I am Chancellor of the State of New-York."

"Whew! muttered the Sergeant. Strike up!—quick time!—forward, march!"

Off tramped the military man, without looking behind him, leaving the Chancellor to enjoy his laugh at the adventure.

A QUICK REPARTEE.—Governor Morris, of New-York, had a high respect for Bishop Moore, a man noted not only for the purity of his character, but also for the retiring modesty of his disposition, and for the general favor in which he was held. As the story ran: A dinner was given by some one of Governor Morris's friends when he was about departing for Europe. Bishop Moore and his wife were of the party. Among other things that passed in conversation, Mr. Morris said that he had made his will in prospect of going abroad; and, turning to Bishop Moore, said to him: "My reverend friend, I have bequeathed to you my whole stock of impudence."

Bishop Moore replied:

"Sir, you are not only very kind, but very generous; you have left me by far the largest portion of your estate."

Mrs. Moore immediately added:

"My dear, you have come into possession of your inheritance remarkably soon."

SEVEN FOOLS.—1. The Envious Man—who sends away his mutton, because the person next to him is eating venison.

2. The Jealous Man—who spreads his bed with stinging nettles, and then sleeps in it.

3. The Proud Man—who gets wet through sooner than ride in the carriage of an inferior.

4. The Litigious Man—who goes to law in the hope of ruining his opponent and gets ruined himself.

5. The Extravagant Man—who buys a herring, and takes a cab to carry it home.

6. The Angry Man—who learns the ophicleide because he is annoyed by the playing of his neighbor's piano.

7. The Ostentatious Man—who illuminates the outside of his house most brilliantly, and sits inside in the dark.—*Punch.*

A LOVER STILL.

"No longer a lover!" exclaimed an aged patriarch; "Ah! you mistake me, if you think age has blotted out my heart. Though silver hair fall over a brow all wrinkled, and a cheek all furrowed, yet I am a lover still. I love the beauty of the maiden's blush, the soft tint of flowers, the singing of birds, and above all, the silvery laugh of a child. I love the starlike meadows where butter-cups grow, with almost the same enthusiasm as when, with my ringlets flying loose in the wind, and my cap in hand, years ago, I chased the painted butterfly. I love yon aged dame—look at her. Her face is careworn, but it has ever held a smile for me. Often have I shared the bitter cup of sorrow with her—and so shared, it seemed almost sweet. Years of freshness have stolen the freshness of her life; but, like the faded rose, the perfume of her love is richer than when in the full bloom of her youth and maturity. Together we have placed flowers in the casements, and in the folded hand of the dead; together wept over little graves. Through storm and sunshine we have clung together; and now she sits with her knitting, her cap quaintly frilled, the old-styled kerchief crossed white and prim above the heart that has beat so long and truly for me, the dim blue eye that shrinkingly fronts the glad day, the sunlight throwing her a parting fare-

well, kisses her brow, and leaves upon its faint tracery of wrinkles angelic radiance. I see, though no one else can, the bright glad young face that won me first, shine through those withered features, and the glowing love of forty years thrills my heart till the tears come. Say not again I can no longer be a lover. Though this form be bowed, God has implanted eternal love within. Let the ear be deaf, the eye blind, the hands palsied, the limbs withered, the brain clouded, yet the heart, the true heart, may hold such wealth of love, that all the power of death and the victorious grave shall not be able to put out its quenchless flame."

"I NEVER KEPT MY HUSBAND WAITING."—How much of moment is conveyed in these words, "I never kept my husband waiting." How much of life is lost by the lost minutes; how much of happiness, by not being ready to enjoy it; how much of prosperity, by being "five minutes too late."

We heard those words uttered by a lady whose decision of character, whose readiness for duty, and whose prompt performance of it, gave us an assurance that whatever there might be of adverse fortune in her husband's future life, he could always rely upon the helpmate God had given him! There is an energy in her tone of voice, a fire in her look, that told she knew a wife's duty and would perform it. We shall not soon forget that event; we shall bear in mind the future of that couple, and we venture to say that darkness nor despair can never drive happiness from that home, so long as that God-spirit reigns there; for it was the voice of true woman's heart that spoke, and that was a God-spirit.

If every wife could but thus speak and act, how rapidly would the world advance. How many husbands have been ruined by waiting precious moments of time, in the life of a business man; but the never-ready wife has, step by step, broken down the characteristic promptitude of many a husband, and with it his business energies, until ruin comes upon his business and wretchedness enters his home. Would wives wish peace of mind, and blessings at home, flowing from the prosperity of the husband, let her constant aim be, to be able to say, "I never kept my husband waiting."—*Ohio Farmer.*

USES OF TOBACCO.—In the United States, physicians have estimated that 20,000 persons die every year from the use of tobacco. In Germany the physicians have calculated that, of all the deaths which occur between the ages of 18 and 26, *one-half originate in the waste of the constitution by smoking.* They say that the article exhausts and deranges the nervous powers, and produce a long train of nervous diseases, to which the stomach is liable, and especially those forms that go under the name of dyspepsia. It also exerts a disastrous influence on the mind.

FOUR SPANISH PROVERBS.—What the fool does in the end, the wise man does in the beginning. Voltaire defined a physician as an unfortunate gentleman, expecting every day to perform a miracle, namely, to reconcile health with intemperance. The most insignificant people are the most apt to sneer at others; they are safe from reprisals, and have no hope of rising in their own esteem but by lowering their neighbors. All vice stands upon a precipice; to engage in any sinful course is to run down the hill; if we once let loose the propensities of our nature we can not gather in the reins and govern them as we please; it is much easier not to begin a bad course than to stop when begun.

AN EASTERN GUIDE-BOOK.—"When I went," says his friend Collius, "to bid Sir David Wilkie farewell a day or two before he left home for his last journey (to the East), I asked him if he had any guide-book? He said, 'Yes and the very best;' and then unrolling his traveling-box, he showed me a pocket Bible. I never saw him again; but the Bible throughout Judea was, I am assured, his best and only hand-book."

DIRECTIONS FOR A SHORT LIFE.—We copy the following directions for a short life from an old almanac. We doubt not they will prove as efficacious as any doctor could desire: 1st. Eat hot bread at every meal; 2d. Eat fast; 3d. Lie in bed every morning till the sun is two hours high. If the case should prove stubborn—4th. Add the morning dram.

Two gentlemen, of opposite politics, meeting, one inquired the address of some political celebrity, when the other indignantly answered:

"I am proud to say, sir, that I am wholly ignorant of it."

"Oh, you are proud of your ignorance, eh! sir?"

"Yes, I am," replied the belligerent gentleman, "and what then, sir?"

"Oh, nothing sir! nothing; only you have a great deal to be proud of, that's all."

WEIGHT OF THE EARTH.—An English mathematician, named Bailey, has been for some time past engaged in weighing the earth. Here are his figures: 1,256,196 675,000,000,000,000,000—or in words, one quadrillion, two hundred and fifty-six thousand one hundred and ninety-five trillions, six hundred and seventy-five thousand billions tons avordupois.

In the long run those who work slowly and gradually at one business succeed the best. It takes a man about seven years to get acquainted with one channel of business.

A complaint has been preferred against the Sexton of the New cemetery at Dundas, C. W., of "dunning" the mourners for his pay while the funeral was actually going on!

TRUE.—I never knew a man who deserved to be well thought of himself for his morals, who had a slight opinion of the virtue of the other sex in general.

Some wise person advises: When you buy or sell, let or hire, make a clear bargain, and never trust to "We shan't disagree about it."

There is one satisfaction in the passage of oppressive laws, that those who pass them have to come under their power as well as others.

The common-place man speaks like the multitude; but the man who is above the common, makes the multitude speak like him.

THE GREATEST ORGAN IN THE WORLD.—The Organ of Speech in Woman; an organ, too, without a Stop!

I know of no homage more worthy of the Deity, than the silent admiration excited by the contemplation of His works.

Dr Johnson, once speaking of a quarrelsome fellow, said, "If he had two ideas in his head they would fall out with one another."

SIXTY FEET OF DAUGHTERS.—In the half century Sermon of Rev. Dr. Brace, of Newington, Ct., we find a fact respecting the Edwards family, which we do not remember to have seen elsewhere stated. Speaking of Mr. Backus, one of his predecessors, he says: "His wife was one of ten daughters, every one of whom has been said to be six feet tall—making sixty feet of daughters, and all of them strong in mind—children of Rev. Timothy Edwards, of East Windsor." That man who had sixty feet of daughters, and besides them one son who had more than sixty feet of intellect, must, according to the Psalmist's view of things, have been a happy man.

Markets.

REMARKS.—On account of the 4th of July, we close our market reports one day earlier, and have not quite so full data for making up our quotations of prices and remarks as usual. The Flour market is quite unsettled, with a further small decline. We hear of sales and contracts for some 16,000 bbls. Western and common to good State brands, at \$8 per bbl. Some Southern brands (new) are in active demand at advanced prices. Wheat from the upper lakes sold on Monday for \$2a\$2 10 per bush. The Weather during the past week has been just the thing for the Wheat crops. With a general report very favorable, we hear local complaints of insects, winter-kill, &c.; but we think these unfavorable reports are less extensive than usual, even in the very best seasons. Ten days more of similar weather to that of the past week, will decide the question in favor of an unprecedented Wheat crop. Some of our western exchanges are in ecstasies over the prospect. A Cleveland (Ohio) paper ventures its character for reliability upon the fulfillment of its prediction, that before the close of this month Flour will fall to \$6 50 per bbl. This, we think, over sanguine, though we must, everything considered, predict a still further considerable fall from the present prices, which are already about \$2 50 per bbl. lower than five weeks since.

Corn has experienced a heavy fall of from 8 to 12 cents, per bushel. Oats are little changed from our last quotations, perhaps a trifle lower.

Cotton has again declined about ½c. per lb. on the different grades.

The Weather has been very warm for six days past, with an almost uniform range of the thermometer above 90°. Frequently it has remained from 10 to 15 hours in the 24, with scarcely a variation of two degrees. On Saturday, according to Mr. Merriam, of Brooklyn, the thermometer remained at 98° from 3 to 4 o'clock, P. M. This is remarkable for the date. Coming so suddenly upon the cool weather preceding, the heat has been oppressive, especially as the air has been charged with moisture, exhaled from the ground with previous rains, which has prevented rapid evaporation from the surface of the skin, and the consequent coolness resulting from this course in a drier state of the atmosphere. But however unpleasant for man and beast, this weather has been exactly the thing for growing crops.

Letters just received from our correspondents tell large and even amusing stories of the growth of Wheat, and especially of Corn. One from Southern New-Jersey says, "the crops here are coming up finely, corn has grown twice as much in a week past as in any two previous weeks." Another from Connecticut says, "he has enjoyed his 'nooning' in watching the corn shoot upward and outwards." Another from Ohio says, "with a few days of such growth we shall need ladders to climb up to the ears;" while still another inquires where he can order a supply of axes with which to chop down the corn-stalks by-and-by.

PRODUCE MARKET.

MONDAY JULY 2, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The weather of late has been exceedingly warm, though the market is pretty fair. Old Potatoes are nearly done for the season, and consequently we have struck them off the list. New Potatoes have just begun to come in from Long Island and New-Jersey. Bermudas are very plentiful. A cargo of 3,000 barrels is soon expected, though it is feared they will be badly injured by the warm weather. 200 bbls. Mercers came in this morning from Norfolk, Va. String Onions begin to come from Connecticut.

Strawberries and Cherries are nearly done, except in the latter case, the old-fashioned red cherries. Gooseberries are abundant and flat. Raspberries will be plentiful the latter part of the week.

Butter is down, and the market full. The influence of the weather is very softening. Eggs and Cheese, a little down.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island	\$ basket	\$1 50@—
New-Jersey	\$ bbl.	4 @—
Charleston, round,	do	3 25@3 50
Norfolk Mercers	do	3 50@3 75
Nova Scotia Mercers	\$ bush.	1 @—
Turnips—White	\$ 100 bunch.	2 @3—
Onions—Bermuda Reds	\$ bbl.	2 00@2 50
New-Orleans Reds	do	2 25@2 50
Connecticut, string	\$ 100 bunch.	5 @25 50
Cabbages	\$ 100	5 @28—
Cucumbers	do	1 50@—
Lettuce	do	50 @75—
Gooseberries	\$ bus	1 25@—
Green Peas	"	62@—
Cherries	\$ lb	6@—
Apples	\$ bbl.	\$3 @25—
Butter—new	\$ lb.	18@20c.
Cheese	do	8@10c.
Eggs	\$ doz.	@17c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

TUESDAY, July 3, 1855.

The Weather to-day is much more agreeable than it has been for a few days past, being cooler and less oppressive. We find in market a little over 1,800 cattle, which is about 250 more than last week. All the animals which have been left over and kept back in the country for a week or two past were pushed into market to-day; otherwise the supply would have been very light, since western men just now are very much afraid of the market. We have to report, however, for their encouragement, a slight advance in the market, yet not enough to make the business very lucrative. The best cattle went as high as 12c., and very few sold below 10c., from which it may be seen that the quality was very even. Indeed we have rarely seen a better run of cattle in the Washington Yards.

We saw some excellent beeves from Indiana, much better than one might expect, after having come so great a distance, and in such warm weather. The market last week wound up better than in the morning, and to-day we think it will fully sustain itself.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices

Extra quality	11 1/4 @12c.
Good retailing quality	10 1/4 @11 1/4c.
Inferior do.	9 1/4 @10 1/4c.
Cows and Calves	\$25 @ \$60.
Veals	4c. @ 6c.
Swine, alive,	6 1/4 @ 7 1/2c.
" dead,	7 1/4 @ 9c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.
A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.		IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves	1931	1630
Cows	9	—
Veals	313	—
Sheep and lambs	940	—
Swine	2559	—

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves. 1100

Sheep	296
Swine	—
By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves	31
Cows	9
Veals	31 1/2
Sheep and Lambs	648
By the Hudson River Railroad—	300
Swine	120
By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves	400
Swine	690
New-York State furnished—beeves	142
Ohio	493
Indiana	180
Illinois	935
Texas	—
Kentucky	48
Michigan	30

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs	5509
Beeves	212
Veals	61
Cows and Calves	33

The Sheep Market is largely supplied with stock, though prices range about the same as last week. The average price is about \$350. Sheep bring from \$1 to \$8 50 \$ head, and lambs from \$1 to \$6. The quality of mutton is very common, though some fine sheep were sold at Browning's. Butchers are holding off a little, expecting prices to be lower. The western States are well supplied.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes—		Pot, 1st sort, 1855.	\$ 100 lb.	— @ 6 50
Pearl, 1st sort, 1855.				6 50 @—
Bristles—		American, Gray and White.		45 @—50
Beeswax—		American Yellow.		26 @—27
Coal—		Liverpool Orrel.	\$ chaldron	@ 7 50
Scotch.				@—
Sidney.			5 75	@ 6—
Pictou.			5 25	@—
Anthracite.		\$ 2,000 lb.	5 50	@—
Cotton Bagging—		Gunny Cloth	\$ yard.	12 1/2 @—
Lotton—		Ordinary.	9 1/4	9 1/4
Middling.		11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Middling Fair.		11 1/2	12	12
Fair.		12	12	13
Flax—		Jersey.	\$ lb.	8 @—9
Flour and Meal—		State, common brands.	8 25	@—
State, straight brands.			8 37	@—
State, favorite brands.			8 62	@—
Western, mixed do.			8 31	@—
Michigan and Indiana, straight do.			8 75	@ 9—
Michigan, fancy brands.			9 12	@—
Ohio, common to good brands.			@ 8 37	
Ohio, fancy brands.			@ 9 50	
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.			@ 10—	
Genesee, fancy brands.			9 25	@—
Genesee, extra brands.			10 75	@ 12—
Canada, do.			10 37	@ 12—
Brandywine.			10 25	@ 12—
Georgetown.			10 25	@ 12—
Petersburg City.			10 25	@ 12—
Richmond Country.			@ 11 50	
Alexandria.			@ 11 50	
Baltimore, Howard-Street.			@ 11 50	
Rye Flour.			7 50	@—
Corn Meal, Jersey.			5—	@—
Corn Meal, Brandywine.			5 25	@—
Corn Meal, Brandywine.		\$ punch.	@ 22 50	
Grain—		Wheat, White Genesee.	\$ bush.	@—
Wheat, do, Canada.			@ 2 10	
Wheat, Southern, White.			2—	@ 2 10
Wheat, Ohio, White.			2 5	@—
Wheat, Michigan, White.			2 5	@ 2 13
Rye, Northern.			1 55	@—
Corn, Round Yellow.			@—	95
Corn, Round White.			@—	96
Corn, Southern White.			@—	94
Corn, Southern Yellow.			@—	96
Corn, Southern Mixed.			@—	96
Corn, Western Mixed.			@—	91
Corn, Western Yellow.			@—	91
Barley.			1 12	@—
Oats, River and Canal.			58	@—
Oats, New-Jersey.			56	@—
Oats, Western.			64	@—
Peas, Black-Eyed.		\$ bush.	2 50	@—
Hay—		North River, in bales.		@ 1—

Molasses—		New-Orleans.	\$ gall.	30 @—32
Porto Rico.				27 @—32
Cuba Muscovado.				26 @—30
Trinidad Cuba.				27 @—29
Cardenas, &c.				@—26
Oil Cake—		Thin Oblong, City.	\$ tun.	@ 42—
Thick, Round, Country.				@—
Provisions—		Beef, Mess, Country.	\$ bbl.	10 50 @ 12—
Beef, Mess, City.				10 @—
Beef, Mess, extra.				16 25 @ 16 50
Beef, Prime, Country.				@ 9—
Beef, Prime, City.				@—
Beef, Prime Mess.		\$ tce.	21	@ 24—
Pork, Prime.				15 12 @—
Pork, Clear.				19 @—
Pork, Prime Mess.				15 @—
Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels.		\$ lb.	10	@—
Hams, Pickled.				@—
Shoulders, Pickled.				@ 7 1/2
Beef Hams, in Pickle.		\$ bbl.	@ 21—	
Beef, Smoked.		\$ lb.	@—	
Butter, Orange County.				16 @—20
Cheese, fair to prime.				5 @—10
Rice—		Ordinary to fair.	\$ 100 lb.	5 75 @ 5 87
Good to prime.				5 87 1/2 @ 6 50
Salt—		Turk's Island.	\$ bush.	@—26
St. Martin's.				@—
Liverpool, Ground.		\$ sack.	85	@—
Liverpool, Fine.				1 20 @ 1 30
Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.				1 40 @—
Sugar—		St. Croix.	\$ lb.	@—
New-Orleans.				5 @— 6 1/2
Cuba Muscovado.				5 @— 6 1/2
Porto Rico.				5 @— 6
Havana, White.				7 @— 7 1/2
Havana, Brown and Yellow.				5 @— 7
Tallow—		American, Prime.	\$ lb.	11 1/2 @—
obacco—		Virginia.	\$ lb.	@— 6 1/2
Kentucky.				7 @— 13
Maryland.				@—
St. Domingo.				12 @— 15
Cuba.				12 @— 20
Yara.				35 @— 43
Havana, Fillers and Wrappers.				20 @ 1—
Florida Wrappers.				15 @— 60
Connecticut, Seed Leaf.				6 @— 18
Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf.				@— 12
Wool—		American, Saxony Fleeced.	\$ lb.	38 @— 42
American, Full Blood Merino.				36 @— 37
American, 3/4 and 1/2 Merino.				30 @— 33
American, Native and 1/2 Merino.				25 @— 28
Superfine, Pulled, Country.				30 @— 32
No. 1, Pulled, Country.				23 @— 25

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line for each insertion.
Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.
Advertisements standing three months one-third less.
Ten words make a line.
No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

PRATT & BROTHERS,
MANUFACTURERS OF DITCH DIGGERS, TILE
AND BRICK MACHINES,
Canandaigua, N. Y.

**THE MOST USEFUL AND PERFECT
MACHINES KNOWN**

They are in use by many persons, and proving themselves capable of vastly cheapening and extending drainage.

The Tile machine is gaining a reputation beyond any precedent, for the following reasons:

- 1st.—Because it is the only Tile and Brick machine known, enabling brick-makers to make Tiles and tile-makers to make Bricks, with one and the same machine.
- 2d.—As a Tile machine it challenges competition in compactness, simplicity, completeness and economy. It will make Tiles at about one-half the cost of the machines in general use.
- 3d.—As a Brick machine, it produces a quality superior in density and perfection to every thing but the best pressed bricks, and at a cost less than the cheapest common brick.
- 4th.—This machine is equally applicable to the use of Horse, Steam, or Water Power, without clap-trap, detention, or fault, and requires manual labor only to supply the clay and remove the tiles and brick as fast as made.

The Digger will cut 100 rods of ditch, from 2 to 3 feet deep, as easy as the same team in the same soil will plow 1 1/2 to 2 acres.

PRATT & BROTHERS,
95—96 1/2 1211
Canandaigua, N. Y.

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Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, for sale by **ISAAC ROOSEVELT,**
95—120 1/2 1212
Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.
—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail Price 25 cents.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 19, Water-st.

TO NURSERYMEN.—WANTED.—To
negotiate, as Agent for a Company, for a large quantity of **NURSERY STOCK,** suitable for stocking a Nursery in Illinois. Address (inclosing stamp),
91—96 1/2 204
WM. DAY,
Morristown, N. J.

The Allen Patent Mower Triumphant.

MANY are now inquiring, "What Mower shall I buy?" That question has been satisfactorily answered during the past fortnight.

At a trial at Bedford, Westchester County, in heavy, wet clover, and on rough, stony ground, the ALLEN MOWER performed better than any other in competition, being the only one which cut a smooth, even swath and spread it well; and it came out of the field unscathed, while others were badly broken or seriously injured. It has since been repeatedly tried in New-Jersey, on Long-Island, and other places, and worked admirably, whether in short, thin, fine grass, or in tall, thick and badly-lodged grass or clover. It also works well on a side hill, and on salt meadows.

The draft of this Mower is uncommonly light. It is simple in construction, very strong, and not liable to get out of order, and when so, easily and cheaply repaired.

It is the only Mower perfectly safe to the driver, the gearing being all covered; and he sits so firm in his seat, it is almost impossible to throw him out. In fact, this machine is better fitted for all kinds of work than any Mower yet manufactured.

The following letter from one of the best known and largest farmers in New-Jersey, will testify to its merits:

JAMESBURG, N. J., June 22, 1855.

MR. R. L. ALLEN, New-York:

Sir—I made a trial yesterday with the new Mowing Machine I purchased of you, and do not hesitate to say that the improved [ALLEN] machine is the best I ever saw worked with—and I have seen a goodly number. I have a field of very heavy grass, and it had fallen down and lodged so I could not cut it with the old machine; and the grass was very wet, having rained nearly all day previous to my giving it a trial. I expected to see it choke up, but to my great surprise it choked up but very little, and that was owing to mismanagement. To be plain, Sir, I fee, it my duty to inform you that the improved Mower works beautiful y, and I am satisfied works nearly one-third lighter for the team than the Mower I used last year, and that was called one of the best in the market. JAMES BUCKELEW.

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY.

This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing.

Special attention will be paid to the Elements of Agricultural Science.

The FALL TERM will commence Thursday, August 30th, and continue eleven weeks.

REFERENCES—Henry C. Bowen, Esq., New-York City; Hon. A. N. Skinner, and Benjamin Silliman, L. L. D., New-Haven, Conn. For further particulars, address

E. CONANT, Principal.
94-101n1209

WOODSTOCK, Conn., June 21, 1855.

MORRISON'S SHINGLE MACHINE—FOR RIVING, SHAVING AND JOINTING SHINGLES—Completing them in ONE OPERATION.

It is capable of manufacturing 25,000 to 50,000 shingles per day, working them with the grain or fibers of the wood.

Being RIVED and SHAVED, are far superior to shingles which are sawed or cut across the grain.

For Rights and Machines, apply to GATENS & VAUGHAN, Binghamton, or at Rome, N. Y., where Machines are now on exhibition.

Orders for Machines from the South and West are respectfully solicited, addressed to ISAAC WILLIS, 94 97n1210 Rochester, N. Y.

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L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bull Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by address in L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAL, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86—tfn1194

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out

of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season nt L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1½ miles from Scarsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86—tfn1193

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes. SAMUEL THORNE, "Thornedale," Washington Hollow, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

THOROUGHbred DEVONS.—I have

for sale Thoroughbred DEVON Yearlings and two-year old Bulls, the get of imported REUBENS, and yearling Heifers, the get of WINCHESTER, who was sired by imported ALBERT 2d. Being descended from different sources, they are well adapted for breeding from.

ALFRED M. TREDWELL,
Madison, New Jersey.
91,3,5,7n1205

SHORT HORN BULLS.—I have for sale three young, thoroughbred SHORT HORN BULLS; ages—four months, seven months, eighteen months; colors—roan, red, chiefly red; the get of SPLENDOR, a son of Vane Tempest and imported Wolviston, JOHN R. PAGE, Sennett, Cayuga Co. N. Y.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO

can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the IMPROVED POUHRETTE made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

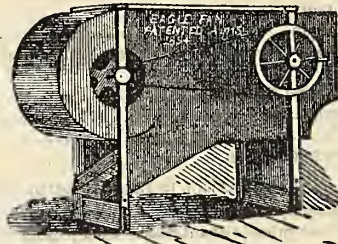
Address, the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York.

WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY:
Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUHRETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it unhesitatingly the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN DANA.

70—121n1152

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists

First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.

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PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS. (QUEENS PATENT.)

The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works. Coppermiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c. Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewelers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping.

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85—136n190eovv

LITTLE GIANT CORN AND COB MILL. PATENTED 1854.

THIS MILL has doubtless attained a more sudden celebrity for doing its work with rapidity and ease, than any other article of labor-saving machinery ever presented to the Agricultural world; the merit of which consists chiefly in the peculiar arrangement of first breaking, then crushing and crumbling the cob at the center of the mill. Thus lessening the strain upon both mill and team, the chief work of crushing being thrown upon the central parts of the judicious application of leverage power.

For portability, simplicity of construction, and convenience of use, the LITTLE GIANT has no equal. It weighs from three to five hundred pounds, according to size, and can be put in operation by the farmer in twenty minutes, without expense or mechanical aid.

These MILLS are guaranteed in the most positive manner against breakage or derangement, and warranted to grind feed from ear corn, and grits or fine hominy from shelled corn, with a degree of ease and convenience for farm purposes never attained before.

Will grind from 10 to 15 bushels per hour, according to degree of fineness, and can be worked advantageously with one or two horses.

Sole Agent for New-York and vicinity,

R. L. ALLEN,
91— 189 and 191 Water-street.

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS AND SEPARATORS

Single Horse Power	\$85 00
Double do.	116 00
Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator	160 00
Single do.	128 00
Belts \$5 and \$10 each.	

R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York.
189 and 191 Water-street.

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, and imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurrey.

Red and White Clover
Lucerne,
Sainfoin.

Alysse Clover.
Sweet-scented Clover.
Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties.

Oats, of several choice kinds.

Corn, of great variety.

Spring and Winter Vetches.

PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed.

BARLEY—California and Two-rowed variety.

TURNIP AND RUTA BAGA, of every choice kind.

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Orange, Locust, Buckthorn, Tobacco, Common and Italian Millet, Broom Corn, Cotton, Flax, Canary, Hemp, Rape and Rice.

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ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

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GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

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- EMERY'S overshot.
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TILE MACHINES--For making Draining files of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles--and every other desirable brand.

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PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power--a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

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PLOWS--A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

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HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

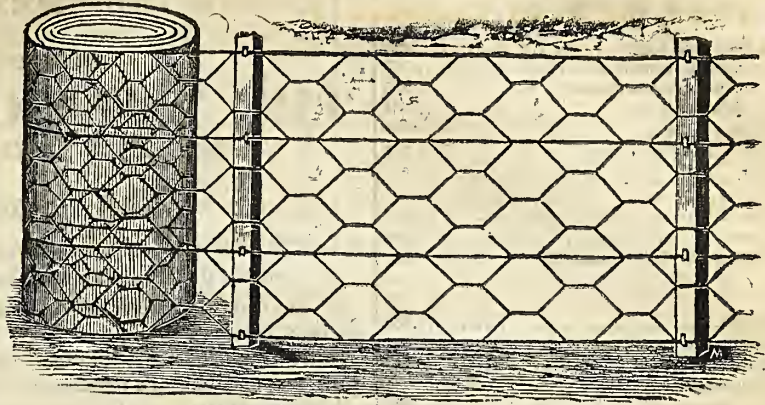
FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

- VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.
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R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

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IMPROVED WIRE FENCE.

THIS ADMIRABLE FENCE is well worthy of attention for inclosing Fields, Gardens, Cemeteries, Heneries, also for Ornamental Trellis Work around houses or gardens.

It is cheap and durable, covered with asphalt varnish, which requires renewal only once in 4 or 5 years. Perfectly secure against stock; does not catch the wind; can not be destroyed by floods; admits the sunbeam, while it does not confine heat, and is without ornamental.

This superior FENCE can be supplied at the following prices:

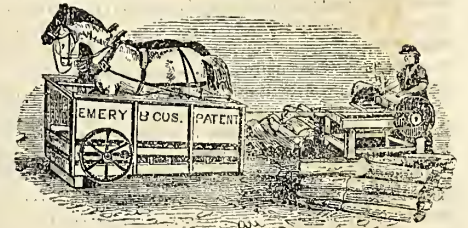
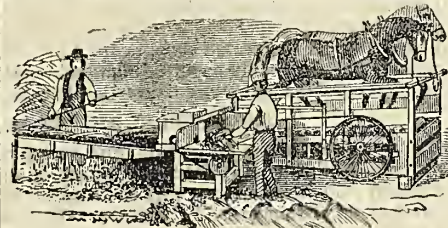
A--16 inches high, 3-inch mesh, 2 longitudinal wires,	\$0 95 per rod.
B--45 " " 6-inch " 2 " " "	1 25 " "
C--45 " " 6-inch " 4 " " "	1 50 " "
D--33 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	1 63 " "
E--33 " " 3-inch " 3 " " "	1 75 " "
F--45 " " 3-inch " 2 " " "	2 00 " "
G--45 " " 3-inch " 4 " " "	2 25 " "

Fine Netting for windows or trellis work, 9 cents per square foot.

The rod measures 16 1/2 feet. Each coil contains about 23 rods, or 400 feet. When taken in quantity of 2 coils or over, a discount will be allowed from the above prices.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The fence is secured to posts of wood, 7 to 12 feet apart, secured with staples over each lateral wire, keeping it a few inches from the ground.



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ON HAMILTON, LIBERTY, AND UNION STREETS;
WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE,

REMOVED TO
NO. 52 STATE-STREET ALBANY, N. Y.

The Proprietors of the above-named establishment being the sole owners and manufacturers of

EMERY'S PATENT HORSE POWER, &c.,

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ALBANY, N. Y., March 15, 1855.

[90,2,4,6n1201]

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 96.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON CHEESE MAKING.

[Continued from page 242.]

21. Before proceeding with our own hints on cheese making, derived from experience and gathered from various other sources, we will here give an outline of the process of Mrs. S. W. Lincoln, of Cheshire, Mass., which we find in the Massachusetts Agricultural Report for 1854. The night's milk is set in tubs, and if the weather is warm, coolers filled with ice or cold water are set into the milk. In the morning the cream is skimmed off and put into milk and warmed, and then mixed with the night's and morning's milk. The whole is warmed to eighty-six degrees (86°), by pouring in hot water. Rennet is then added, sufficient to produce a thorough coagulation; in about forty minutes the curd is cut into fine square pieces, and allowed to stand till the green whey begins to rise, when it is broken up with the hand. This operation is performed with great care, letting the curd pass gently between the fingers without squeezing it in the hand, as that would decrease the quantity of cheese. After settling, a quantity of whey is warmed in a kettle and put into the curd, raising it to a temperature of ninety-five degrees (95°). The curd is again broken, the whey heated as before and added to the curd, so as to raise the temperature to 106°. It then remains, with occasional stirring until the curd becomes elastic, or, as the old cheese makers say, "squeaks between the teeth." Then the whey is again drawn off, the curd cooled with cold water, and salted with a tea-cupful of salt to 16 pounds of cheese. It is then pressed 24 hours, being turned over in the time, and then removed to a cool dairy-room, greased, colored according to fancy, and turned every day until cured. This description of a very good method is, of itself, almost a handbook for the merest novice in cheese making. There

are, however, many hints as to the details of the different operations, the philosophy of cheese making, &c., which are worthy of attention.

22. *Varieties of Cheese.*—There are five general varieties of cheese, viz: the creamed or whole milk; the half creamed, made from the night's milk skimmed and morning's new milk; the uncreamed or skim-milk; the buttermilk cheese; and the potato cheese. These general varieties have almost numberless sub-varieties, depending upon the particular method pursued in the manufacture, the addition of other substances, and upon the quality of milk used, which depends upon the breed of cows and the season, kind of food, &c. Thus from the same milk the quality of the cheese will vary, according to the temperature to which the milk is heated, the mode in which it is warmed, the time during which the curd stands, the way in which it is treated, the completeness of separation of the whey, the kind of salt and mode in which it is applied, whether rennet or acids are used, the addition of extra butter or cream, the coloring or flavoring matter, the size and method of curing the cheese, &c. It will thus be seen that the intelligent cheese maker has a wide field for study and observation.

23. *Creamed or Whole Milk Cheese.*—All cheese consists essentially of the casein (curd) mixed with a certain proportion of fatty matter (butter), sugar of milk and water. We may here remark, that there is from 35 to 55 pounds of water in 100 pounds of cheese—the average proportion in creamed cheeses being about 40 parts in the 100, while skim-milk cheese contains about half its weight of water. The creamed or whole milk cheeses are made directly from new milk, or by uniting two or more milkings, none of the cream being separated. When carefully made, the casein in curdling entangles and retains within itself the greater proportion of the butter or cream, so that a cheese thus made contains nearly as much butter as casein. When night's-milk is mixed with that of the morning, the cream of the former having in part risen to the surface, there is considerable difference of opinion as to whether this cream, which has been once separated, can ever be so well mixed with the milk again that a portion of it will not flow out with the whey, and render the cheese less rich. We have examined all available analyses of cheese, but none of them having been made with reference to this question, they throw little light

upon it. We incline to the opinion that there is some loss, and probably sufficient to pay for after skimming of the whey, where it is not practicable to use all the milk new. In new milk the butter is in exceedingly small particles, and is easily entangled in the curdling casein; but in rising in the form of cream, these particles aggregate in globules of considerable size, and no after agitation will reduce them to their original minutely divided condition. Indeed, agitation has the tendency to unite them more firmly, as in the process of churning. If, however, the cream is made warm, and the mixing be done so gently as not to break the oil sacs, and the curdling is somewhat rapid, there is little doubt but that a larger portion of the butter is retained in the cheese. Mrs. Lincoln's process (21) is probably the best that could be adopted in similar cases.

24. *Half Creamed Cheese.*—This variety is usually made by adding the skimmed night's milk to the new draught of the morning, but it really contains considerable more than half of the cream, unless the skim-milk is in much the largest proportion, since, under any circumstances, all the cream can not be removed at the end of twelve hours. Taking into account the circumstances mentioned above (23), that there is a loss of cream after it has once risen, it is quite probable that half creamed cheeses are most profitable; for the butter obtained from the cream will more than compensate for the difference in market value between the whole creamed and half creamed cheeses. For home use, the half creamed are superior to the whole creamed as food in warm weather, or for laboring persons at any time.

MEDITERRANEAN vs. WHITE WHEAT.—By a letter from the southern part of Michigan, one of the principal wheat growing regions of the State, says the Elmira Republican, we learn that the fly has ruined large tracts of White wheat; so much so that no attempt will be made to harvest, and that many of the fields have been plowed under, and summer crops substituted. On the other hand, equally large tracts of the Mediterranean, growing side by side with the White, have been left untouched and are looking thrifty, with the promise of a heavy yield.

This is an important fact to farmers, and will lead them to consider whether the advantages claimed for the White over the Mediterranean are not over-balanced by the risk attending its culture.

SOAKING WHEAT IN BLUE VITRIOL.

In the Agricultural Gazette for May 5th, J. C. C. attributed the loss of a wheat crop to soaking the seed in blue vitriol. This called out two replies, one of which we copy:

On reading the statement of your correspondent "J. C. C." of the suspected failure of his wheat crop from the use of blue vitriol as a dressing for the seed previous to sowing, I was involuntarily led to a review of my own practice during a long period of years, when, after trying various ingredients as preventives of smut, I settled down to this as not only the most effective, but the safest antidote to this hateful disease. So strongly am I impressed in its favor that I always maintained, and still continue to maintain, that no farmer need have smutty wheat except through his own negligence in preparing the seed for the drill, dibble, or broadcast. But "J. C. C." objects to it as endangering the germination of the seed, and, in fact, destroying his crop; a serious charge if true, and one which ought not to be made but on good and sure foundations. I for one, at least, am not disposed to rest satisfied without further inquiry as to the strength of the solution, length of time occupied in the immersion of the seed, and various other particulars, of which as yet we are ignorant; for "J. C. C.'s" expression "dressing the usual way" is far too vague not to require further explanation. What is "the usual way?" I protest I know not; and shall thankfully await information thereupon. I know what my own "usual way" was—not on a very small scale either—but to the extent of 50 to 60 acres annually. For the accuracy of the operation I can vouch, always making a point of having it conducted under my own eyes, and very often with my own hands. To prove that I wish not to ask for more than I am perfectly willing to impart myself, I beg to submit the following as my "usual way" of preparing seed wheat, in the firm conviction that if carefully and thoroughly carried out there need be no apprehension of failure. For I may here add that a vast deal more depends on strict attention to the minutiae of this, as of most other agricultural operations, whether practical or merely experimental, than many, otherwise excellent farmers, may be disposed to think necessary. It is not enough to give general directions to a bailiff or yardman, that you wish your seed wheat prepared after such and such a recipe—you must see to it yourself; and even assist at the most important points by your own personal exertions. I say this without meaning the least disparagement of either the care or judgment of your overlooker; who, when once in possession of your plan of operations (only to be obtained directly from yourself) may, and ought, if conscientious and active, to be trusted to do in your absence what he is fully aware would have been done had you been present. But we must get on, or our steep will never be ready for the drill. Take then a tub or vessel of convenient form for holding 3 bushels of wheat, and a space of some 6 or 8 inches beyond, for skimming, washing, and stirring. Place this tub over a wider but shallower vessel, similar to the underback of a mash-tub; into which the wheat, when washed and skimmed, may, by a cock or other means, be drawn off from the tub above. But we are forestalling matters. Prepare the steep as follows: Dissolve about 3 lbs. of blue vitriol in water (hot if wanted for immediate use, otherwise this is immaterial); to this add water enough fairly to swim the quantity of seed you intend to steep—say 3 bushels; into this liquor then sift gradually and lightly, by means of what

in some places is called a reeing sieve, the wheat as above mentioned. The heavy grain will fall to the bottom, leaving the lighter portion, seeds of certain weeds, smut balls (if any), and other rubbish, to float at the top. These must all be carefully skimmed off, and the main body of the wheat below well stirred from the bottom, to make sure that the whole is thoroughly washed and skimmed. This process over, some recommend a prolonged immersion in the liquid of from one to three or more hours; but I never could see any necessity for this. In the first place its adoption would be attended with great additional inconvenience, to say nothing of the extra expense, from the necessary enlargement of the apparatus for steeping and washing a much larger quantity at a time than I have named. As soon, therefore, as you are satisfied that the washing, skimming, &c., is accomplished, and the liquor drawn off into the underback, empty the wheat on to the floor, which latter ought to be thoroughly washed and cleaned between the steeps, and, after spreading it about a little, sift over it enough hot slacked lime to facilitate the progress of drying. The wheat will be fit for drilling or sowing in a few hours, but if even delayed for a day or two will take no harm. The same liquor will serve several steeps, merely replenishing with fresh water and about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of blue vitriol to each succeeding bushel of wheat. Such was my practice during many years of my farming life, nor did I ever experience any failure of plant from the use of this steep, though I certainly have from chamberlye applied too strong and immersed too long. How to account for "J. C. C.'s" failure I know no more than he does; but as he says it was sown when the ground was dry, is it not as fair to presume that the failure was quite as likely to have been occasioned by want of the requisite moisture to cause the seed to germinate properly as by anything in the composition of a steep in such universal use, and, with common care, so harmless as a solution of blue vitriol, even, though much stronger than I applied it?—*S. Taylor, Gloucester.*

GRAFTED CHESTNUT TREES.

The Cincinnati Gazette publishes an interesting letter from Mr. Sheldon I. Kellogg, to the Wine Growers Association, dated Bordeaux, France, on the cultivation of the chestnut. He says:

"I have been much surprised in seeing the great dependence the poorer classes make upon the large chestnut for their daily food. It is cultivated in this neighborhood in great abundance for this purpose. All classes use them more or less; the rich having them daily brought upon their tables as dessert, either boiled or roasted. It is often made into a soup, which is highly esteemed. They are cooked in a multitude of ways, and I know nothing of a ferinaceous nature which is so very delicate and nourishing.

"The marron, or large chestnut, is the produce of the wild chestnut after being grafted. The wild tree, at three or four years of age, is cut square off, say four or five feet from the ground. The stump is then split twice. These splits intersect at right angles at the center of the stump. There is then inserted one good-sized branch of the same tree in every section of the splits, making four branches in each stump. Care is always taken to make the bark of the branches and the bark of the stump join each other as closely as possible. The graft is then surrounded with clay and moss, to prevent the overflow of sap, and it scarcely ever fails of success. The period selected in this climate for this operation is the month

of February. The produce of this graft is usually a fine, large, beautifully colored marron, about the size of our buckeyes. They are much more delicate in texture and flavor than our own wild chestnut. They are never eaten without being cooked. The tree is very beautiful."

ADULTERATED GUANOS.

METHOD OF EXAMINATION.

The following we find in the Agricultural Gazette:

The shameless frauds practiced by some dealers have been long known and exposed, but how are such to be detected by practical farmers, who are not chemists, and yet want a supply just at a time when a dealer is at hand and ready to sell? A case of this kind came under my knowledge some time since, when the sale and term of purchase had been settled between the parties. It was then understood that the money was to be paid on the day following (£10 per tun); I therefore had little enough time to effect even a slight quantitative analysis. The sample I received was about four ounces. Having been accustomed to experiment with several varieties, it occurred to me that by a few simple processes, it would be possible to attain to a pretty correct idea of the moisture contained in a given weight (which ought not to exceed 10 to 12 per cent) of the quantity of ammonia in the soluble salts, of the insoluble matters, the most valuable of which is the bone phosphate, in its state of extremely minute division. I now, therefore, endeavor to recite, in the most simple terms, the processes adopted by me, and which I now venture to recommend to those who have not at command a more refined analysis: 50 grains of the sample to be examined are dried in a paper placed upon the hob of a grate, then weighed to ascertain the loss of water, and rubbed in a small mortar to a fine powder; two-thirds of the quantity (say 36 grains) of fresh air-slaked lime are, in like manner, placed on the hob of a grate, and equally dried and weighed, and are then triturated together. The weight being accurately noted, they are transferred to a small balanced saucer, moistened with a dessert spoonful of rain water, and stirred with a pointed quill. Ammoniacal gas is immediately developed, but in much greater volume when placed upon the warm grate till dry. The mixture is then to be treated with boiling water sufficient to bring it to a paste, stirred repeatedly and left in heat till dust dry, when the volatile ammonia will have been totally expelled by the lime. The loss of weight will be found to vary according to the quality of the guano. In one experiment made by me it was proved that a mixture of 50 grains of dry guano, and only 26 of lime=76 grains, so treated, had lost 6½ grains. This loss, if assigned to ammonia only, would indicate 13 grains in the 100 of the ammonia actually existing as a base to some or all of those acids which are found in the soluble ingredients of pure and sound guano. If by repeated experiments of the kind, with different samples, certain definite quantities are left, and the loss of weight ascertained, a pretty correct idea of the actual quantity of potential ammonia will be attained, sufficient at all events, to guide the judgement of a discerning practical agriculturist. Professors Anderson and Way concur in the opinion that "there are only two constituents which practically require to be considered in the estimate of the commercial value of the phosphates." This is admitted, for the phosphates which exist in some of the salts soluble in water contain ammonia. Yet the one most available in turnip culture is the bone earth (phosphate of lime), which remains in the insoluble

matters after water has taken up all that it can dissolve. These insoluble substances include more or less urate of ammonia—a valuable ingredient, but requiring time and accuracy for its development. Estimating it at 12 per cent, and the bone phosphate at 23 per cent; also other organic and saline matters at 16 per cent; with 2 or 3 per cent of sand in all; 47 per cent may be taken (including from 6 to 10 parts of moisture) as the mean average of all the ingredients soluble in rain or distilled water.—JOHN TOWERS.

SWAMP MUCK.

The term *muck* is generally applied by New-England farmers to the mass of vegetable matter usually found in peat swamps in a state of partial decomposition; by English farmers, to rotting straw, &c.; and by the Scotch, to barnyard manure. I use the word in its common signification in this country, and mean by it the dead vegetable substances described. These are the remains of trees and plants, some of which must have lived ages ago, more or less perfectly decomposed, and sometimes extending to a depth of many feet. This substance is made up of different constituents in different localities, and its quality is therefore very variable. Hence we find a great variety of opinions as to the value of swamp muck as a manure. The various estimates of the value of swamp muck range from 33 cents to \$3 per cord, and give an average of \$1.27; and as there is no reason to suppose that the estimated value is not the real value in each locality, it follows that no general real value can be definitely fixed. This depends on its quality.

Swamp muck is often cold and sour, and requires the addition of lime or exposure to the atmosphere and to frosts before it can be advantageously applied as manure. There are different modes of preparing it for use. The most common is to dig it out, expose it to the frost through the winter, and then put it into the barnyard to be composted with the stable manure. The following statements are from experienced practical men, and each gives the results of the observation of its writer:

A Middlesex farmer says: "I use swamp muck most successfully composted with stable manure, on different varieties of soils, but think it does best on high land of a loamy soil. I notice it is used very extensively by farmers with satisfactory results when composted with other manures thoroughly." A farmer of Worcester county says: "I use it extensively on my hard, clay soils; it works well on dry lands to keep them moist, and on clay soils to keep them light." Another writer from Dukes county follows: "It should be hauled out in the fall, and exposed to the frost during winter, and mixed with stable manure in the proportion of two parts muck to one of manure; it should also be used in the hogpen, barnyard, and barn-cellar. I have found it a good manure on loamy, gravelly, and sandy land, especially for topdressing for grass, when composted as above." A Norfolk county farmer, who has met with great success, says: "The best way of using swamp muck is to dig it and expose it to the sun, air, and rains one year, and then, when in a dry state, place it in a barn-cellar where it will take the droppings of the cattle above until it is thoroughly saturated; then mix it well, and it is ready for use. It is good for all high lands." He estimates it at about three dollars by the cord of one hundred and two bushels. A Middlesex farmer of great experience states that "swamp muck is of different qualities, and varies as much as wood when used for fuel. Peat mud, the older the better, consists principally of vegetable matter. It has most ef-

fect on high and dry ground. Wood ashes are the best article to correct its acidity."

Similar accounts come from every section of the State. From Hampshire county we have the following: "The best method of using swamp muck, judging from experiments of my neighbors and my own, is to cart it out in the autumn, expose it to the frost and snows, then spread and plow it in in the spring on sandy, dry soils, or, in other words, on soils of an opposite nature to its own. I plowed in twenty-five loads on one-quarter of an acre last spring, and planted it to early potatoes, corn, peas, cucumbers, squashes, and melons. It was a great preventive against drouth. That ground has been sown to rye, and it looks first rate." And from Plymouth county: "Swamp muck, as also upland soils, are valuable to mix with various kinds of manure to retain and absorb the salts. For upwards of two years I have adopted a different course with my swamp land from any I know of. I employ men with long-bitted hoes, sward hooks, etc., to dig up the hummocks and bushes, in bodies large and small, as is convenient, and pile them in bunches for a few days to dry; after which I select a central bunch, in which I form a cavity or hole near the bottom or surface of the ground. Then I set fire to some of the driest and most combustible, and as it burns I replenish it from the other bunches, smothering in the coal-pit form, though more combustible, till it burned down to a perfect body of ashes and sand. I have not carried the experiment into full effect as I designed to; but so far as I have used the ashes, they have given me entire satisfaction. Their nature is to improve exhausted lands; and my belief is that they may be spread upon the same land upon which the ashes were made, and increase the growth of English grass. Much has been said upon the subject of reclaiming wet, swampy lands; but after all that has been done, as I understand it, a coat of manure is required to produce a good crop of English grass. Now, if our worthless swamp lands possess the very article required to produce such grass by the simple process as above named, I think it would be an improvement in one point of agriculture."

A farmer of Barnstable county says: "The best compost manure is made in our barn and hog-yards, of swamp muck, sea-weed, and animal manure. Swamp muck and sea-weed are accessible to all who will take the trouble to procure them. My barn and hog-yards are so excavated and dug as to absorb the liquids passed into them. Every spring and summer, after my barnyard is emptied, I replenish it from time to time with swamp muck, peat, sea-weed, and other materials from the farm, which, with the animal manure produced by yarding my cattle, furnish me in the autumn with 200 loads of good compost, which I either stack in the yard, or cart on to the land I intend to plant in the spring. I again replenish the yard, giving me, with the proceeds of my hog-yard, from 100 to 150 loads more in the following spring. In addition, I have for two years past composted, in the field adjoining my peat bog, from 75 to 100 loads of peat (thrown from the pit in summer or autumn) with sea and rock-weed, or ashes and animal manure, which I esteem of equal value to barnyard manure. I estimate the value of a cord, or four ox-cart loads of barnyard manure composted as above, at from \$4 to \$5. We esteem the value of this for a corn crop and the improvement of land higher than pure animal manure."

I give one more extract from a farmer of Berkshire county. He says: "I have used swamp muck for a number of years past with good results, by mixing it with yard and stable manures in the proportion of one-

third to one-half muck, and consider it worth \$1 per load to use for agricultural purposes on soils that are a mixture of loam and gravel."

The testimony is uniformly in favor of composting muck with other manures. Its power of absorbing valuable liquid and gaseous substances is very considerable; and this makes it an excellent substance to mix with guano when the latter is to be used as a top-dressing. The importance of a free use of dry swamp muck as an absorbent of the liquid manures of the barn and stable can hardly be over-estimated. The loss throughout the State from the neglect and consequent waste of these rich manures, which, with a little care, might all be saved, is almost incredible. The attention of farmers was but lately called to this subject; but the value of the substances is acknowledged by some, and efforts are now made to save them by means of the use of muck and loam, either properly composted in the barn cellar, or supplied daily to the stalls of cattle. No judicious farmer should neglect to save all such substances as tend to increase the value and productiveness of his lands. It is poor economy and bad calculation to buy concentrated manures, or to buy any manures abroad, till everything of the kind is saved at home.

From what has been said, we may infer that good dry swamp muck is worth on an average from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per cord; that it is best on light, loamy, sandy, or gravelly soils; and that it is valuable as a compost with barnyard manures, or with guano.—*Second Annual Report of C. L. Flint, Secretary of Mass. Board of Agriculture.*

ABD-EL-KADER ON HORSE-FLESH.

The great Arab chief first declares that the stallion has greater influence than the mare: "The experience of centuries has established," he says, "that the essential parts of the organization, such as the bones, the tendons, the nerves, and the veins, are always derived from the stallion. The mare may give the color and some resemblance to her structure, but the principal qualities are due to the stallion." We must content ourselves with the assertion that decisive experiments in the breeding of animals confirm the provision of physiologists in contradicting this notion. Mother and father *participate* in the product; not *equally*, but indefinitely. Our limits restrict us to the bare assertion, which would require a volume to demonstrate. Although therefore, as a question of breeding, we can only award to the stallion such superiority as his relative superiority of vigor may give him (for if the mare have the superiority of vigor, owing to her race, health, or age, she will the more preponderate in the offspring), we quite understand the preference of the Arab for the mare, a preference which makes them sell stallions but never mares, unless under the extremities of compulsion. This preference Abd-el-Kader has admirably explained. Not only is the mare valuable as a producer both of stallions and mares, but she is, according to the Emir, more enduring; she better supports hunger, thirst, and the fierce radiance of eastern suns. Like the serpent, her force seems to increase with increase of heat. On the other hand, the stallion has his superiority in certain qualities. He is more rapid, strong, and brave. He has not the serious defect of suddenly stopping during the fight, as the mare will if she espies a stallion. He does not fall when wounded, as soon as the mare. "I have seen a mare whose leg was fractured by a ball, drop at once to the ground, unable to vanquish her agony. I have seen a stallion whose broken leg was held only by the skin, yet he con-

tinued on three legs till he had carried his master from the field, and then he fell. Abdel-Kader adds that when stallions have proved their great qualities it is almost impossible to procure them, so fabulous are the prices asked. They are only sold to great personages, or extremely rich merchants, who pay for them in thirty or forty instalments, sometimes even by an annuity to the seller and his descendants.—*English Notice of an article in the Revue des deux Mondes.*

DESCRIPTION OF INSECTS.

An insect is composed of three principal parts, consisting of the head, the thorax, and the abdomen. The first contains the eyes, the antennæ (or horns, as they are sometimes called), the palpi or feelers, and the mouth, or feeding apparatus. The thorax is that part lying immediately behind the head, and to it are attached the legs and the wings, and the elytra, or wing-cases of those insects which possess them. In all insects the rudiments of wings may be discovered. The abdomen lies behind the thorax, and contains the intestines, the organs of generation, and some parts of the organs of respiration; in many cases it is terminated by a tail, as in *Stellatarum*, or the humming-bird hawk-moth; in others, as in the ichneumon, with an apparatus called an ovipositor, that is, an instrument with which it deposits its eggs, and in some cases with a weapon of defense, which can be darted into an enemy, and through it a virulent poison be instilled into the wound; the wasp and bee will immediately occur to my readers as instances of this species of insect. The true eyes of insects are usually what is termed compound, that is, composed of a number of lenses, each of which is capable of perfectly reflecting the object looked at; in some cases these lenses amount to thousands in number. Just imagine this for one moment, and see the wonderful mechanism here displayed. The eye itself, not the eighth of an inch in diameter, and yet that eye to contain ten or fifteen thousand lenses, each capable of perfectly reflecting an image thrown on it! In fact, the insect may be said to possess as many distinct eyes as lenses. Even Argus himself, "who boasted of a hundred eyes," must have hidden his diminished head. But this is not all; several insects possess supplemental eyes, if I may so call them. They are situated on the forehead, immediately between the true eyes: they are three in number, and are arranged triangularly; they are called ocelli, or stemmata. Insects are enabled to look before, behind, on all sides, and upwards, at the same time, and from their being thus capable of casting retrospective glances, we may reasonably indulge the hope that the malignant animal we bipeds so dread is to them unknown—I mean the back-biter.

The antennæ vary in form and size in all the different orders and species. In some the variation is very strongly marked; in others it is scarcely perceptible, except on very close examination; some are long, and of the same thickness from their base to their extreme point; such are called filiform; others are short, and terminated by a knob or club, and therefore called capitate; others, again, are fringed with teeth like one side of a small toothed comb, and these are called pectinate. The use of these members has been much disputed, and I believe the question is still an unsettled one. I am, however, inclined to believe that they contain the organs of smell, or some distinct sense, which may be intermediate between smelling and sight. It is quite certain that insects possess in a very high degree the sense of smell, they apparently possess no other organ, which can be the separate seat

of that sense, and I have not met with any valid objection (I speak deferentially) to the theory of the antennæ being, in fact, the nose of the insect. In the antennæ of some insects distinct ocelli, or eye-like appearances may be traced with the aid of the microscope. What the use of these ocelli may be, I can not now stop to examine, but it opens up a very interesting point for the investigation of naturalists. Are they eyes, in the proper acceptance of the word? or what purpose do they serve?—*Mac, in Poultry Chronicle.*

THE COMIC POULTRY GUIDE.

Poultry keepers may be divided into two parts: those who keep for fancy, and those who keep for profit. These may again be divided into two: those who keep fowls—first, because it is the fashion; and afterwards, with an object in view: like a young man who smokes—first, because every one else does; and afterwards, in order to black a pipe.

The sailor commences housekeeping by providing a wife, and then a house; but as this system has its inconveniences, we recommend to begin with the house. We know that those who inhabit the lower part of large mansions, always declare that pains and money are lavished on the upper stories at the expense of the "offices;" and certain styles are said to be more favorable to universal comfort than others. Now those of whom we treat are indifferent whether the exteriors of their dwellings harmonize with Florentine, Gothic, Hanoverian, Roman, Composite, or Elizabethan.

The talented auctioneer said, "As we are not selling Chatsworth, or Blenheim, we will not dilate on the beauties of those places; we will drop hyperbole, and declare that the property we have for sale to possess all the comforts usually found in a six-roomed house." We will follow his example. Our friends require only a southern and western aspect, ample ventilation, but not of the varied character in which our Houses of Parliament, and some of our courts of law, luxuriate; good wide round perches, within two feet of the ground, and a well-gravelled floor. Queen Elizabeth had her rooms strewn with rushes, and these were replaced every day; but in this case it is only necessary to draw a broom slightly over the surface every morning, and even the visits of a sanitary commission may be contemplated without misgiving.

It is a common error to suppose fowls are teetotalers, far from it; they will drink beer, and even wine when they can get it. They, nevertheless, have a great aversion to draughts, and the ventilation should consequently be as high as possible above the perches.

The wants of the animals are various, and must be provided for. They must have two apartments: the first will serve only for dormitories, and laying, not for feeding; reminding one of some first floors at the West End, where it is impressed on those who look at them, "they must not dine at home." The other is used for sitting, and should any but a pullet suffering from that want intrude therein, she must be informed in the language addressed to Mr. Ferguson, that she does not lodge there.

And we believe nothing gives so good an idea of a thing as a familiar comparison, we would say the laying and sitting places should be on the ground, but be made something like the boxes of a coffee-room, or those convenient places to be met with in a first rate pawnbrokers'. With the hens as with visitors to the latter place, privacy is desirable; and neighbors should be unable either to look round or

over, or meddle with, their neighbor's business.

The house then may be compared to a Club: all its members resort to it. They are all travelers; and provided the arrangements are Conservative of their health, nothing about them will demand Reform. It has another point of similarity: no children are allowed in it. There are many reasons for this. The uncles spoken of in the "Children in the Wood," is not the only one who lusts after the provision made for the nephews and nieces. The delicacies provided for the chickens would be devoured by the old birds. Maternity has its cares and anxieties, as well as its pride and joy, and ladies are not always even-tempered. Mrs. Smith will box her child's ears, and call it an ugly, disagreeable little plague; but if Mrs. Jones were to say the same, there would be active hostilities between them. They should then be kept in the nursery, seeing the common room has many and divers occupants.

As the cares and delights of being a mother will not always extinguish the desire for the pleasures of liberty and single life; and as there is no way of overcoming temptation so effectual as to prevent its gratification; we will close this part by advising that the hen and chickens be removed from the other fowls, and that the hen be put under a rip.—*Poultry Chronicle.*

THE OSAGE ORANGE.

Is it an established fact that this plant is to supersede the Whitethorn as a hedge plant? When I went to South Wales 12 months back, I found there some plants which had been imported from Philadelphia and planted several years; but they had only annually produced a few abortive branches and leaves, and had not made half an inch of wood in 12 months. It is true they were not planted under the most favorable circumstances nor had they much attention afterwards; but Whitethorn, side by side with them, grew as well as it generally grows, making from 1 to 3 feet of good strong growth every season. In June, last year, I had the ground dug round the Osage Orange, gave it a good coat of dung, and soaked the plants occasionally with manure water. This moved the plants a little, but still I only got a straggling branch here and there, 2 or 3 inches long. I have read the pamphlet on this plant by an American seedsman, 15 or 18 months back, and have seen the representations of hedges, which are certainly first-rate in every respect, but I am sorry my own experience does not accord with that published in America. I fear our summers and autumns are not warm enough to ripen this free-growing plant, that is, if it ever grows freely in this country, and hence it will suffer much from the winter's frost; but I may be mistaken. The examples above specified, however, warrant me in doubting this to be a first-rate plant for our climate, for if it will not grow in a dripping climate like South Wales, or if it will not bear comparison with the Whitethorn there, I fear it will not be of much value through the country generally.—*W. P. AYRES, in Gardeners' Chronicle.*

[Is not the "dripping country" the explanation of its unwillingness to thrive.—*Ed. G. C.*]

A young thief, who was charged with picking pockets, demurred to the indictment, because he had never *picked* them, he always took them as they came.

An editor at the west has such an antipathy against Roman Catholics, that he is going to have his paper set up entirely in italics.

THE ATMOSPHERE THE GREAT RESERVOIR OF FOOD.

"It is only the girdling, encircling air," says a writer in the North British Review, "that flows above and around us, that makes the whole world kin. The carbonic acid with which to day our breathing fills the air, to-morrow seeks its way round the world. The date trees that grow around the falls of the Nile will drink it in by their leaves; the cedars of Lebanon will take it in to add to their stature; the cocoa nuts of Tahiti will grow rapidly upon it; and the palms and bananas of Japan will change it into flowers. The oxygen we are breathing was distilled for us some short time ago by the magnolias of Susquehanna, and the great trees that skirt the Orinoco and the Amazon—the giant rhododendrons of the Himalays contributed to it, and the roses and myrtles of Cashmere, the cinnamon tree of Ceylon, and the forests older than the flood, buried deep in the heart of Africa far behind the Mountains of the Moon. The rain we see descending was thawed for us out of the icebergs which have watched the Polar star for ages; and the lotus-lilies have soaked up from the Nile, and exhaled as vapor, snows that rested on the summits of the Alps."

"The atmosphere," says Maun, "which forms the outer surface of the habitable world, is a vast reservoir, into which the supply of food designed for living creatures is thrown—or, in one word, it is itself the food in its simple form of all living creatures. The animal grinds down the fibre and the tissue of the plant, or the nutritious store that has been laid up within its cells, and converts these into the substance of which its own organs are composed. The plant acquires the organs and nutritious store thus yielded up as food to the animal, from the invulnerable air surrounding it. But animals are furnished with the means of locomotion and of seizure—they can approach their food, and lay hold of and swallow it: plants must await until their food comes to them. No solid particles find access to their frames: the restless ambient air, which rushes past them loaded with the carbon, the hydrogen, the oxygen, the water—everything they need in the shape of supplies is constantly at hand to minister to their wants, not only to afford them food in due season, but in the shape and fashion in which it alone can avail them."

ICE HOUSES.—We had occasion some years ago to make some inquiries on the subject of ice-houses of Mr. N. J. Wythe, of Cambridge, Mass., who planned many of the extensive commercial ice-houses near Boston. Mr. W. constructs his ice houses all above ground, with double walls or frames, as described by our correspondent, except that the space between the two walls is 2½ feet at the bottom and 2 feet at the top: the spaces are filled with tan or saw-dust, but charcoal is better, and a thickness of 13 inches we should suppose sufficient to keep ice well. Mr. Wythe sets the posts which are to form the double walls or frames of his house in the ground.

The bottom of the house, he says, should be filled about a foot deep with blocks of wood; these are leveled and covered with wood shavings, on to which a strong plank floor is laid to receive the ice. Upon the beams above the ice a tight floor is laid and covered several inches deep with dry tan or saw-dust. The roof of the house should have a considerable pitch, and the space between the upper floor and the roof should be ventilated by a littance window at each gable end, or something equivalent, to pass out the warm air which will accumulate beneath the roof.—*Louisville Journal.*

Horticultural Department.

HYBRIDIZATION OF PLANTS.

A FEW PLAIN EXPLANATIONS FOR TYROS.

The word hybridization occurs very frequently in agricultural journals, and we imagine that all articles with this heading are passed over by many readers, simply because they are not acquainted with the first principles of the subject. We were intending to write out a brief explanation of these principles, but we find at hand a very good article on the subject in the Ohio Farmer, written by Prof. Cassels, of Cleveland, Ohio, who is considered an excellent botanist:

Few subjects within the range of vegetable physiology possess as much interest, either theoretically, or practically, as that of hybridization, or the production of plants by sexual inoculation, partaking more or less of the characteristics of two distinct species. And perhaps there are none whose procreative principles are involved in greater obscurity. Moreover, this interest is still further increased from the fact, that this is the only method by which hybrids are produced.

That the tyro in botany may the better comprehend the *modus operandi* of producing these crosses, and some of the principles connected with their existence, it will be necessary to refer here to the manner by which the seeds of plants are produced in their normal state.

A large proportion of plants contain the male and female organs of procreation in the same flower, the central portion being that of the female, or *pistil*, immediately surrounded by the male organs, or *stamens*, all within the flower. The lower portion of the pistil is the *ovarium*, or seed vessel. About the time the plant blossoms, the ovarium contains *ovules*, the rudimentary seeds; these are vivified by being inoculated with the granules of the *pollen*, which is produced by the *anthers*, or upper portion of the stamens. This is effected in the following manner: soon after the full expansion of the flower, the upper end of the pistil, *stigma*, becomes covered with a glutinous substance, on which the pollen fall from the anthers and adhere; immediately these pollen burst and emit a mucoid liquid, in which are molecular bodies, the supposed vivifying agents of the ovules. These pass down through the substance of the pistil until they come in direct contact with the ovules, which in due time become perfect seeds; and at the point of inoculation is lodged the embryonic plant. Those ovules not thus inoculated, remain unchanged in the seed vessel, and are incapable of germination and growth; such are often met with in pea pods.

Nature, generally true to her trust in causing each plant to "yield seed after its kind," occasionally permits the pollen of one species to be transferred to the stigma of another, resulting in the formation of seeds, yielding plants in many respects essentially different from either parents—these are hybrids. The extent of these deviations can not be very easily ascertained, although I am strongly inclined to the opinion that it is much more frequent than most botanists are willing to allow, as we often hear of new species of plants being discovered, which subsequent investigations ascertain to be hybrids. Yet, from known facts, the conclusion is irresistible, that there are well defined limits to the existence of these crosses, in order that the purity of the races may remain as originally impressed on them by their Creator; but where these boundaries are, or upon what basis they exist, has not yet been ascertained.

Some able botanists have supposed that the same law regulates the production and subsequent fertility of hybrids, in both the animal and vegetable kingdoms. To a certain extent this opinion may be correct, but it is well known that a mutual perpetuation extends through a greater series of generations among plants, than among the animal tribes; while at the same time they seem to admit of a wider range of crossing. It ought to be recollected, however, that this principle is not intended to recognise the intermixture of mere *varieties* of the same species in either kingdoms, such as take place among the endless varieties of peas, corn, &c., or among our domestic fowls, dogs, &c., but to those of *distinct species*.

The limits, too, of seminal propagation among hybrid plants, are more indefinite—so far as known—than among animals; although, in this respect, they are exceedingly variable. Thus, a hybrid, of intermediate parental characteristics, may be obtained, perfect in all its *vital* functions, and fully susceptible of propagation by *subdivisions*, but entirely deficient in the powers of perfecting its *seeds*. In other instances, if complete sterility is not manifest, the progeny is puny and sickly, rarely extending beyond the third or fourth generation, unless re-inoculated by a healthy staminate plant.

Hybrids are supposed to partake of the peculiarities of the staminate plant in their *floral* developments, while in their foliage they more closely resemble the pistilate parent. A knowledge of this is of much value to the practical hybridizer.

The most important practical points connected with hybridization are, which plants, in common cultivation, will intermix, and which will not? and how these points may be determined; for one of the grand secrets in the successful cultivation of all plants raised from seeds, depends on their purity and perfection. And when intermixture is effected, deterioration and sterility will sooner or later follow.

Unfortunately this subject, although of vast importance to all cultivators, is still involved in doubt and uncertainty, and nothing has yet been developed which can be used with certainty in practice. The principles controlling and regulating this action, have hitherto eluded detection, and all that is known on the subject is mere speculative conjectures, based on very limited observation.

The Dean of Manchester, who has devoted more time to the subject than any other cultivator of hybrids, is firm in the belief that they can not be obtained, by any known process, from species of different genera; and he adds, "where such hybrids have been reported, it is presumptive evidence that the true principles of their classification have been overlooked." On the other hand, many well defined species of the same genus, can not be made to intermix, even by our best manipulators. Thus, Prof. Landley has often tried to cross the gooseberry with the currant, both species of the genus *Ribes*, but without success. He has also attempted, with the same result, crossing the apple and pear, both species of *Pyrus*; the raspberry with the blackberry, both species of the genus *Rubus*. He observes, "it is hard to say within what limits hybridizing may be effected; and whenever attempted, it can only be regarded as a game of chance, played between man and plants."

The general rule adopted by hybridizers is, that plants only which are nearly allied, or susceptible of crossing. But the exceptions are so numerous as almost to destroy this generality. Thus, the *Thuja filiformis* is a hybrid between the Red Cedar and the American Arbor Vitæ; and plants have been

obtained from crossing the *Rhododendron* with the *Azelias*; while it is highly probable that the range of exceptions will continue to widen with observation and experiment.

Varieties of the same species readily cross with each other; hence the great variety observed in our cultivated peas, beans, corn, oats, &c. In these cases, there is a constitutional similarity of organization which favors sexual intermixture; but in different species, there doubtless exists a molecular arrangement peculiar to each, which may or may not favor hybridization; of the existence of which, however, we have no infallible exterior index whereby these peculiarities can be determined.

PYRAMIDAL FUCHSIAS.

As decidedly the best collection of *Fuchsias* shown at Sydenham on Saturday last consisted wholly of plants of this shape, I give you my plan of growing them, and I hope that Mr. Boussic, the exhibitor of the group in question, will favor your readers with his mode of cultivation next week. I put a few old plants in a warm pit or vinery, where the temperature ranges about 55°, about the end of January or beginning of February, in order that they may have pushed out plenty of young wood by the middle of March. I then take off what cuttings I can get from each sort, preferring the shortest jointed wood. First prepare as many four-inch pots as you may require, taking care that they are well drained, and the compost of a sharp open nature—coarse river sand intermixed with leaf-mold will be found to answer very well, with about one inch of silver sand on the top to induce the cuttings to root freely. Water gently with a fine rosed pot, then plunge the pots in a propagating pit, where there is a gentle moist bottom-heat, where in the course of three weeks they will have made roots enough to stand potting off. You may pot off singly into three-inch pots in a light open sifted compost of rich loam, leaf-soil, and sand, equal parts, and if you have any bottom-heat to spare they will be the better to be plunged in it for a day or two, to give the young roots a start. They may now be removed to a warm pit or vinery, or whatever you find most convenient, where the atmosphere is kept moist, which will insure a strong, healthy and vigorous growth. When you find the pots full of roots repot them into six-inch pots, using for this shift a good rich compost of turfy loam two parts, one of old rotten cow-droppings, leaf soil and sand. As this will be their last shift this season, care must be taken to provide good drainage; this can be secured by putting in plenty of potsherds, with two or three bits of open turf or moss over all. As the plants will now be pushed strongly, they must be tied to a neat stake, as they will be sending out laterals or side shoots. As the making of these side branches secures the formation of the plant, a little weak sheep dung liquid manure will be found very beneficial at this period of their growth. As the first tier of laterals has made their first joint, pinch it at that; this will not only enable you to have two shoots from each lateral, but will cause the leader to push away, and furnish you with plenty of side wood. The four first tiers of laterals will be enough to pinch this season, the rest may be allowed to grow on. They will be forming nice little plants now, so they may as well be taken to the greenhouse or conservatory, where, with a gay profusion of flowers, they will assist in keeping the house "dressy" for a short time. By the middle of November water should be withheld gradually, in order to ripen the wood, and they may be placed in a dry cold pit, or

any out-of-the-way place, such as under the greenhouse stage for instance, where they must remain all winter, as they will require no more attention till the end of February, when a little water may be applied sparingly to induce them to start; the knife must now be applied to cut back the side shoots that were pinched last year, to the second joint on the wood they made after they were pinched, and a couple of tiers of single shoots to the second joint, the rest to the first, and the leader to within four inches; thus you will have a pyramidal basis to work on. Place them now in a warm vinery, and they will soon show indications of rapid growth. After they are fairly started turn them out of their pots, and shake off all loose soil, and examine the roots; repot them now in ten-inch pots, using strong fibery loam of a rich texture, old cow dung, leaf soil and sand, equal parts, well mixed. As stated for last season, attend well to drainage, as they will require no more pot room this season; replace them again in heat, and pinch in according to the directions laid down for last season, always aiming at having the plant broad and full at the pot, and tapering to the top. Pinching, should, however, be stopped after the first of June, for by the middle of the month they should get a prominent place in the conservatory, where, by July, they will be the objects of greatest admiration in the house; liquid manure must not be omitted upon any account, at least three times a week, as this is now the only thing the plant will derive its nourishment from, and will cause it to bloom right on till October, when it will be getting unsightly, and may be removed out of doors to make room for some other favorite. When cold nights set in remove them as before to a cold pit, &c. No more attention will be necessary till spring, when they may be pruned and started according to the time they are wanted in bloom. They can be had in bloom by putting a few into heat by the beginning of January, about the middle of May; others started accordingly, will enable you to have them in flower all the summer. Mr. Boussic's plants, to be so fine, were doubtless struck in autumn; mine are chiefly for display late in summer.—W. F., in *Gardener's Chronicle*.

SARRACENIA DRUMMONDI.

Visitors to Chatsworth, in the summer and autumn of 1849, were scarcely more surprised at the glorious aspect of the *Victoria Lily*, than at the exquisite beauty of this plant, many large specimens of which decorated a neighboring stove among rare *Orchids* of the richest hues and the most interesting forms.

It was, we believe, originally introduced by the late Mr. Drummond, who met with it in Florida, near the town of Apalachicola. It has since been found abundantly, by Dr. Chapman, on the western borders of the river of the same name, below Ochee-see. It, therefore, inhabits the swamps of a region which, during summer, experiences a tropical heat, as in some measure indicated by the presence of *Orchidaceous Epiphytes*, such as *Epidendrum Magnoliæ* and *tampense*.

The pitchers of this plant are from 18 inches to 2½ feet long, perfectly erect and straight, with very much the form of a post-man's horn. Their color is of the most vivid green, except at the upper expanded end, where they are brilliantly variegated with white, red, and green. The rim of the orifice of the pitchers is slightly folded back, from the front towards the back, where it expands into a broad roundish arched cover, much undulated and crisped. In the inside this cover is clothed with long hairs, which

partially disappear towards the entrance of the pitcher, at which point there is a considerable exudation of sweet viscid matter, apparently secreted by the hairs which exist there. The flower is of a dingy purple color, roundish, about 2½ inches in diameter, with five blunt acuminate sepals, five obovate inflexed petals, and a pale green diluted five-angled membranous stigma, which is nearly as long as the flower itself; each angle is divided into two short lobes, beneath which, in a fold, lies the real stigmatic surface. These flowers have little beauty, and are by no means the object of the gardener's care.

The so-called pitchers are in reality the leaves of this plant, in a very singular condition; the pitcher itself being the leafstalk, and the cover its blade. By what mode of development this kind of structure is produced has never yet been conclusively shown. It has been thought that the pitcher is formed by the folding together, in its earliest infancy, of the two sides of a flat leafstalk, the line of which union is indicated by a firm elevated rib, which proceeds from the base to the opening of the pitcher, as if to stiffen and sustain it; but this is not certain, and it is more probable that the pitcher is the result of a hollowing process, coëval with the first growth of the pitcher itself, and analogous to that which produces the *Rose*, or the cup at the bottom of the calyx of *Eschscholtzia*, or the cups that appear accidentally upon cabbage leaves.

If the exact nature of the pitcher is thus undecided, we are still further from a knowledge of the use for which so singular an apparatus is destined. To the common idea, that nature intended it to hold water, arise these objections: that water is not found in the pitcher except after rains or heavy dews, and that plants which grow naturally in bogs can hardly require any unusual apparatus for supplying them with water. Others think that the pitcher is a contrivance for detaining insects in captivity till they perish and decay, the putrefaction of these creatures conducing to the nutrition of the plant. But there is no apparent reason why the *Side-saddle flower* should require this sort of special nutriment more than its neighbors in the same bogs, which have no pitchers. This, however, is certain, that if the pitchers were intended for fly-traps, they could hardly have been more ingeniously contrived. It is the honey of the mouth of the pitcher that tempts the insects to their destruction; and, accordingly, they are found in abundance at the bottom. In the plant now before us we count, in the month of February, about a dozen, two of which are wasps; and Mr. Croom says that he found in one of his a large butterfly (*Papilio Turnus*). Reversed hairs keep them there without hope of escape. As the sides of the pitchers consist of very lax cellular tissue, containing large cavities in every direction, and as starch grains in abundance escape from the sides when wounded, it is a question whether this starch, converted into sugar by the vital force of the pitcher, may not serve to sweeten the water in which the imprisoned insects meet a miserable end?

The manner in which the North American *Side-saddle flowers* are grown at Chatsworth is explained in the following memorandum, which is applicable to the more common species as well as to that which is the immediate object of the present article:

"The stove is decidedly the most suitable place for these species making and maturing their growth, at which time they require much warmth and moisture. A temperature of from 80° to 100°, with plenty of water at the roots, and syringing three times a day, from March till September, we have found to suit them the best. During their

season, a greenhouse would probably answer the ends of cultivation better than the stove; at all events, the plants should be kept in a dry cool atmosphere, from 40° to 60°, not higher. The best time for potting is January, and the best material for that purpose is silver sand and sphagnum, well mixed with a portion of peat and potsherds, broken quite small. It is important to have plenty of drainage, and no fear need be entertained of excess in this particular. It has been customary at Chatsworth to place the pots in saucers which have been kept full of water during the whole of the summer season. We do not, however, attach any importance to this practice. The plants will thrive equally well without saucers. Pitchers are usually formed in October, and continue perfect for three months. The number of pitchers on an individual plant of *S. Drummondii* varies from 14 to 23. We have measured individual pitchers of this species, and find the maximum length 2 feet 3 inches, and the maximum girth at the top, 6 inches. Flowers usually open in March and April. By removing the flower-buds as they appear, the succeeding pitchers become much finer." —*Paxton's Flower Garden.*

APPLE-TREE BORER.

Having been for many years very much troubled with the borer in my apple trees, last spring I determined, if possible, to find out their origin, and I believe I succeeded. Allow me to give you an account of the transaction.

I sawed off a small tree, which was badly eaten by the borer. I then split into it so far as to discover four borers, one of which was far more advanced in its state of existence than either of the others, and which, I supposed, might come out that season in another form. I carefully preserved the tree until the 10th day of August, when I saw that the insect in the most advanced state was dead. I then, for the first time, took it out from the tree to examine it very particularly, that I might know its like, should I discover it alive. Its head, eyes, feelers and body, were perfectly formed—its wings, partly. Indeed, it was so far formed and perfect, that I had an accurate idea of the bug it had been, destined to form, had it not been molested. I then went out among my apple trees for the purpose of finding its like. The third day I found the bug, and knew it to be the same at first sight. I brought it into the house, and put it with a smooth and fresh limb of an apple tree, under a glass. It readily fed on the bark. During the day it was very dull, but at night was exceedingly brisk and active. As soon as it was dark, it would commence piercing a row, about an inch in length, of very small holes through the bark, and then with its sharp teeth or cutters, which it seemed to use like a pair of shears, by putting one cutter in one hole and the other in the next, it, apparently with great ease, cut the bark from one hole to another, and so continued until it had cut each and every hole into the other. By this means, it made a perfect slit in and through the bark, the whole length of the row of holes, which, as I have before said, was about an inch in length. It would then make use of its tail as a pry, and with it raise up the bark so far as to enable it to deposit its eggs under it. In this way it continued to deposit from two to four eggs every night, until the middle of September. My examinations of its operations was by the light of a lamp, which did not disturb it at all. After I had seen it deposit its eggs, as I supposed, I examined, in the day time, to see if I could find them. I had no difficulty in finding them—they were about the size of a pin-head, but considera-

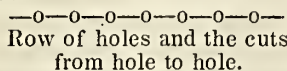
bly flattened. After noticing the marks on the limb under the glass, I could with ease discover all those marks that were made on my trees the last season by the bug; and by lifting up the bark, in every instance, find the egg. I could also find the places where the bug had fed on the bark of the tree, as it did on the limb under the glass. From what I have seen of the borer, I have no doubt that it remains in the worm state three years at least, and perhaps much longer, in the tree. I presume the egg is not hatched until the next season after it is deposited. During the last year the borer remains in the tree, it bores up through the wood, leaving nothing but a slight covering of bark over the hole, and remains there while it is passing from the worm to the bug state. When transformed, it readily removes the bark and comes out, leaving a round and smooth hole behind, as large and in some cases larger than the largest nail-gimlet. It has by many been supposed that this hole is the one through which the worm enters the tree; but I am certain, from observation, it is not so—it is the hole through which the bug makes his exit from the tree, while the hole below is the one where the egg was deposited, and through which the borings and other matters are cast out.

The bug is seven-eighths of an inch in length, white body and head, with three brown stripes from the top of the head to the extremity of the shell that covers the wings, leaving two white stripes between. The eyes of the insect are very black. I still have the insect in my possession, though his legs have fallen off, and he is otherwise somewhat mutilated.

Thinking that the above facts, communicated to those whose leisure and attention are directed to such subjects, may be of use, in suggesting a remedy for the evil, has induced me to communicate the facts to you. As to everything above related as facts, you may rely upon them as such. I can not have the least doubt that I have discovered the origin of this troublesome insect, the borer.

If a thick coat of lime be kept on the tree from the ground two feet up, from the time the bug comes out, which may be the first of July, though I think not until August, and be kept on until October, I think it will prevent the bug from troubling the trees. I washed some of mine last year in this way, and in no instance could I discover any trace of a bug on them. This wash will not kill those borers that are already in the tree, but I think it will prevent any more eggs being deposited so long as the trees are thoroughly coated with lime. This wash assists, also, in discovering the borers which have just commenced their existence; for you will find the lime to be stained with a reddish color over the spot where the young borer lies, long before any borings are cast out.

That you may have a perfect idea of the operation of the bug, I will here give you a specimen of the row of holes he bores, and of the cuts or slits from one hole to the other, thus:



This row of holes runs with the grain of the bark, or up and down on the tree, always on a smooth spot on the bark, so far as my observation has gone. One egg only is deposited in one of those slits of an inch long. A row of holes is made for every egg.—*WM. B. GRANT, in Maine Farmer.*

GENDER INCORRECT.—“Off she goes,” said Mrs. Smith to her spouse, as they started by the railway from London Bridge. “You are wrong,” said Mr. Smith, “for this is the mail train.”

ON THE DISEASES OF PLANTS.

BY M. F. E. GUERIN MENEVILLE.

Some observations recently made, tend to confirm an opinion expressed last year, to the effect that the great epidemic from which so many plants, and vines more especially, have been suffering, is due, if not solely at least principally, to influences of temperature. The observations upon which this opinion was based have become during this last year very numerous, and have been made in the departments of the Var, Bouches du Rhône, Basses-Alpes, Vaucluse, Gard, Drôme, Ardèche, Isère, &c. After having examined the epidemic in the Basses-Alpes during the whole time that the silk-worms were hatching, I determined to extend my inquiries to the ten departments just named, proceeding from the south northwards. I thus ascertained that the disease disappeared not only, as I had formerly ascertained, in proportion to the height of the plants above the sea, but also in proportion to their northern situation. Neither in the Alps nor in Paris was there any disease. In the Alps, as in Paris, the disease, when it existed at all, was only to be found on plants sheltered by walls and exposed to the south or east, or on plants in small town gardens where, in consequence of the artificial atmosphere, the disease made its appearance whatever aspect the plants had. I noticed it principally in fields of Saintfoin, on cereals, Melons, Gourds, Tomatoes, &c., Vines, Roses, Mulberries, Walnuts, and other fruit trees, and even on the Alders in our valleys. The Saintfoin, for example, after progressing admirably from December to February, languished, and became covered with Oidium to such an extent that the strong smell of diseased Vine which it emitted when cut, caused alarm, lest the crop should prove injurious to cattle fed upon it. All the corn, and especially that on well exposed hills, looked admirably at the same period of the year when vegetation ought to have been stationary, and the plants perhaps covered with snow; but the corn in the plains, in the large valley of the Durance, as well as that of the higher land in the department, remained small, low, and exhibited no unusual development. Later, during the months of April, May, and even June, the corn on the hills with fine aspects, and which was already in ear and about to flower, became exposed to a low temperature and a cold damp; the plants became covered with rusty black spots, their leaves curled, and in spite of incessant cold rain, appeared to suffer from drouth. The corn in the plain, in cold soil, with harvest almost always a fortnight late, developed slowly, and as usual; the bad weather had no effect on it, and the harvest was good, while the corn on the hills and intermediate lands, although so fine in December, January, and February, did not even yield the seed from which it sprung. A curious circumstance, showing that the disease of the corn is due to a too high winter temperature, is that all those growers who sowed their corn late had fair crops. The Mulberry trees were out early and exposed to all those cold rains which destroyed the early silkworms. Some of the trees were seen in full leaf as early as Easter. Later, all the leaves became covered with rusty spots, which I examined with great care. In some cases the disease was so bad that the leaves curled up and dried, and became utterly useless as food for silkworms. Walnut, and many other trees were just as bad, their leaves also being covered with rusty spots. The Vine was worse than ever. The cold rains of May, caused the disease to appear a fortnight late, and this gave some hopes that the malady had, if not disappeared, at all events greatly decreased; but it soon ap-

peared that the plants were seriously affected, more so even than in the preceding years. Nevertheless such was the variety of circumstances under which my observations were made that I was able to ascertain by examinations, as well on a large as on a small scale, that my theory of caloric influence explained every phenomenon satisfactorily established. Thus it appears quite certain that all valleys having large streams of water, and so situate as to be exposed during winter to cold northerly winds, are more or less free from the ravages in question. The north slopes of hills are generally free also, and certain elevated tracts of country, whether in the south or middle of France, suffer but little, unless it be in those spots which are sheltered by irregularities in the soil. *Comptes Rendus.*

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, July 12.

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We occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

THE TRIBUNE ON SALT.

The literary ability with which this cotemporary is conducted, gives a currency to its agricultural department that it would never have attained had that department depended entirely on its own merits. For this reason we are under the necessity of occasionally noticing some of its peculiarities. In the issue of June 17th, we find an editorial on salt, closing with these words:

"Salt as a medicine is but little known. A teaspoonful dissolved will serve as a good emetic; and homeopathic doses will often cure sickness at the stomach. It is good for colic, and very valuable as a reviver of a person stunned by a fall. In apoplexy, salt is good internally and externally. Bathing in salt water has cured many invalids. Salt is as good to kill worms in the intestines as it is in land. In our every-day diet, however, we use salt to excess."

We are unable to obtain from this dissertation any very clear ideas of the relation of salt to the animal system, and we are not sure that the writer had any. His conceptions are about as well founded as those of the man who got up in the night to see what the weather was, and by mistake opening the wrong window, thrust his head into the pantry, and told his wife it was very dark out of doors and smelt like cheese.

It is true that a bucket full of salt water poured down a man, after the fashion of sailors in "crossing the line," will make the

unfortunate recipient of it throw up the contents of the stomach; but we were not aware that a teaspoonful would have any such effect. Pereira, we see, is equally behind in this matter, since he mentions two or three table-spoonfuls as necessary for an emetic.

As to the homeopathic doses spoken of, we are in the habit of using them daily—in fact we may say, almost hourly; for as all the methods of washing culinary and drinking utensils are mere processes of dilution, and as the fiftieth dilution is more potent than any of a less figure, it follows not only that a vessel that has once contained salt can never be freed from the impregnation, but that each successive rinsing adds strength to the solutions—yet we have never noticed any very marked effect from these homeopathic doses of salt.

In reality, there is no such entity as disease to be cast out of the system, as a devil is exorcised. There is no line to which we can say all is right, and beyond which all is wrong. The dominion of Pathology extends into the region of Physiology, and the wisdom of God in the laws of disease is as manifest as in the laws of health. The whole catalogue of specifics has been reduced to not more than half a dozen—such as quinine for ague, and sulphur for itch—though the general belief in them still continues, to the profit of nostrum-venders. But, to this particular "eure."

It is not always advisable to relieve nausea, even if we could, as it may be better to let it "come up." A man fills his stomach with green vegetables, and when enough of their undigested or poisonous properties has been absorbed into his system to produce an effect, he becomes "sick at the stomach," and Nature signifies an intention to evacuate the surplus. Sometimes there results an immediate clearance upwards or downwards, or both, forming an attack of cholera morbus. And at other times it happens that the stomach becomes settled, and there is a labored digestion of the offending matter, with colic-pains and constipation. Now to the man who is about to throw up these crude contents of the stomach, the Tribune runs with the fraction of a drop of sea-water, to keep him from vomiting. But what if he should vomit? Is there any shorter or more direct method of cure? Physicians are not always out of their heads when they direct an emetic for vomiting, or physic for diarrhea, for these are the processes by which nature expels offensive matters from the system, and it is frequently advisable to encourage them. But homeopathic doses of salt are not worth consideration—they amount to nothing one way or the other.

To the man with colic, the Tribune also carries salt; though we are not informed whether it is a teaspoonful or a ten millionth part of a grain; nor are we told in what way it is used or how it acts. Fortunately for humanity, the natural tendency of nine-tenths of diseases is to produce health, so that life does not depend on any particular system of medication.

We are further informed, that salt may be made servicable to a person "stunned by a fall," but by a very careless omission, we

are not told *how* to use it. So in apoplexy, we are merely advised as if we knew all the details, or as if they could be obtained from any "doctor-book," to use salt both "internally and externally," while invalids generally are in a very every-day sort of a way directed to be put in pickle. This is quite too vague for the use of so important a medicine. Humanity, suffering and dying around us, demands of the Tribune that full particulars as to methods of use should be speedily given, for we are sure that that paper only has a knowledge of some of the discoveries here announced.

Men once wondered how any body could "die with plenty of sage in the garden." The Tribune would have us believe that salt may be, after all, equal in medical virtue to sage.

As to the worm part of this article, we can only say, a friend informs us that he has found the wire-worm, "alive and kicking," in the "lime and salt mixture," at the end of a week.

There is one other use of salt, omitted in the Tribune's enumeration, that is quite as well authenticated as some of those given. It is "good" to put on the tails of naughty birds that won't be caught, and for this purpose it is to be used in doses of a pinch or so, deposited *in cauda*.

But the last sentence of the article, is rather incongruous to the rest. It damps our enthusiasm a little; yet it may be that it only secures the previous part in some way, like the clinching of a nail. It reminds one of the old continental story, of an *Aid* who rode post haste, carrying a valise before him and another behind him, and who, when asked what was in the front valise, replied it "contained orders, and the back valise the counter orders, and that he was in a great hurry for fear he should be too late." It destroys the first sentence which contains the gist of the article, so that the whole is rendered of no force; for any substance must be used in such doses as shall produce sensible effects, in order to become a medicine.

The relation that salt holds to the internal economy of animals, is of an exceedingly intricate character. It is supposed to be connected with the amount of non-azotized matters in the food, with the amount of drink required, with the amount of perspiration, with the amount of gastric juice, with the amount of bile, and with certain peculiarities in the constitution of the urine; and we believe that the full relations of so simple a substance as common salt can be disclosed only under the light of a complete system of Physiology in the "good time coming."

CHERRY CURRANTS.—Mr. Chas. Starr, Jr., of No. 117 Fulton-street, has shown us a bunch of the cherry currants, grown at his residence in Tarrytown, which exceeds in size of berry any thing we have seen in the currant line. The bunch was said to be an average one on a young bush, set last summer, and contains a dozen berries, some of them measuring 1½ inches in circumference, and the average size is full 1½ inches.

EXHIBITIONS—SHOWS—FAIRS.

These three words are used in the same sense, or synonymously, in this country; thus, the same society announces, one year, its fair, the next its show, and the next its exhibition. There is, however, a difference in the meaning of these words, and it is desirable to secure some degree of uniformity.

A FAIR, in other countries, signifies a place of sale, or, more nearly, a market-day, occurring at long but regular intervals—as once a year, once in six months, once a quarter, or otherwise. In this country, ladies hold fairs for the sale of their work for some charitable purpose. In England, these are called FANCY FAIRS. At Jamesburg, N. J., the farmers meet together once a year, and each one offers for sale whatever he may have to part with. This is legitimately a fair.

A SHOW is a display of the *outside* qualities of an object. It is a general term embracing every thing set forth, but referring merely to that which strikes the eye; a *show* is not a matter of taste or action, but merely a curiosity.

AN EXHIBITION, on the contrary, presents some effort of skill, talent or genius.

Show is the more vulgar term. A fop *shows* his clothes. We *show* wild beasts; we *exhibit* paintings. One man *shows* a monster ox; another *exhibits* his skill in breeding a valuable class of animals, which may make less *show* but are more prized than the overgrown specimen. One *shows* a tree of unnatural growth; another *exhibits* his skill in shaping and combining pieces of wood so as to produce the most perfect implement. The conjurer *shows* his tricks; the artist makes an *exhibition* of his works. We *show* our dress; we *exhibit* our traits of character. We look at a *show*; we study an *exhibition*.

We go to a fair to buy or sell; we go to a *show* to see and be seen; we go to an *exhibition* to examine the works of others and derive new thoughts and new principles for our own future guidance.

Some of our annual agricultural gatherings are not only exhibitions, but also at the same time are fairs and shows. Some go to drink and carouse and see the *show*. Some go to sell or buy animals, seeds, &c., at the fair; while some go to learn what agricultural improvements have been made and how they have been made. The first of these persons will judge of a reaper by its paint, or its outward appearance; the last will examine it carefully to see if it has the combination and arrangement of parts necessary to make it an effective implement. The first only benefits the *show*, by contributing to its funds; the last does the same thing for the *exhibition*, and at the same time benefits himself and neighbors by the information he gathers and carries home.

As our annual gatherings are designed for the display of improvements, of inculcating information in cultivation, stock breeding, use of implements, &c., we think they should be uniformly styled EXHIBITIONS, leaving fairs for sales gatherings, and shows for *show-men*. To call them *cattle shows*, does

not convey their full import. Where provision is made for sales of stock, &c., let them be styled exhibitions and fairs, thus—the New-York State Agricultural Exhibition and Fair. We trust our cotemporaries will discuss this subject; and, if possible, let us have some uniformity in the use of terms.

MEAT IN LONDON.

Smithfield has been the great cattle market of London for more than six hundred years, but its last sales' day occurred on Monday, June 11th. Hereafter the new Metropolitan market will take its place. Some idea of the amount of meat consumed in London, may be gathered from the sales of animals at Smithfield. We chance to have before us the official report for 1848, from which it appears that there were sold during that year 240,000 horned cattle, for \$20,720,000—averaging \$92.50 per head; 1,550,000 sheep, for \$14,725,000—averaging \$9.75 per head; 27,300 calves, for \$511,875—averaging \$18 75c. per head; and 40,000 pigs, for \$300,000—averaging \$7.50 per head.

Total number of animals, 1,857,300, sold for \$36,256,875.

The population of London for that year was 2,172,386, which gives an average annual expenditure of \$16.69 for meat by each man, woman and child.

In looking over some documents on this subject, we notice a few curious circumstances, one of which is the following: In the year 1698, with a population of 674,000, there were sold in Smithfield market 200,000 calves and 250,000 pigs, while in 1848—150 years after, and with a population of 2,172,386—the sales were only 27,300 calves and 40,000 pigs. That is, the consumption of these animals per individual was nearly 25 times greater 150 years ago than now.

RED ANTWERP RASPBERRIES.—We have received from Messrs. Geo. Seymour & Co., of South Norwalk, Conn., a basket of these superb berries, which, for size and flavor, we have never seen surpassed. They justly occupy the first rank among the small fruits now in our market. If any one is incredulous, their doubts will be removed by the samples they will find on sale at Hawley, Smith & Carman's, Nos. 15 and 16 Fulton Market.

GUANO FOR INSECTS.—A correspondent of the Horticulturist says: "Some time last summer, while budding some young peaches, I found that ants had taken possession of some ten feet in one row. They very earnestly resisted my attempts to inoculate the trees, inflicting many unpleasant wounds on my hands and arms. In order to disperse the warlike little nation, I sprinkled near a pint of fine guano along the little ridges. This threw them into immediate consternation. I noticed little collections of winged ants huddled close together, and seeming to be quiet, while those without wings ran about in great agitation. The following day not a single insect could be found where the day previous they appeared to be innumerable."

CROPS IN NEW-YORK.

During the past week we passed over the southern tier of counties of New-York, as far west as Elmira, and thence north-west to East Bloomfield. We noticed that wheat and rye are already putting on thier golden hue preparatory to the harvest; that the corn crop has rallied vigorously under the enlivening influence of the sun's rays during the past ten days; and that all the other summer crops promise to make old mother earth fairly groan under the abundant harvest.

The fruit crop will also be large; we think apples and pears never promised so heavy a yield. A very intelligent farmer near Canandaigua remarked that the wheat crop appeared larger than it had been in twenty years, and they were calculating on an average of twenty-five bushels per acre. One farmer, last year, realized this large product on the greater part of 100 acres, though he had declared for weeks before the harvest that the weavel had reduced it to five bushels per acre. There is very little complaint of insects this year in that region.

The route of the New-York and Erie Railroad is, at this season, a most delightful one to the tourist. The earth's carpet of green is of the most brilliant hue, while the forests were never more luxuriant; and the hillsides are variegated with flowers of every color, including the sumach, elder, and above all, the beautiful kalmia or mountain laurel, whose blush white flowers adorn the mountain even to the summit.

GREAT FIELDS OF WHEAT.—The Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer says that Henry K. Burgwyn, on the Roanoke, has a field of 900 acres of wheat, which good judges estimate will yield 20 bushels to the acre, or 18,000 bushels in all, worth at present prices about \$50,000. Mr. Thomas Burgwyn has a field also of 900 acres in wheat, almost as good. These gentlemen cultivate, besides, large fields of corn, oats, &c.

AN EXTENSIVE FARMER.—The Norfolk (Va.) Herald says it is stated as an ascertained fact, that Mr. Wm. Allen, of Claremont, on James River, will raise for sale this year fifty thousand bushels of wheat; and, without some unforeseen occurrence, five thousand barrels of corn.

COTTON RAFTED—A NEW INVENTION.—A correspondent of the National Intelligencer, writing from this city, says: "An enterprising gentleman, named G. R. Griffith, has been perfecting an invention by which cotton may be got to market and the seaboard, in spite of low water in the Southern rivers; and left here this afternoon for the South to demonstrate the practicability of his invention to the planters. The plan is very simple, being merely the adoption of a kind of vulcanized India rubber bag, so constructed that any number of them may be connected together in the fashion of a raft, and either towed down the shallow streams by a steamer of light draft, or piloted by hands on the cotton—two men being able to manage one hundred bales. Twelve inches of water is

amply sufficient for the transportation of cotton by means of these patent floaters; and if they can be successfully introduced, the condition of the streams hereafter will be no barrier to supplying the markets with the great southern staple. Mr. Griffith gave a practical exhibition of his inventions at this port a few days since, and I believe entirely satisfied those present of the feasibility of the plan."

CANKER WORMS.—Mr. William Plumer, of Lexington, a correspondent of the Boston Journal, recommends covering the ground under apple trees with muriate of lime, as a remedy for the destructive ravages of the canker worm. This preparation should be applied immediately, and dug in the Fall. Mr. Plumer has seen it tried with excellent success. The next Spring after the application, not a canker worm was to be seen in the trees to which it was applied. He says it has been tested both in this country and in England, and in every case with perfect success.

A STUMP MACHINE.—Mr. B. P. Foster, of Flint, Genesee, writing in the Michigan Farmer, says he has a stump machine that is cheap and works well where land has been cleared from 12 to 15 years; that is, oak land. It is made as follows: "Get a pole, tamarack is best, 14 inches at the butt, 8 at the top, and from 35 to 40 feet long. Then make a band 1½ inches square, and put it on one end. Make a very large hook, weighing 25 pounds, and a link and clevis to make it about three feet long; have the hook stand toward the top of the lever. Hook it to a large root, and hug the stumps with the lever and keep going around till the stump comes out. If other stumps are in the way, take a pole ten feet long, put one end on the ground, the other on the stump, and let the lever run up over it." Mr. Foster says, "I have pulled out from three to six acres in a day, or sixty stumps. What I can not pull out, I burn. I dig away the dirt first, and then set fire to them. Thus I make my land free from stumps. Cost of machine irons from \$10 to \$15."

BATTLE AMONG BEES.—The Toledo Republican of the 13th ult. says, "A gentleman living near Adrian relates a singular circumstance which occurred on his farm. A few days ago a new swarm came out of their paternal hive, and gathered around their young queen in the warm, sunlit atmosphere. But instead of going to some neighboring tree or shrub, and forming a hanging cluster, as has invariably been the rule with all predecessors with whom we have ever been acquainted, they settled on a hive and began a murderous attack upon the peaceful inmates. The unsuspecting workers were taken by surprise, and many of them were killed by the invaders before they become fully aroused, when the conflict became obstinate. The fact that most of the working bees of the hive were out gathering honey, gave the new swarm all the advantage, and though the battle lasted all day, they finally triumphed. Thousands of dead bodies were

dragged to the entrance and thrown on the ground each hour."

Dr. WATERBURY of this city has examined the jaw-bone of a mummied bull, in the Egyptian Museum, and has ascertained the animal to have been of the species of our common ox, and that the bone does not differ in size from that of a full-grown ox of the present day.

WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN NEW-YORK.—This Association, at their recent meeting at Bath, resolved to hold their next annual show (1856) at whichever of the following places shall hold out the greatest inducements, viz: Avon, Bath, Canandaigua, or Penn Yan. The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:

President—Hon. G. Denniston, Prattsburg, Steuben Co., N. Y.

Vice-Presidents—Hector Hitchcock, Livingston Co.; W. T. Remer, Yates; John D. Patterson, Chataque; G. W. Wheeler, Steuben; T. C. Peters, Genesee; Thos. P. Peck, Ontario; H. T. Brooks, Wyoming; Rawson Harmon, Monroe; Charles Morrell, Tompkins; Amos Perrin, Alleghany; James H. Hotchkin, Steuben; Matthias Hutchinson, Cayuga; Gardiner Gould, Orleans; Lewis F. Allen, Erie; Hiram McCollum, Niagara; Albert G. Percy, Wayne.

Corresponding Secretaries—Wm. S. Judd, Penn Yan, Yates; A. Y. Baker, Urbana, Steuben; N. B. Mann, Livingston; Wm. A. Cook, Lima, Livingston; W. T. Remer, Penn Yan; James Lyon, Bath, Steuben; Wm. B. Pratt, Prattsburg, do.

Treasurer—Hon. Reuben Robie, Bath, Steuben Co.

Recording Secretary—Chas. D. Champlin, Urbana, Steuben Co.

For the American Agriculturist.

COUCH GRASS—SPANISH MOSS—CORN CHAMOMILE OR HORN MAYWEED, &c.

In the article on the "Couch or Twitch Grass" in the *American Agriculturist*, in February last, I described the common *Quack Grass* of this vicinity as the *Triticum repens*. Although the description is correct, I gave the wrong name. It is the *Digitaria sanguinalis* of Linn, and is described in the Natural History of New-York, Botany, vol. 2, p. 423, as the "Crab-grass," and is figured in the same volume, plate 146. My mistake arose from a mistake with the labels of the specimens in my herbarium, and when discovered, very soon after, I was prevented from making a correction, first by ill health and later by pressing duties.

In an article on "Spanish Moss," in a late number of your paper, the inquiry is made if there are any truly aerial plants, drawing nourishment from the air and water, rather than the material they grow upon? There are many such. Most lichens (a low order of plants) do so. They grow on rocks, dead wood, &c., and draw their nourishment from other sources. Higher kinds of plants also sometimes grow in a similar manner. Of the very family to which the Spanish moss belongs (*Bromeliaceæ*), Dr. Lindley remarks, "They are all capable of existing in a dry, hot air, without contact with earth; on which account they are favorites in South American gardens, where they are suspend-

ed from the buildings, or hung to the balustrades of the balconies; situations in which they flower abundantly, filling the air with fragrance."

The "Spanish moss" (*Tillandsia usneoides*) is not a true moss, botanically speaking, but with many of the true mosses, the living plant lives upon the bodies of the dead, and thus accumulate many feet in thickness.

A new troublesome weed has made its appearance within the last few years in Central New-York. It is known by the names "Corn Chamomile," "Horn Mayweed," &c. (*Anthemis arvensis* Linn.) It much resembles the May-weed, but is larger, coarser, branches more, nearer the base, has a less fetid odor, flatter, larger heads, and grows taller. The flowers are in shape like those of the ox-eye daisy, but are smaller. The plant is variable, and presents, under different circumstances, very different general characters. It was at first mistaken by farmers for May-weed (*Maruta*), which it often closely resembles; and although known to all who had paid any especial attention to botany, was not considered dangerous, as it is not so described in any botanical work I have seen. I shall make further observations on its growth during the summer.

WM. H. BREWER.

OVID, N. Y., July 6, 1855.

THE "FINE ART"—OF PATCHING.

A lady friend—a spinster—who had seen years enough to constitute her a good judge, used to say in our hearing, that if she could see a man's socks, six months after his marriage, she could always tell whether he would be a rich or a poor man. If they were well and neatly darned, it indicated an ingenious, economical wife, and with such a helpmeet any man would succeed—she never knew it fail. We incline to the opinion that the old lady was more than half right, but we will not discuss the matter. Here is something, from an English paper, on the belles-lettres department of the household—for to patch well is, in truth, a "fine art," and one requiring as much skill as to paint, or sing, or play:

To patch—how vulgar is the term! Yet it is an operation requiring far more skill than does the making of a new garment; and, when well executed, may save the purchase of many a costly one; the most expensive robe may, by accident, be torn, or spotted, the first day of its wear; the piece inserted in lieu of the damaged one is a patch. If a figured material, the pattern has to be exactly matched: in all cases the insertion must be made without pucker, and the kind of seam to be such as, though strong, will be least apparent, the corners must be turned with neatness. Is not this an art which requires teaching?

So of darning, much instruction is necessary as to the number of threads to be left by the needle according to the kind of fabric; then there is the kind of thread or yarn most suitable, which requires experience to determine; where the article is coarse, the chief attention is directed to expedition, but a costly article of embroidery on muslin can only be well darned with ravelings of a similar muslin; such particulars do not come to the girl by inspiration, they must be taught, or left to be acquired by dearly-bought experience.

The third mode of repair is well understood and practised by our continental neighbors, though rarely in this country. The stocking stitch is neither more difficult nor tedious than the darn, yet how many pairs of stockings are lost for want of knowing it when a hole happens to be above-shoe? Practice in lace stitches is more desirable, particularly for repairing lace of the more costly descriptions. The deficiency of a single loop, when lace is sent to be washed, often becomes a large hole during the operation, and thus the beauty of the lace is destroyed. Indeed, lace when duly mended, on the appearance of even the smallest crack, may, with little trouble, be made to last twice or thrice the usual term of its duration. So the shawl stitch is never taught in this country, though, by employing it with ravelings from the shawl itself, the most costly cashmere can be repaired without a possibility of discovering the inserted part.

Proficiency in such *useful* works might well merit as much approbation as is now bestowed upon crotchet or other fancy works, and might be considered as equally desirable qualifications in a tradesman's governorship, as music. In populous places it might well answer to establish schools where the art of mending apparel should be the chief object of instruction; a month or two spent in it might be sufficient for the damsel, already a good plain needle-worker. It must further be observed, that without a practical knowledge of needle-work, no young lady can judge whether her servant has or has not done a reasonable quantity of it in a given time; and if this be true as to the plain seam, it is still more essential in regard to mending of all kinds.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

A VENTRILOQUIST ON THE DOCK.

Quite an excitement occurred at one of the southern steamboat wharves, a short time since.

The hands on one of our steamers were engaged in rolling off a cask, when, to the consternation and surprise of the persons engaged in that operation, a voice was heard within the cask.

"Roll it easy—Oh! these darned nails hurt; I'd rather pay my passage than stand all this."

Holding up their hands, their visuals expanded to the size of saucers, the two laborers exclaimed—

"That beats the d—."

The mate coming up at this moment, and entirely unaware of the cause of delay, commenced cursing the affrighted fellows for dilatoriness, when from within the voice again came forth—

"You're nobody; let me out of this confounded cask."

"What's that?" said the mate.

"Why it's me!" said the voice; "I want to get out of here—I won't stand this any longer!"

"Up-end the cask," said the mate.

"Oh don't—you'll kill me!" said the voice. "These nails prick me. Look out! *don't!*" again cried the casked up individual, as the men were turning it over.

"Cooper," said the mate, "unhead this cask, and take out that man."

As the adz sundered the hoop, and the head was coming out, the voice again broke forth—

"Be easy, now, do!—I don't want to be caught."

Quite a crowd had now gathered around

the "scene of action," when, to the utter astonishment of the bystanders, a loud, guttural laugh broke forth, which made our hair stand on end, and the cask was filled with bacon!

"What does it mean?" says one.

"I swear it beats my time," said the mate, severely scratching his head.

We enjoyed the joke too well to "blow," as we walked on arm-in-arm with the "Fakir of Ava," the renowned ventriloquist and magician.—*Ex.*

THE SYMPATHIZING WOMAN.

If we were called upon to describe Mrs. Dobbs, we should, without hesitation, call her a sympathizing woman. Nobody was troubled with any malady she hadn't suffered. "She knew all about it by experience, and could sympathize with them from the bottom of her heart."

Bob Turner was a wag, and when one day he saw Mrs. Dobbs coming along the road toward his house, he knew that, in the absence of his wife, he should be called upon to cutertain her, so he resolved to play a little on the good woman's abundant store of sympathy.

Hastily procuring a large blanket, he rolled himself up in it, and threw himself on a sofa near by.

"Why, good gracious. Mr. Turner, are you sick?" asked Mrs. Dobbs, as she saw his position.

"Oh, dreadfully!" groaned the imaginary invalid.

"What's the matter?"

"Oh, a great many things. First and foremost I have got a congestion of the brain."

"That's dreadful," sighed Mrs. Dobbs. "I came pretty near dying of it ten years come next spring. What else?"

"Dropsy," again groined Bob.

"There I can truly sympathize with you. I was badly troubled with it, but finally got over it."

"Neuralgia," continued Bob.

"Nobody can tell, Mr. Turner, what I've suffered from neuralgia. It's an awful complaint."

"Then again, I'm very much distressed by inflammation of the bowels."

"If you've got that, I pity you," commented Mrs. D.; "for three years steady I was afflicted with it, and I don't think I've fully recovered yet."

"Rheumatism," added Bob.

"Yes, that's pretty likely to go along with neuralgia. It did with me."

"Toothache," suggested Bob.

"There have been times, Mr. Turner," said the sympathizing woman, "when I tho't I should have gone distracted with the toothache."

"Then," said Bob, who having temporarily ran out of his stock of medical terms, resorted to a scientific name, "I'm very much afraid I've got the tethyasaurus."

"I shouldn't be at all surprised," said the ever-ready Mrs. Dobbs; "I had it when I was young."

Though it was with the utmost difficulty that he could resist laughing, Bob continued: "I'm suffering a great deal from a sprained ankle."

"Then you can sympathize with me, Mr. Turner. I sprained mine when I was coming along."

"But that isn't the worst of it."

"What is it?" asked Mrs. Dobbs, with curiosity.

"I wouldn't tell any one but you, Mrs. Dobbs, but the fact is"—here Bob groaned—"I'm afraid, and the doctor agrees with me, that my reason is affected—that, in short, I'm a little crazy!"

Bob took breath, and wondered what Mrs. Dobbs would say to that.

"Oh, Mr. Turner, is it possible!" exclaimed the lady. "It's horrible! I know it is! I frequently have spells of being out of my head myself!"

Bob could stand it no longer; he burst into a roar of laughter, which Mrs. Dobbs taking for the precursor of a violent paroxysm of insanity, she was led to take a hurried leave.

BRAINS.—Gov. Trumbull, of Connecticut, on the occasion of a grand riot, ascended a block, and attempted by a speech to quiet the people; when a random missile hitting him in the head, felled him to the ground. He was badly hurt; and as his friends were carrying him into his house, his wife met him at the door and exclaimed:

"Why my husband, they have knocked your brains out!"

"No they haven't," said the Governor; "if I'd had any brains I shouldn't have gone there."

AN URCHIN IN A BAD FIX.—Little boys, when they come late to school, have to bring a written excuse explaining the cause of their tardiness. Some days since an urchin, in a city school, came extremely late, but without the least fear or anxiety depicted on his countenance. He had a 'scuse. On handing it to the teacher it was opened, and read thus: "Missus—*Whale the beaver* for running away." The model 'scuse was accepted, and the little fellow was accordingly admonished in the region of his "sit-down-upons."

STEAM.—At a railway station, an old lady said to a very pompos looking gentleman who was talking about steam communication, "Pray, sir, what is steam?"

"Steam, ma'am, is, ah!—steam is, ah!—steam is—steam!"

"I knew that chap couldn't tell ye," said a roough-looking fellow, standing by, "but steam is a bucket of water in a tremendous perspiration."

SUGGESTIVE.—One day a little girl, about five years old, heard a preacher of the Chad-dand order praying most lustily, till the roof rang with the strength of his supplication. Turning to her mother, and beckoning the maternal ear down to speaking distance, she whispered, "Mother, don't you think that if he lived nearer to God he wouldn't have to talk so loud?"

PATIENCE.—"You can do any thing if you will have patience," says our old foggy uncle, who made his fortune by being planted in the old town when corner lots were worth only ten dollars an acre, and waited till he woke up one morning to find them worth \$300 a foot.

"Water may be carried in a sieve if you can only wait."

"How long?" queries impudent and impatient Young America, who can hardly wait for his bread or the old man's obituary.

"Till it freezes!"

RECIPE FOR MATRIMONIAL HAPPINESS.—Preserve the privacies of your house, marriage state, heart, from father, mother, sister, brother, aunt, and all the world. You two with God's help, build your own quiet world; every third or fourth one whom you draw into it with you will form a party, and stand between you two. That should never be. Promise this to each other. Renew the vow at each temptation. You will find your account in it. Your souls will grow, as it were together, and at last they will become

as one. Ah, if many a young pair had on their wedding day known this secret, how many marriages were happier than—alas!—they are.

TO A NEWLY WEDDED COUPLE.

I saw two clouds at morning,
Tinged with the rising sun;
And in the dawn they floated on,
And mingled into one;
I thought that morning cloud was blest,
It moved so sweetly to the west.

I saw two summer currents
Flow smoothly to their meeting,
And join their course, with silent force,
In peace each other greeting;
Calm was their course thro' banks of green,
While dimpling eddies played between,

Such be your gentle motion,
Till life's last pulse shall beat!
Like summer's beam and summer's stream,
Float on, in joy, to meet
A calmer sea, where storms shall cease—
A purer sky, where all is peace! BRAINARD.

JOHN RANDOLPH OF ROANOKE.

Sitting one day opposite a gentleman at a hotel dinner-table in Richmond, he observed that he was eating one of those luxurious soft crabs of that region, and that, as was the custom of the hotel, a glass of milk had been placed near his plate; looking up from his own, he said in a thin piping voice:

"That's a singular dish of yours, Sir, very singular; crabs and milk! Juba, bring me a bowl of milk, and crumble some crabs in it!"

At the same hotel, he said to a waiter, in the temporary absence of Juba, handing to him at the same time his cup and saucer:

"Take that away—change it."
"What do you want, Mr. Randolph?" asked the waiter respectfully. "Do you want coffee or tea?"

"If that stuff is tea," said he, "give me coffee, if it is coffee, bring me tea; I want a change."

Most readers have heard, perhaps, of his reply to a well known and highly respectable gentleman of the south, who introduced himself to him while standing and conversing with some friends, with—

"I should be pleased to make the acquaintance of so distinguished a public servant as Mr. Randolph. I am from the city of Baltimore—my name is Blunt."

"Blunt, eh?" replied Mr. Randolph, "I should think so, Sir;" and he deigned him no further notice.

Equally familiar to many, it may, will be found his reply to a gentleman who rather forced himself upon Mr. Randolph's notice, while engaged in conversation with others in a hotel in Virginia.

"I have had the pleasure, Mr. Randolph, recently of passing your house."

"I am glad of it," said Mr. Randolph; "I hope you will always do it, Sir."

On one occasion, at Washington, a brother member of Congress was enlightening Mr. Randolph as to the manner of "shopping" at the capital. "The merchants," said he, have two prices—an "asking price, and a taking price." I used to send my wife to make all the purchases for the family, by which we made a saving of fifteen to twenty per cent."

"I had rather *my* wife," said Randolph, bitterly, "should make a living in any other way but *one*, than that!"

Being a confirmed old bachelor, the remark was no less comical than severe.

A western editor, who is a bachelor says: "We never cared a farthing about getting married, until we attended a bachelor's funeral."

A ROMANTIC INCIDENT.

A correspondent of the Manchester Mirror, relates an interesting incident, which he says occurred in Manchester. He states that in the fall of 1847, a young man came to the city in quest of employment. After weeks of unsuccessful search he found himself without prospect of work, and considerably in debt for board. In despair, he had made arrangements for disposing of his clothes by auction in order to defray his debts, when a letter was sent to him containing a twenty dollar bill, and directing him to apply for the situation of card-stripper to the overseer of one of the corporations. The letter also requested him to sign a note of hand for the amount loaned, and to place it in a certain unoccupied box in the Post Office, when it would be called for by the lender. The young man did as requested, and received the situation for which he had applied, the overseer stating that it had been procured for him by the earnest solicitations of a young lady. Years passed away, and all attempts to discover the name of his creditor were unavailing. The young man prospered in business, and at length plighted his affections to an estimable young lady with whom he had accidentally become acquainted. On the day before their marriage he received a letter requesting him to call at a certain place, and pay the note for twenty dollars, with interest, which he had signed some years before. Anxious to settle an indebtedness which, from the mystery of the whole affair, had occasioned him many hours of unhappiness, he hastened to the place indicated, and was ushered by a domestic into a parlor where, to his infinite astonishment, he discovered in the person of his unknown benefactor, the lady to whom, upon the next day, he was to unite his earthly fortunes. She was awaiting him with the note in her hand. It was her first business transaction, and the partnership which followed bids fair to continue happily through life.

CURRAN'S INGENUITY.—A farmer attending a fair with a hundred pounds in his pocket, took the precaution of depositing it in the hands of the landlord of the public house at which he stopped. Having occasion for it shortly afterwards, he resorted to mine host for payment. But the landlord, too deep for the countryman, wondered what he meant, and was quite sure no such sum had ever been lodged in his hands by the astonished rustic. After ineffectual appeals to the collection, and finally to the honor of Randolph, the farmer applied to Curran for advice.

"Have patience, my friend," said Curran, "speak to the landlord civilly—tell him you have left your money with some other person. Take a friend with you, and lodge with him another hundred in the presence of your friend; then come to me."

He did so, and returned to his legal friend—"And now I can't see how I am to be the better off for this, if I get my second hundred back again. What is now to be done?"

"Go and ask him for it when he is alone."
"Aye, sir, asking will not do, I am afraid, without my witness, at any rate."

"Never mind, take my advice," said the counsel; "do as I bid you, and return to me."

The farmer returned with his hundred, glad to have that again safely in his possession.

"Now, sir, I must be content; but I don't see as I am much better off."

"Well," said the counsel, "now take your friend with you, and ask the landlord for the hundred pounds your friend saw you leave with him."

We need not add that the wily landlord

found he had been taken off his guard, while our honest friend returned to thank his counsel, exultingly, with both hundred in his pocket.

ONE HAPPY HEART.—Have you made one happy heart to-day? Envied privilege. How calmly you can seek your pillow! how sweetly sleep! In all this world there is nothing so sweet as giving comfort to the distressed, as getting a sun ray into a gloomy heart. Children of sorrow meet us wherever we turn; there is no moment that tears are not shed, and sighs uttered. Yet how many of those tears, those sighs, are caused by our own thoughtlessness! How many a daughter wrings the very soul of a fond mother by acts of unkindness and ingratitude! How many husbands, by one little word, make a whole day of sad hours and unkind thoughts! How many wives, by angry re-cremations, estrange and embitter their loving hearts! How many brothers and sisters meet but to vex and injure each other, making wounds that no human heart can heal! Ah! if each one worked upon this maxim day by day—"strive to make some heart happy"—jealousy, revenge, madness, hate, with their kindred evil associates, would forever leave the earth. Our minds would be so occupied in the contemplation of adding to the pleasures of others, that there would be no room for the ugly fiends of discord. Try it, ye discontented, forever grumbling devotees of sorrow, self-caused; it will make that little part of the world in which you move as fair as Eden.

SACREDNESS OF TEARS.—Dr. Johnson observes: There is a sacredness in tears. They are not a mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, of unspeakable love. If there were wanting any arguments to prove that man is not mortal, I would look for it in the strong convulsive emotions of the breast, when the soul has been deeply agitated, when the fountains of feeling are arising, and when the tears are gushing forth in crystal streams. Oh, speak not harshly to the stricken one, weeping in silence. Break not the deep solemnity by rude laughter or intrusive footsteps. Despise not woman's tears—they are what made an angel. Scoff not if the stern heart of manhood is sometimes melted to tears—they are what help to elevate him above the brute. I love to see tears of affection. They are painted tokens but still most holy. There is a pleasure in tears—an awful pleasure. If there were none on earth to shed a tear for me, I should be loth to live; and if no one might weep over my grave I could never die in peace.

Markets.

REMARKS.—For the first time in some weeks, we quote a small advance in Flour, of 25c. to 50c. per bbl. on the different grades. This, however, has resulted from a temporary short supply, as the old stock on hand is pretty much exhausted, and the new has not yet come in. There must be enough for the current demands of retailers and consumers, and then there were several contracts for delivery the first week in July, made from one to three months since, and considerable quantities have been required for the settlement of these contracts. These causes have produced the present advance. That a

continuance of the present prices is not looked for by dealers, is evident from the fact, that contracts have been made this week for fair Southern Ohio Flour, deliverable in October, at \$7 75, and for good New-York State brands, deliverable in September and October, at \$7 25. The prospect of the incoming wheat crop still continues good, though with a rather increased sprinkling of unfavorable reports of injuries from the fly and weevil. An intelligent correspondent, living 32 miles north-west of Cincinnati, in Oxford Co., Ohio, writes July 3d: "The grain harvest has just commenced here—wheat crop light from injury last winter; but except in this vicinity it is very good all over the west. The worst reports are from our correspondents in western New-York, but these apply, thus far, to isolated localities only. The crop is now safe in the Southern and Middle States, and in the greater portion of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, and there is a certainty of much more than the average yield. We hope in a few days to give the same report of New-York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Canada. But there is probably less old grain now in the country than there has been at the same season for many years past. This, with the prospective foreign demand, will prevent as low prices as have been current in some former years, when the yield has been equally great.

Corn has improved upon last week's quotations several cents per bushel. Oats are unchanged, there having been a decline which is nearly recovered.

Cotton fell off largely on the receipt of the America's News, but it has partially recovered, and now stands from 1/4c. to 1/2c. lower than per our last.

The weather has been in marked contrast with the previous week. We have not had a hot day during the past week. There have been frequent showers, but they have not been succeeded by the hot, sultry weather so productive of rust to the wheat crop. Every variety of summer vegetables and fruits, are growing with great luxuriance.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TUESDAY, July 10, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The weather to-day is quite cool, and the market good. Potatoes are less plentiful just now, the farmers being employed in haying. White Turnips are flat. Cherries are abundant and pass off slowly. The market is well supplied with Raspberries, some very fine, especially the Antwerps. A few Pears are in market from Norfolk, Va., and bring \$5 per bushel. The warm weather has filled the market with "Green Cheese," which, once got out of the boxes, is not easily got in again. Butter and Eggs, the same.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island	per bush	\$1 — @ 1 12
New-Jersey	per bbl.	3 50 @ —
Charleston, round	do	3 — @ 3 50
Norfolk Mercers	do	3 50 @ 3 75
Nova Scotia Mercers	per bush	— @ —
Turnips—White	per bbl.	1 25 @ —
Onions—Bermuda Reds	per bbl.	2 75 @ —
New-Orleans Reds	do	— @ —
Connecticut, string	per 100 bunch	4 — @ 4 50
Cabbages	per 100	4 — @ 5
Cucumbers	do	1 25 @ —
Lettuce	do	50 @ 75
Gooseberries	per bus	1 50 @ —

Raspberries—Antwerp	per basket	10 @ —
Shrewsbury	do.	4 1/2 @ 5
Tomatoes	"	2 @ —
Cherries	per lb	4 @ —
Apples	per bbl.	\$2 — @ 3 50
Butter—new	per lb.	18 @ 20c.
Orange County	do.	22 @ 24c.
Cheese	do	8 @ 10c.
Eggs	per doz.	— @ 18c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY July 11, 1855.

The total supply of cattle for the week is nearly 3,000. At Allerton's we find 2,116, which is an increase over last week of about 300. The prices to-day rule pretty much the same as last week, with livelier sales. It is not likely that the market will run much higher this season. Speculators appear to be quiet at present, having probably been burnt enough for once to dread the fire.

The quality of the cattle is rather ordinary, affording good specimens of both extremes. All will doubtless find sale before night.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality	11 @ 11 1/2c.
Good retailing quality	10 @ 11c.
Inferior do.	9 @ 10c.
Veals	4 @ 5 1/2c.
Swine, alive	5 1/2 @ 6c.
" dead	7 @ 8c.
Cows and Calves	\$25 @ \$60.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.
A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-PAY.
Beeves, 2116	2116
Cows, 20	—
Veals, 445	—
Sheep and lambs, 1267	—
Swine, 2111	—

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves . . . 1133
Sheep . . . —
Swine . . . 1137

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves . . . 112
Cows . . . 20
Veals . . . 431
Sheep and Lambs . . . —
Swine . . . 1114

By the Hudson River Railroad . . . 433
Calves . . . 14
Sheep and Lambs . . . 153
Swine . . . 265

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves . . . 439
Swine . . . 709

New-York State furnished—beeves	116
Ohio, "	619
Indiana, "	44
Illinois, "	993
Texas, "	—
Kentucky, "	108
Michigan, "	—
Iowa, "	124

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs	5876
Beeves	567
Veals	58
Cows and Calves	21

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:
151 Beef Cattle . . . 9 @ 12c.
65 Cows and Calves . . . \$25 @ \$55
5,240 Sheep and Lambs . . . \$2 1/2 @ \$7.
204 Veals . . . 4 @ 7c.

There is an abundant supply of sheep on hand, mostly of mean quality. Lambs have been in good demand. The sales on Friday and Saturday were the best of the season. Mr McGraw reports sales of 2,184, at an average of \$3 47. Mr. McCarty's sales amount to 1,900.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes—	Pot, 1st sort, 1855	per 100 lb.	— @ 6 50
	Pearl, 1st sort, 1855	do	6 50 @ —
Bristles—	American, Gray and White	do	45 @ — 50
Beeswax—	American Yellow	do	26 @ — 27 1/2
Coal—	Liverpool Orrel	per chaldron	— @ 7 50
	Scotch	do	— @ 7
	Sidney	do	5 75 @ 6
	Pictou	do	5 25 @ —
	Anthracite	per 2,000 lb.	5 50 @ —
Cotton Bagging—	Gunny Cloth	per yard	1 1/2 @ —

Cotton—	Upland	Florida	Mobile	N. O. & Texas
Ordinary	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
Middling	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Middling Fair	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Fair	12	12	12 1/2	13

Flax—Jersey . . . per lb. — 8 @ — 9

Flour and Meal—	State, common brands	8 50 @ —
	State, straight brands	8 63 @ —
	State, favorite brands	8 75 @ —
	Western, mixed do	8 81 @ —
	Michigan and Indiana, straight do	9 25 @ 9 50
	Michigan, fancy brands	9 62 @ —
	Ohio, common to good brands	— @ 9 37
	Ohio, fancy brands	— @ 9 50
	Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do	— @ 10
	Genesee, fancy brands	9 25 @ —
	Genesee, extra brands	10 75 @ 12 50
	Canada	10 37 @ 11
	Brandywine	10 25 @ 10 75
	Georgetown	10 25 @ 10 75
	Petersburg City	10 25 @ 10 75
	Richmond Country	— @ 10 50
	Alexandria	— @ 10 50
	Baltimore, Howard-Street	— @ 10 50
	Rye Flour	7 — @ —
	Corn Meal, Jersey	5 — @ —
	Corn Meal, Brandywine	5 25 @ —
	Corn Meal, Brandywine	per punch — @ 22 50

Grain—	Wheat, White Genesee	per bush	— @ —
	Wheat, do. Canada	do	— @ 2 40
	Wheat, Southern, White	do	2 38 @ 2 45
	Wheat, Ohio, White	do	2 35 @ —
	Wheat, Michigan, White	do	2 40 @ 2 45
	Rye, Northern	do	1 45 @ —
	Corn, Round Yellow	do	— @ 95
	Corn, Round White	do	— @ 1 06
	Corn, Southern White	do	— @ 1 10
	Corn, Southern Yellow	do	— @ 96
	Corn, Southern Mixed	do	— @ 92
	Corn, Western Mixed	do	— @ 93
	Corn, Western Yellow	do	— @ —
	Barley	do	1 12 @ —
	Oats, River and Canal	do	60 @ —
	Oats, New-Jersey	do	56 @ —
	Oats, Western	do	62 @ —
	Peas, Black-Eyed	per bush	2 50 @ —

Hay—North River, in bales . . . — @ 1 06

Molasses—	New-Orleans	per gall.	30 @ — 32
	Porto Rico	do	27 @ — 32
	Cuba Muscovado	do	26 @ — 30
	Trinidad Cuba	do	27 @ — 29
	Cardenas, &c.	do	— @ — 26

Provisions—	Beef, Mess, Country	per bbl.	10 50 @ 13
	Beef, Mess, City	do	10 — @ —
	Beef, Mess, extra	do	16 25 @ 17
	Beef, Prime, Country	do	— @ 9 75
	Beef, Prime, City	do	— @ 11
	Beef, Prime Mess	per tce	21 — @ 24
	Pork, Prime	do	16 12 @ —
	Pork, Clear	do	20 — @ —
	Pork, Prime Mess	do	16 50 @ —
	Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels	per lb.	10 @ 11
	Mams, Pickled	do	— @ 9 1/2
	Shoulders, Pickled	do	— @ 7
	Beef Hams, in Pickle	per bbl.	— @ 16
	Beef, Smoked	per lb.	— @ —

Rice—	Ordinary to fair	per 100 lb.	5 25 @ 5 50
	Good to prime	do	5 8 1/4 @ 6 25

Salt—	Turk's Island	per bush	— @ — 32
	St. Martin's	do	— @ —
	Liverpool, Ground	per sack	95 @ —
	Liverpool, Fine	do	1 20 @ 1 30
	Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's	do	1 46 @ —

Sugar—	St. Croix	per lb.	7 @ —
	New-Orleans	do	5 @ — 6 1/2
	Cuba Muscovado	do	5 @ — 6 1/2
	Porto Rico	do	5 @ — 6
	Havana, White	do	7 @ — 7 1/2
	Havana, Brown and Yellow	do	5 @ — 7

Tallow—American, Prime . . . per lb. — 11 1/2 @ —

Tobacco—	Virginia	per lb.	— @ 6 1/2
	Kentucky	do	7 @ — 13
	Maryland	do	— @ —
	St. Domingo	do	12 @ — 15
	Cuba	do	12 @ — 20
	Yara	do	35 @ — 43
	Havana, Fillers and Wrappers	do	20 @ 1
	Florida Wrappers	do	15 @ — 60
	Connecticut, Seed Leaf	do	6 @ — 18
	Pennsylvania, Seed Leaf	do	— @ — 12

Wool—	American, Saxony Fleece	per lb.	38 @ — 42
	American, Full Blood Merino	do	36 @ — 37
	American, 1/2 and 3/4 Merino	do	30 @ — 33
	American, Native and 1/2 Merino	do	25 @ — 28
	Superfine, Pulled, Country	do	30 @ — 32
	No. 1, Pulled, Country	do	23 @ — 25

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line for each insertion.
Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.
Advertisements standing three months one-third less.
Ten words make a line.
No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

AYRESHIRE BULL.—FOR SALE, A
A Thoroughbred Ayreshire BULL, 2 years and 4 mos. old. Bred by Wm. Watson, Esq., of Westchester. Price \$250. Apply to **WILLIAM REDMOND,** 96—100n1213 No. 30 Pine-st., New-York.

The Allen Patent Mower Triumphant.

MANY are now inquiring, "What Mower shall I buy?" That question has been satisfactorily answered during the past fortnight.

At a trial at Bedford, Westchester County, in heavy, wet clover, and on rough, stony ground, the ALLEN MOWER performed better than any other in competition, being the only one which cut a smooth, even swath and spread it well; and it came out of the field unseathed, while others were badly broken or seriously injured. It has since been repeatedly tried in New-Jersey, on Long-Island, and other places, and worked admirably, whether in short, thin, fine grass, or in tall, thick and badly-lodged grass or clover. It also works well on a side hill, and on salt meadows.

The draft of this Mower is uncommonly light. It is simple in construction, very strong, and not liable to get out of order, and when so, easily and cheaply repaired.

It is the only Mower perfectly safe to the driver, the gearing being all covered; and he sits so firm in his seat, it is almost impossible to throw him out. In fact, this machine is better fitted for all kinds of work than any Mower yet manufactured.

The following letter from one of the best known and largest farmers in New-Jersey, will testify to its merits:

JAMESBURG, N. J., June 22, 1855.

MR. R. L. ALLEN, New-York:

Sir—I made a trial yesterday with the new Mowing Machine I purchased of you, and do not hesitate to say that the improved [ALLEN] machine is the best I ever saw worked with—and I have seen a goodly number. I have a field of very heavy grass, and it had fallen down and lodged so I could not cut it with the old machine; and the grass was very wet, having rained nearly all day previous to my giving it a trial. I expected to see it choke up, but to my great surprise it choked up but very little, and that was owing to mismanagement. To be plain, Sir, I feel it my duty to inform you that the improved Mower works beautifully, and I am satisfied works nearly one-third lighter for the team than the Mower I used last year, and that was called one of the best in the market. JAMES BUCKELEW.

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY.

This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing.

Special attention will be paid to the Elements of Agricultural Science.

The FALL TERM will commence Thursday, August 30th, and continue eleven weeks.

REFERENCES—Henry C. Bowen, Esq., New-York City; Hon. A. N. Skinner, and Benjamin Silliman, L.L.D., New-Haven, Conn. For further particulars, address

E. CONANT, Principal.

WOODSTOCK, Conn., June 21, 1855.

MORRISON'S SHINGLE MACHINE—

FOR RIVING, SHAVING AND JOINTING SHINGLES—Completing them in ONE OPERATION.

It is capable of manufacturing 25,000 to 50,000 shingles per day, working them with the grain or fibers of the wood.

Being RIVED and SHAVED, are far superior to shingles which are sawed or cut across the grain.

For Rights and Machines, apply to GATENS & VAUGHAN, Binghampton, or at Rome, N. Y., where Machines are now on exhibition.

Orders for Machines from the South and West are respectfully solicited, addressed to ISAAC WILLIS, Rochester, N. Y.

PRATT & BROTHERS,

MANUFACTURERS OF DITCH-DIGGERS, TILE AND BRICK MACHINES, Canandaigua, N. Y.

THE MOST USEFUL AND PERFECT MACHINES KNOWN.

They are in use by many persons, and proving themselves capable of vastly cheapening and extending drainage.

The Tile machine is gaining a reputation beyond any precedent, for the following reasons:

1st.—Because it is the only Tile and Brick machine known, enabling brick-makers to make Tiles and tile-makers to make Bricks, with one and the same machine.

2d.—As a Tile machine it challenges competition in compactness, simplicity, completeness and economy. It will make Tiles at about one-half the cost of the machines in general use.

3d.—As a Brick machine, it produces a quality superior in density and perfection to every thing but the best pressed bricks, and at a cost less than the cheapest common brick.

4th.—This machine is equally applicable to the use of Horse, Steam, or Water Power, without clap-trap, detention, or fault, and requires manual labor only to supply the clay and remove the tiles and brick as fast as made.

The Digger will cut 100 rods of ditch, from 2 to 3 feet deep, as easy as the same team in the same soil will plow 1½ to 2 acres. PRATT & BROTHERS, Canandaigua, N. Y.

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A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

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negotiate, as Agent for a Company, for a large quantity of NURSERY STOCK, suitable for stocking a Nursery in Illinois. Address (inclosing stamp), WM. DAY, Morristown, N. J.

FARMERS AND GARDENERS WHO

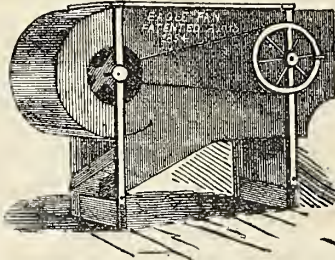
can not get manure enough, will find a cheap and powerful substitute in the IMPROVED POUDETTETTE made by the subscribers. The small quantity used, the ease with which it is applied, and the powerful stimulus it gives to vegetation, renders it the cheapest and best manure in the world. It causes plants to come up quicker, to grow faster, to yield heavier and ripen earlier than any other manure in the world, and unlike other fertilizers, it can be brought in direct contact with the plant. Three dollars' worth is sufficient to manure an acre of corn. Price, delivered free of cartage or package on board of vessel or railroad in New-York city, \$1 50 per barrel, for any quantity over six barrels. 1 barrel, \$2; 2 barrels, \$3 50; 3 barrels, \$5 00; 5 barrels, \$8 00. A pamphlet with information and directions will be sent gratis and post-paid, to any one applying for the same.

Address, the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, No. 74 Cortland-street, New-York WATERTOWN, Mass., Oct. 19 1854

Lodi Manufacturing Company: Gentlemen—At the request of John P. Cushing, Esq., of this place, I have, for the last five years, purchased from you 200 barrels of POUDETTETTE per annum, which he has used upon his extensive and celebrated garden in this town. He gives it altogether the preference over every artificial manure, (Guano not excepted), speaks of it in the highest terms as a manure for the kitchen garden, especially for potatoes. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, BENJAMIN DANA.

70—121th 1152

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists First—in cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, eekle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for sowing, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

LITTLE GIANT CORN AND COB MILL. PATENTED 1854.

THIS MILL has doubtless attained a more sudden celebrity for doing its work with rapidity and ease, than any other article of labor-saving machinery ever presented to the Agricultural world; the merit of which consists chiefly in the peculiar arrangement of first breaking, then crushing and crumbling the cob at the center of the mill. Thus lessening the strain upon both mill and team, the chief work of crushing being thrown upon the central parts of the judicious application of leverage power.

For portability, simplicity of construction, and convenience of use, the LITTLE GIANT has no equal. It weighs from three to five hundred pounds, according to size, and can be put in operation by the farmer in twenty minutes, without expense or mechanical aid.

These MILLS are guaranteed in the most positive manner against breakage or derangement, and warranted to grind feed from ear corn, and grits or fine hominy from shelled corn, with a degree of ease and convenience for farm purposes never attained before.

Will grind from 10 to 15 bushels per hour, according to degree of fineness, and can be worked advantageously with one or two horses.

Sole Agent for New-York and vicinity, R. L. ALLEN, 91—189 and 191 Water-street.

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS AND SEPARATORS

Single Horse Power	\$85 00
Double do. do.	116 00
Do. do. do. with Thresher and Separator	160 00
Single do. do. do.	123 00

Belts \$5 and \$10 each. R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York. 189 and 191 Water-street.

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L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BEGAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86—tfn1194

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out

of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1½ miles from Searsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Searsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86—tfn1193

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GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top,

Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskiet or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurrer.

Red and White Clover Lucerne, Saintfoin, Alyske Clover, Sweet-scented Clover, Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the

best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including Winter and Spring Wheat of all the best varieties. Winter Rye. Oats, of several choice kinds. Corn, of great variety. Spring and Winter Vetches.

PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for

Seed. BARLEY—California and Two-rowed variety. TURNIP AND RUTA BAGA, of every choice kind.

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ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUB-

BERRY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

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ALL SENT FREE OF POSTAGE, on receipt of the price annexed.

Furnished by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. I. The Cow, Dairy Husbandry, and Cattle Breeding. Price 25 cents.

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XIV. The American Poultry Yard. The cheapest and best book published. Price \$1. XV. The American Field Book of Manures. Embracing all the Fertilizers known, with directions for use. By Browne. Price \$1 25.

XVI. Buist's Kitchen Gardener. Price 75 cents. XVII. Stockhart's Chemical Field Lectures. Price \$1. XVIII. Wilson on the cultivation of Flax. Price 25 cents.

XIX. The Farmer's Cyclopaedia. By Blake. Price \$1 25. XX. Allen's Rural Architecture. Price \$1 25.

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XXIII. Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry. Price \$1 25. XXIV. Johnston's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology. Price \$1.

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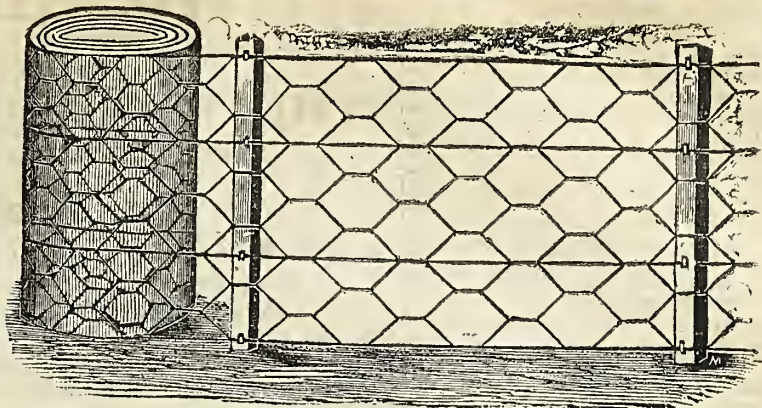
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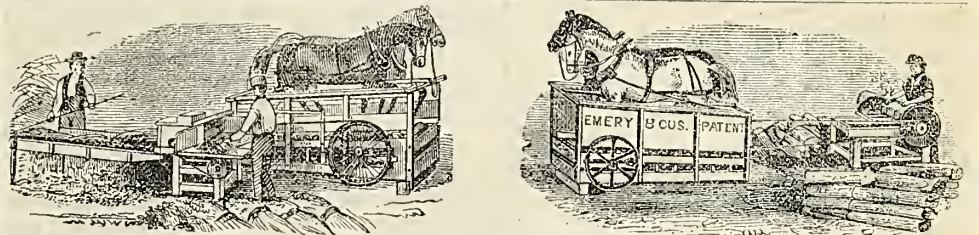
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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
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VOL. XIV.—NO. 19.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 97.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "*Special Notices*," on last page.

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Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON CHEESE MAKING.

[Continued from page 273.]

25. *Uncreamed or Skimmed Milk Cheese.*—From the difficulty of wholly separating the cream, or oily portions of milk, there is in reality no such thing as a cheese entirely composed of casein; and the term uncreamed cheese, is merely relative, and refers only to such as are made of milk from which the greater portion of the cream has been separated. In Leyden, and in some other European countries, they skim all the milk *once* before using it for cheese; and in others, the milk is twice skimmed, as in the poorer cheeses of Friesland and Groningen; while in others the milk is skimmed three or four days in succession, producing the hard and horny cheeses of Essex and Sussex in England, which often require an ax to break them up. When the taste only is consulted, the less skimming there is the more oily and tender the cheese will be; and they will be better adapted to furnishing fat or heat-producing elements to the body, and are consequently better for winter diet; but the more skimmings there are, the less oil or butter will be left in the cheeses, and they will be more nearly pure casein. Casein is a muscle-forming, or strength-giving substance, and on this account the hard, tough, uncreamed or skimmed milk cheeses are, pound for pound, better for laboring persons, or others in warm weather when muscle or strength rather than heat is required. Such cheeses if well masticated are more easily digested than the richer creamed cheeses. When this subject is thoroughly understood by all classes, it will doubtless be found profitable to manufacture skimmed milk cheese more extensively than is now practiced. Since nearly all the butter can be saved, these cheeses can be profitably made and sold at a low price, thus furnish-

ing a cheap, nutritious and wholesome food to the poorer classes.

26. *Buttermilk Cheese.*—These do not differ materially in composition and character from the last named (skimmed milk cheese), but owing to the souring which always takes place in churning, they possess a different flavor. We do not know that in this country buttermilk cheeses have ever been made for the market, but the subject is worthy of attention, since the profits both of butter and cheese making may in a measure be combined. The butter is first obtained in the usual manner, leaving behind all the casein, and this is then made into cheese. The value of such cheese as a strength-giving food, has just been referred to. Since in churning and working butter more or less of the oily matter is washed out with the buttermilk, cheese made from this is a little richer than if made simply from skimmed milk; and though there may not yet be a demand for them in the market, we would advise butter makers to use a portion, at least, of the buttermilk in making cheese for home use. Grated, or ground, or toasted, they are not unpleasant to the taste; and for making "Welsh rarebits," some prefer them to richer kinds. When the whole unskimmed milk is churned for butter—a practice strongly commended by dairymen—there is little doubt as to the advantage of using the entire buttermilk for cheese. In some foreign countries it is customary to add to the buttermilk more or less new milk before curdling. This is generally advisable, since even a small quantity thus added sensibly increases the good flavor of the cheese produced. Where the whole milk is churned, the buttermilk needs only to be gently warmed, when the curd separates naturally, and may be treated in the same manner as that separated from sweet milk by runnet. The same method is pursued in using the ordinary buttermilk, but if runnet is not added, it needs to stand a day or two before thorough curdling takes place. As previously stated (23), buttermilk or skimmed milk cheese contains a larger proportion of water than the full creamed, so that while more pounds may be obtained from the same milk, it contains, in a given weight, less solid material; but it has, however, a much larger *per centage* of casein or strength-giving substance.

27. *Potato Cheeses.*—These are made extensively in some parts of Germany, and are at least worthy of notice. One method is to mix one pound of sour milk with five pounds of boiled potatoes and a little salt;

beat the whole to a pulp; let it stand five or six days; work it over again; mold it into shape, and dry it in the usual manner. Others mix more or less fresh curd with dry boiled potatoes, varying from two of curd and three of potatoes, to three of curd and two of potatoes. In Westphalia, a cheese is made of skimmed milk and potatoes, which in a pasty state is allowed to undergo a certain extent of fermentation, according to the flavor desired, when it is finally worked up with butter and salt, made into shapes and dried. Such cheeses are tender, and if fermented to a flavor agreeable to the consumer, are quite palatable. The potatoes being chiefly starch, detract from the muscle-giving value, but add to the amount of fat or heat producing elements. As food, they are, as regards nourishing qualities, not unlike full-creamed cheeses, though of a very different flavor. Having noticed the varieties of cheeses, we now proceed with some hints in the different parts of the ordinary process of making cheese from the whole or partially skimmed milk.

28. *Preparing the Stomach for Runnet.*—The runnet is prepared from the salted stomach, or the intestines, of an unweaned calf, lamb, kid, or pig. Each of these answer a similar purpose, though that of the calf is usually preferred in this country. Many persons give the animal a copious draught of milk just before killing, that the stomach may contain a large amount of curd. This doubtless increases the quantity of the runnet; but, as will be seen further on, it is not necessary. The washed intestine, with or without the gently washed curd, is well salted, dried a few days, and kept for the cheese making season of the *following* year, though many use them during the same year. In Gloucester, noted for its fine cheeses, they pickle the stomachs in a strong brine for a few days before drying; while in Cheshire—equally noted—they pack several of them in layers with abundance of salt, and keep them in a cool place till used.

29. *Preparing Runnet.*—Some prepare the runnet every time it is used, while the better and more general practice, is to prepare at one time enough for one or two or more month's use. The advantage of the latter method, is in having a solution of nearly uniform strength, and as a consequence, less liability to loss. In some districts, a piece of the dried maw, say half the size of a cent for 60 lbs. of cheese, is put into half a pint of warm water over night with an even teaspoonful of salt, and in the morning the so-

lution is added to the milk; but different parts of the maw are not of equal strength, and this plan is not advisable. In *Cheshire*, they take as many maws, or maw-skins, as will be required for the whole season; add two quarts of water for each; let them stand from 36 to 48 hours; pour off the liquid; saturate it completely with salt, and then during the summer keep it constantly skimmed, and add salt from time to time. It may be new to some persons, that these maw-skins when thus used, may be again salted thoroughly and dried, and they will be quite as effectual as new skins the second year, when they may be treated in a similar manner. Indeed, they can be used through a long series of years, or as long as there is anything of them left. In making the runnet, various substances are used, such as pure water; perfectly clear whey; a tea made by steeping sweet briar, dog-rose, bramble, and different varieties of aromatic herbs and flowers; while others put in lemons, cloves, mace, brandy, &c. All these substances have a tendency to make the runnet keep better, lessen its unpleasant smell, prevent disagreeable taste to the cheese, or directly improve its flavor. Experienced cheese-makers have generally a flavor of their own, but to new hands we would not advise the use of anything with the runnet solution, except a small quantity of alcohol.

30. *How Runnet Acts.*—As stated in a former chapter, (4) the casein (curd) or cheesy portion of the milk is held in solution by the water as long as any free soda is present, but the lactic acid, constantly being formed in milk exposed to the air, soon neutralizes this soda, and the casein then separates into a curdled mass. The soda may be neutralized at once by the addition of any acid (sour) substance; and this plan is adopted by many large cheese-makers; but we are so accustomed to the flavor of runnet cheeses, that this substance is still usually employed. It is generally supposed that the gastric juice of the stomach left in the runnet curdles the milk, but this is doubtless a mistake, since the gastric fluid is washed out in preparing the stomach, and if not, it would be destroyed by the salting and drying. The probability is, that the maw-skins become partially decomposed on the surface, and that this decayed portion when washed off and added to the milk, promotes by its presence the speedy conversion of the milk sugar into lactic acid. We know that the presence of any decaying animal membrane in milk sugar, produces such an effect immediately. This accounts for the fact that the maw-skins may be used year after year, or as long as any animal matter remains to decay. When well coated with salt, there is but a small portion of the surface that thus decomposes annually, but still enough to produce the desired effect.

FOR BIRD FANCIERS.—It is not safe to keep birds in painted wire cages, especially in warm weather. The paint softens in the heat, the birds are apt to nibble it, and to get poisoned. This is a fact, and those having valuable birds in such cages should remove them.

ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—The Illinois State Agricultural Society will hold its Third Annual Exhibition at Chicago, October 9th to 12th inclusive. The premiums are liberal, and embrace a large list of articles. From several sources we learn that very extensive preparations are being made to get up this exhibition on a larger scale than any one heretofore held at the west. The central position of Chicago, the numerous railroads centering in that city, and the energetic character of the men engaged in the enterprise, all give assurance that it will be highly successful. The following are the present officers of the State Society:

President—Harvey C. Johns, Decatur, Marion County.

Vice Presidents—John Gage, Waukegan, Lake Co.; Lewis Ellsworth, Napierville, Du Page Co.; Wm. Strawn, Ottawa, La Salle Co.; Smith Fry, Peoria, Peoria Co.; Wm. Boss, Pittsfield, Pike Co.; F. Arenz, Arenzville, Cass Co.; J. M. Blackburn, Paris Edgwar Co.; Cyrus Webster, Salem, Marion Co.; P. L. Ward, Equality, Gallatin Co.

Recording Secretary—S. Francis, Springfield, Sangamon Co.

Corresponding Secretary—John A. Kenicott, West Northfield, Cook Co.

Treasurer—J. Williams, Springfield, Sangamon Co.

THE TOMPKINS COUNTY (N. Y.) Agricultural and Horticultural Society will hold its next Exhibition in Ithaca, September 27th and 28th. An address will be delivered by B. P. Johnson, Esq., Secretary of the State Society. The Society will hold a trial exhibition of plows at Ithaca on the 5th of September, to which adjoining counties are invited; a Dynamometer to test the draught is promised. The following regulation is worthy of general adoption:

"The Committee in awarding premiums have concluded, in all cases, to award an Agricultural Paper for \$2 premiums—the person receiving the same being at liberty to select any paper or number of agricultural papers whose subscription price is equal to \$2 per annum; believing that a circulation of agricultural papers will be vastly more beneficial than the payment of the premium any other way."

We append a list of the present officers:

President—Smith Robertson, Dryden.

Vice Presidents—A. B. Lamont, Dryden; Orrin Bostwick, Enfield; David Crocker, Lansing; Isaac Banker, Hector; E. L. B. Curtis, Danby; P. H. Thompson, Ulysses; Lafayette Cutter, Newfield; Aaron Woodbury, Groton; Aug. Phillips, Ithaca; T. M. Boyer, Caroline.

Corresponding Sec'y—N. Crittenden.

Secretary—Chas. G. Day.

Marshal, aided by Assistants—S. H. Purdy.

Marshal of the Hall—Anson Braman.

Committee on Floral Decorations—The Ladies of Ithaca.

Executive Committee—S. H. Coy, Eph. Manning, Arnold Vincent, Ithaca; B. Freer, A. G. Updike, W. C. Woodworth, Ulysses; Wm. Carman, John Woodward, G. R. Burritt, Hector; Henry Brewer, D. Colegrove, Charles Fisher, Enfield; R. Estabrook, Chas. M. Starr, Wm. Stratton, Newfield; Jacob Bates, Francis Nourse, Isaac I. Dickinson, Danby; Joseph McGraw, Jr., Peter Mulks, Allen B. Benham, Dryden; D. C. Roe, John Cross, Wm. H. Taft, Caroline; Jacob Albright, Aaron Woodbury, John P. Hart, Gro-

ton; Albert Baker, John N. Townly, Bruyn Bogardus, Lansing.

We are indebted to the kindness of the Secretary, Mr. Chas. G. Day, for the above particulars.

THE LITCHFIELD COUNTY (CONN.) AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION will be held at Litchfield, October 2d and 3d. The committee appointed for the purpose, announce that, through the liberality of the citizens of the town of Litchfield and prominent members of the Society in other towns, they have been able to procure suitable grounds, inclose the same, and erect suitable fixtures and buildings for all the various departments of the Exhibition. The officers of the Society are,

President—Abraham Beecher, Bethlehem.

Vice Presidents—Robbins Battell, Joseph H. Bennett, and M. D. F. Smith.

Recording Secretary—R. A. Ford, Litchfield.

Treasurer—Stephen Trowbridge, Litchfield.

Corresponding Secretary—Josiah G. Beckwith, Litchfield.

For the *American Agriculturist*,
THE USE OF FRUIT.

Perusing your paper of the 14th June, the article extracted from "Hall's Journal of Health" strikes me as peculiarly appropriate, and deserves to be read, and thought be had thereon. Living on the very verge of a cypress swamp, and for the past 25 years, (within a few months,) I have had some practical observation of the health of people, and particularly of cotton-field negroes, in connection with fruit.

Usually I have an abundance of fruit, and when so, our negroes have free access at midday only, unless they lay aside a portion at that hour, or commit a trespass—both of which are done. When our peach crop fails not, we gather at noon by the basketful, as also of apples. These are brought to the cook-house, and each darkie has as much as he desires. We also gather figs at the same time, very often to the bushel in quantity. Melons are hauled in when convenient, and when in full season each negro takes his melon each day and toddles off. We never forbid fruit except after sundown.

In bygone days, I peddled pills, by way of helping to feed the young'uns, which gave me some insight to others' management. As the writer in the Journal justly says, our negroes are generally healthy—of course there are exceptions, and much more disease on some plantations than others. Fruit in season, in forenoon, noon, or afternoon, I have found to be a great preservative of health. I have known injury to result from fruit, but always by an abuse. I remember, about 1817, my father lost a negro man from apples, but he had secreted them in his bed while quite sick, and when an Allopathist M. D. was dosing him with calomel, jalap, rhubarb, &c., perhaps—so it is even doubtful whether the Doctor's drugs, the disease, or a dose of apples killed the negro. I also knew a dose of corn-bread and buttermilk to kill a white man; he was pronounced convalescent from cholera, and six hours after

the aforesaid dose, he was dead—no mal-treatment by the M. D., for "*me ipsum*" was the Doctor.

My residence in the south has been very near fifty years—I do not say I had had a residence elsewhere though—with much experience among working men, black and white, or *vice versa*. Had I a family of children, large and small, I would provide fruit, not only as a luxury, but as a remedial agent. Fruit preserves the regularity of the bowels, it keeps them in a soluble condition, it provides the acids and sweets mixed in the very best proportions. I would do it for a higher purpose—that the appetite might be preserved from a desire for liquor; for with an abundance of our luscious fruits, we can not desire the less—spirits that are injurious.

I have eaten ripe peaches, even with a dose of calomel in me, often, and yet I never experienced harm.

Would it could be that every owner of an acre of land would plant one or more fruit trees.

MELACOTUNE.

I send you other specimens of the Alfalfa, *alias* Lucerne. Since writing to you, I see others are calling Alfalfa by its proper cognomen. I would I had fifty acres of it. M.

For the American Agriculturist.

NAPAU OR HINDOO BARLEY.

I inclose a green head of the *beardless barley*, by which you will perceive "that it is so." Mr. J. B. Garbu, of Columbus, Pa., and Mr. T. E. Wetmore, of North Canon, Kent Co., Michigan, are the only persons I know of who have any of this new kind of grain. It was brought from the interior of Hindostan, by a traveler, and called "Napaul Barley." I have called it "Hindoo Barley."

There are several hindrances combined to give me a less product than I had anticipated—ground-worms and a cold, wet and backward spring, as well as a bad selection of ground. I shall not offer it publicly for sale by the bushel, or even quart. I have only my second crop, growing from a few kernels—less than a teaspoonful.

J. W. BRIGGS.

West Macedon, N. Y., July 9, 1855.

PHYSIC TO COLTS AT WEANING.

Many persons are of opinion that it is unnecessary to administer physic to foals and young horses; but a few observations will dispel that notion. After a foal has been weaned and deprived of its mother's milk, the liver very frequently assumes an inactive sluggish disposition. The coat indicates this by its harsh unhealthy appearance, and the animal gives evidence of being what is termed hidebound. Very often the legs will fill from an irregularity of the circulation, consequent upon the state of the liver. In such cases one or two mild doses of aloes become indispensable. Diuretics are of no use under these circumstances, their action being on the kidneys and urinary passages, which are not the seat of disorder. For foals recently weaned, one drachm of aloes with an equal portion of ginger and of soap is the proper quantity; but if that does not relax the bowels sufficiently, the proportion of aloes may be increased on the second occasion. A slight dose only is required, because the aloes being supposed to act primarily on the liver, it is merely necessary to stimulate that organ to its healthy action. The only restriction necessary in the diet is

substituting bran mashes for hay during the twenty-four hours preceding the time of administering the medicine, and carefully providing the animal from the effects of rain; otherwise, if the weather be favorable, no danger need be apprehended from the usual enlargement in the paddock or field during the operation of the physic, while the exercise will assist the desired result. Foals which have been fondly treated when with their dams, and subsequently, will not occasion much trouble in administering the ball. When they are weaned a light head collar or halter should be put upon their heads, and, being accustomed to that, the ball may readily be given by placing it on the end of a piece of whalebone or cane.—*Mark-Lane Express*.

THE FARM ELEPHANT:

In reply to our inquiries, some time since, as to the amount of provent required per day by Mr. Barnum's *Farm Elephant*, he has sent us the following interesting note, with a postscript respecting soaking potatoes in *copperas* water.

THE FARMELEPHANT--COPPER-BOTTOM POTATOES.

BRIDGEPORT, Ct., July 7, 1855.

SIR—In answer to your inquiry in regard to the diet and weight of my working elephant, I would state that he eats on an average one bushel of oats and one hundred pounds of hay per day, Sundays and all! His weight is 4,700 pounds. He will accomplish any kind of work set before him, and uses ten times better judgment than three-fourths of the "help" which I am obliged to employ on my farm. Above all things, he is not an *eye-servant*. Once set him at work piling wood, picking up stones, or any thing else, and you can leave him without fear of his playing "old soldier" in your absence. Another capital negative quality is, that he don't pick up his duds and start for home exactly at six o'clock in the afternoon, as many other farmer's "assistants" do. He is willing to labor till sundown, and even later, if work is pressing. On the whole, he is a very honorable, industrious, intelligent and well-behaved farmer; nevertheless, I can not conscientiously recommend elephants as the *cheapest* workies on a farm. They can not work in cold weather, and of course would eat themselves up, trunk and all, in a single winter.

Truly yours,

P. T. BARNUM.

P. S.—Do let me improve this opportunity to caution my brother farmers against "believing all they read in the papers." About planting time I read in a newspaper that a sure preventive of the potato rot was to soak the seed potatoes in water with an ounce of sulphate of copper to the gallon. I tried it, and it *did* prevent mine from rotting and from *chitting!* After they had been two weeks in the ground my man dug them up, and found them sound inside, but as dry and hard as a bone on the outside, with not the slightest prospect of their ever exhibiting any natural signs of life. They were perfectly "copper-fastened!" Luckily I only experimented on a small portion of my potatoes, and discovered the joke in time to remedy it by planting potatoes in their natural state.

New-England Farmer.

P. T. B.

TO MAKE CORN OYSTERS.—I take three dozen ears of Indian corn, six eggs, lard and butter in equal portions for frying. The corn must be young and soft. Grate it from the cob as fine as possible, and dredge it with wheat flour. Beat very light the six eggs, and mix them gradually with the corn. Then let the whole be well incorporated by hard beating, add a spoonful of salt.

Have ready in a frying pan, a sufficient

quantity of lard and fresh butter mixed together. Set it over the fire till it has boiled hot, and then put in portions of the corn mixture, so as to form oval cakes about three inches long, and nearly an inch thick. Fry them brown, and send them to table hot. In taste they will be found to have a singular resemblance to fried oysters, and universally liked if properly done. They make nice side dishes at dinner, and are very good at breakfast.—*Farmer and Mechanic*.

MUCK OPERATIONS.

FARM OF HENRY L. JOHNSON.

Perhaps no farmer in the State of Connecticut has used swamp muck or peat more extensively or more successfully than the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this article. Visiting him a day or two since we took occasion to obtain some facts in relation to the amount, manner and result of his operations, which may not be entirely uninteresting.

Mr. Johnson's farm is situated about two miles above Jewett City, on the line of the Norwich and Worcester Railroad. His house is located in a most beautiful, retired spot, a little distance east from the old Norwich and Providence turnpike, and in itself and surroundings is a model of combined utility and taste. Some one has said—"show me a house, and I will tell you the character of its inmates." We believe the assertion founded in truth, and venture that this beautiful New-England home is but the natural representation of all that is noble in the puritan sons of the soil.

The farm contains about 250 acres, two-thirds of which are under cultivation, mowing, plow land or pasture. The soil is a sandy loam, not naturally remarkable for depth or richness. Mr. J. keeps but little stock, and depends for his fertilizing in the main, upon a peat bog, or muck hole, a few rods from his house. His usual practice is in the fall to throw out from two to three hundred loads of this decayed vegetable matter, taking it from the surface to the depth of from six to eight feet.—This is allowed to remain, or at least a portion of it, in the heap where first thrown out, till the next spring, when it is distributed over his barn-yard, hog-pen, around his sink-drain, and in every other place where there is anything in the shape of ammonia for it to absorb. In the fall it is carted from his yards to the fields which he proposes to plant the next season, and placed in heaps. In the spring following, it is dug over and usually spread from twenty to thirty loads to the acre, though sometimes put in hills. If spread, Mr. J. usually uses some ashes, guano or phosphate to start the plants. From fifteen to twenty acres are annually dressed in this manner.

The average yield of this farm for the last eight years, as near as can be estimated, has been—6 to 800 bushels of potatoes, 500 bushels of oats, 250 bushels of rye, 80 bushels of beans, and lately quite a quantity of turnips.

Mr. J. employs, besides himself and son, two men from six to eight months in the year.

In remarking upon the value of this "deposit" Mr. J. said—"that he could not carry on his farm with profit to himself, were he deprived of this resource for fertilizing;" and we do not doubt, but that the muck—dug from the swamp, from two to three hundred loads a year, has made him a richer man by thousands of dollars than he would have been had it remained in its meadow bed.

But he is not the only man who has such a "mine" on his farm. Almost every cultivator of the soil, can find some kinds of

muck with which to cover his manure yard. A neighbor of ours made a practice of cleaning out some forty rods of old ditch, where the water was accustomed to stand during the wet part of the season every year, thus securing the sediment and other accumulations for his barn-yard. The result was, that he had more and better manure than his neighbors, and raised on forty-five acres more than others did on one hundred and fifty.

Mr. Johnson has commenced composting muck with lime, say ten loads of the former to one cask of the latter, with what success he is as yet uncertain, inasmuch as the experiment has not been fully tried. He also uses large quantities of ashes, which he pronounces—when mixed with muck which has been exposed in his farm-yard—of great value. Indeed our own experience has proved that one hundred bushels of ashes mixed in the spring with twenty-five loads dug in the fall, will form a compost equal, if not superior, to stable manure.

If every farmer in New-England County would bring into use his *swamp* resources, in five years the agricultural product would be doubled. H. L. R.

REMARKS.—The time for digging muck will soon be upon us. Let every spare day and all the available force of the farm be put upon this work until twenty loads for each horse or head of neat stock, and ten loads for each hog kept, be secured. The muck improves by exposure to frost and rains, and a year's supply should be thrown out, and a muck swamp is a mine of wealth to every farm. Let the mines be opened this summer, and farmer's grow wise and rich by Mr. Johnston's experience.—*Norwich Examiner*.

THE STEAM CULTIVATOR.

BY A PRACTICAL FARMER.

The most absorbing topic now before the agricultural world is steam cultivation. The liberal prize (\$1,000) offered by the Royal Agricultural Society of England for the best steam cultivator has awakened great interest will be still more excited as the time approaches for its adjudication in July next, at the Carlisle meeting. We hope and believe it will form one of the most interesting features of that meeting; and as it appears destined to supersede both the plow and spade, the public will not be satisfied unless the various implements to be put into competition are subjected to the most comprehensive and severest tests, comprising, as it must, their applicability to every variety of soil and circumstance of cultivation, in order to prove their superiority to the plow or the spade.

It is not alone the best steam cultivator that is wanted, but a cultivator worthy of recommendation by that great society, as a substitute for that very ancient and long-established implement the plow, and that still more ancient tool the spade; and to adjudicate aright on the comparative merits of these implements to perform the various works of tillage required from them, is the great question for decision. That of economy is secondary, and would ultimately be achieved; so that we shall undoubtedly have "an economical substitute for the plow or spade," if the efficiency of the implement itself can be fully proved.

The spade.—The spade in the hands of a clever workman is of universal applicability for tillage purposes. It will "turn the soil" at any required depth designed by the workman, and he can further by its aid pulverize or comminute it to any given purpose or extent. Perhaps no implement, under such auspices, can execute all the desired works

of tillage in such perfection as the spade. It turns the soil by complete inversion; it can throw up perfect trench-work; it can effect thorough subsoiling, together with all intermediate and ulterior processes; but all this mainly depends upon the *clever workmen*, and although it may be all done—"never so well done"—yet it is very expensive; so that we repeat, that if an efficient implement can be found, the question of economy will be secondary.

The Plow.—The plow, in all its phases and gradations, is a most useful and effective implement, and to find for it an efficient and economical substitute is no ordinary task. Its adaptation is all but universal for purposes of tillage. True, it can not roll or harrow, but it prepares the soil for these processes with admirable facility and at little cost; neither can it so thoroughly invert the soil as is done by the spade; but its construction in variety is such that it is applicable to every kind of soil, and to every circumstance of culture. It will turn up the most retentive soils at great depth, and may with great equality in depth turn up the shallowest. Its trench-plowing and common plowing are admirably performed. It is a most useful implement for ridging for turnips, &c., for setting potatoes, for row culture generally, and the many other uses to which it is applied, and for which no cultivator could be made applicable—this it does by aid of horses and attendants, and at great cost unquestionably; so that here again we would say the question of economy is secondary.

The Cultivator.—"The steam cultivator that shall in the most efficient manner 'turn the soil' and be an economical substitute for the plow or spade," must then be a most effective, powerful, and comprehensive implement.

1. It must turn the soil in a manner equal to the almost perfect turning up of the spade, and far superior to the partial inversion of the soil as performed by the plow. This department of its work it must do in all its variations, from the roughest, "horse's-head"-sized clods to the finely-communited dust; thus providing for plentiful aëration, and completing the pulverization by its varied appliances or alterations in its machinery or working parts.

2. It must perform this work at every required depth as suited to all soils, and without injury to the land by pressure, more than equal to the tread of the horse. In this department of its work, it will necessarily be required to act as efficiently as the heavy land plow for heavy lands, and to modify its powers to the requirements of light lands and soils of every kind, as well those abounding in stone as those of loose sand or gravel; in fact, to be equal to the plow in all its variations or adaptations, for every description of soil and its requirements for working it.

3. It must be qualified to travel over loose fallows, and perform the usual work of following as commonly done by the plow, with equal efficiency and without greater pressure or consolidation than made by plowing. Nor must it fail to cut up weeds and turn them on to the surface in an equal degree, not tearing or subdividing them injuriously, but leaving them in a proper state to be caught and brought up to the top by harrowing, &c.

4. It must be able to dig or break up in a business-like and effective manner grass or seed lands; so that the sods may be sufficiently turned down to rot and decay, as done by the plow, and thus to prevent much vegetable fiber below for the food for the growing plants.

5. It must be of a convenient and portable size, capable of ready adaptation to farm service; free from complication, either in machinery or arrangement of parts, and well

suited to the management of an ordinary farm laborer.

6. The original cost must not exceed that of a proportionate number of farm horses, plows, and accoutrements, except inasmuch as the steam apparatus may be made applicable to other farm uses in which horses are not employed; neither must the cost of daily working exceed that proportion, except in the better performance of the work and the greater facility in its execution; *i.e.*, steam horses do not become weary.

These are some of the considerations which ought to influence the minds of the judges at the forthcoming meeting. I should hail the advent of a cheap and effective implement for steam culture as one of the great est boons to agriculture, and I conscientiously believe its introduction is not very distant. However, come when it may, let us only sanction the invention which can not fail to be practically efficient.

THE GAETIES OF THE INSANE.

The last grand "hop" of the season, by the inmates of the Insane Retreat in this city, was given last evening, June 1st. These social parties are usually confined to the Retreat family, and are not intended for the pleasure of the public. This being the last one of the winter series, however, his Excellency Governor Minor and lady, and several others, were invited to be present.

One hundred and eighty-four of the inmates were assembled in the hall. They were of all ages and conditions in life, from the grey hairs of sixty and seventy winters, to the blooming youth of fourteen summers. An hour previous several of them were raving maniacs, tearing their clothes, or attempting to do so, and require the closest attention. Now brought into the hall, under the influence of music, and impressed with the idea that they were among a social party, bearing a part of the responsibility of its general conduct, their deportment was unexceptionable. Of course all of them did not join in the dance, but full disposed, and they indulged in cotillions and contra dances.

Following each figure, the party were favored by singing, and music on the piano. Several of the patients have excellent voices, and one of them especially, an old lady of Spanish descent thoroughly educated in Paris, moved the keys with a delicacy of touch that equalled the most popular performers.

Finally, refreshments were served; and then the "Elephant Jupiter," was marched through the hall, to the great amusement of the spectators. It was an admirable personation, and a practical eye could not readily distinguish it from a "real live" monster of trunk and tusks. Jupiter bowed to the Governor and his lady, raised his trunk gracefully in salutation to the audience, and "spoke to 'em" in that hoarse voice, rarely heard save in the jungles of the East.

At ten o'clock a grand march to music concluded the festivities of the evening, and the large family retired in order, to their respective apartments.

Dr. Butler informs us that they have had two such parties every week during the winter, and the results have been most gratifying. The nights following these parties are the most quiet throughout the institution of any in the week. The gloomy are inspired, and the frantic are interested, quieted, and made tractable. The attention of all the patients is drawn away from the set channel of thought, or unhealthful imagings which unbalance them, and a better tone is given to both body and mind.

Dr. Butler is also introducing many pictures, engravings, and paintings in the halls and parlors. These interest and attract the attention of the patients, and are found to be

of much value. The past has been one of the most successful years in the institution—a gratifying per centage of the whole number of patients having been entirely cured, and a large number very much improved.

The institution is not a gloomy dungeon where harsh treatment predominates, as many suppose; but great pains are taken to make it agreeable and pleasant to the inmates. Several of them who have been there for many years, consider it their home and would be quite unhappy at the idea of ever removing. The location of the institution is an exceedingly pleasant one, the buildings being surrounded by shade and fruit trees, and pleasant walks. Dr. Butler's family is well cared for, and furnished with all comforts and attentions calculated to make them contented and happy.

Dr. Butler is ably assisted by Dr. Porter, Dr. Blakeslee, Mr. and Mrs. Holaday, Mrs. Coolidge, &c.—*Hartford Times.*

FRESCO PAINTING IN THE CAPITOL.

A correspondent of the Baltimore American says that a very beautiful and interesting fresco painting is now in process of completion in one of the eastern rooms of the Capitol at Washington. The name of the artist is Constantine Brumidi, and the subject of his painting is the Summons to Cincinnati—when the voice of his country called him to leave the labors of his farm, to assume the dictatorship of Rome. The work is not an ordinary water-color painting, like those we see in our churches and public buildings, but is a genuine fresco painting, executed upon fresh plaster, and is said to be the only one of the kind in the country. The colors, incorporating with the moist lime, and drying with it, become very durable. As much of the plastering is laid from day to day as the artist can cover with his colors, and if he does not succeed in painting over all which has been laid, the part which is not painted upon is cut away and re-laid again.

The scene of the picture is upon the farm of Cincinnati. In the back ground, beyond the flowing Tiber, appear the buildings of Rome, and moored in the river floats the galley which conveyed the delegation of conscript fathers across from the "eternal city." The chief of the delegation, clothed in his senatorial robe, with a laurel wreath encircling his brow, in the act of offering to Cincinnati his helmet, sword, and other military insignia. Around him are other senators, including among them one comparatively youthful face, and near at hand are a group of soldiers bearing the fasces. Cincinnati, the chief figure of the painting, stands in a dignified attitude, with one hand resting on his plowshare, and the other pointing to his breast, apparently half incredulous of the fact that Rome really wished to confer such honors upon himself, a retired citizen. The accessories of the painting, as well as the principal figures, are said to be admirably executed, and a little boy, who is represented in the foreground playing with a dog, is said to be an excellent portrait of a son of Captain Meigs, of the U. S. engineer corps, who temporarily occupied the room upon the wall of which the picture is being painted.

THE CROPS.—A correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, who has traveled through 4,000 miles of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and other western States, within a few weeks, says he has never seen so broad a portion of the country under cultivation as at present,

or when the crops of every description promised a more abundant yield than now.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SHOWS FOR 1855.

Name.	Where Held.	Date.
Georgia,	Atlanta.....	Sept. 10—
Vermont,	Rutland.....	" 11—13
Canada East,	Sherbrook.....	" 11—14
Rhode Island,	Providence.....	" 11—15
" " Horse and Cattle, do.	" " " " " " " "	" 11—15
New-Hampshire,	" " " " " " " "	" 12—14
New-Jersey,	Camden.....	" 18—21
Ohio,	Columbus.....	" 18—21
Pennsylvania,	Harrisburg.....	" 25—28
West Virginia,	Wheeling.....	" 26—28
Kentucky,	Paris.....	" 25—28
Tennessee,	Nashville.....	Oct. 1—6
New-York,	Elmira.....	" 2—5
Michigan,	Detroit.....	" 2—5
Connecticut,	Hartford.....	" 9—11
Illinois,	Chicago.....	" 9—12
Canada West,	Coburg.....	" 9—12
North-Carolina,	Raleigh.....	" 16—19
Indiana,	Indianapolis.....	" 17—19
East Tennessee,	London.....	" 23—25
Alabama,	Montgomery.....	" 23—26
Maryland,	Baltimore.....	" 29—
Virginia,	Richmond.....	" 30—2

NEW-YORK COUNTY SHOWS.

Otsego,	Cooperstown.....	Sept. 10—11
Franklin,	Malone.....	" 10—21
Saratoga,	" " " " " " " "	" 11—13
Chatauque,	Westfield.....	" 12—13
Fulton and Hamilton,	Fonda's Bush.....	" 18—
Putnam,	Carmel.....	" 18—19
Rensselaer,	Lansingburg.....	" 18—20
Jefferson,	Watertown.....	" 19—20
Delaware,	Hobart.....	" 19—20
Onondaga,	Syracuse.....	" 19—21
Queens,	Flushing.....	" 20—
Dutchess,	Washington Hollow.....	" 25—26
Oneida,	Rome.....	" 25—27
Albany,	Albany.....	" 25—27
Cayuga,	Auburn.....	" 25—27
Ontario,	Canandaigua.....	" 26—27
St. Lawrence	Canton.....	" 26—28
Steuben,	Bath.....	" 26—28
Tompkins,	Ithaca.....	" 27—28
Herkimer,	Frankfort.....	" 22—28
Seneca,	Farmersville.....	Oct. 10—13
Niagara,	Lockport.....	" 19—20

OHIO COUNTY SHOWS.

Belmont,	St. Clairsville.....	Sept. 3—5
Champagne,	Urbana.....	" 4—6
Hamilton,	Carthage.....	" 4—
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland.....	" 11—13
Delaware,	Delaware.....	" 11—13
Clermont,	Bantam.....	" 11—14
Butler,	Hamilton.....	" 12—14
Warren,	Lebanon.....	" 25—27
Trumbull,	Warren.....	" 25—27
Huron,	Olena.....	" 25—27
Licking,	Newark.....	" 25—27
Columbiana,	New Lisbon.....	" 25—28
Portage,	Ravenna.....	" 26—
Miami,	Troy.....	" 26—28
Harrison,	Cadiz.....	" 26—28
Clinton,	Wilmington.....	" 27—28
Athens,	Athens.....	" 27—28
Drake,	Greenville.....	" 27—29
Guersy,	Cambridge.....	" 27—29
Conneaut,	Independent.....	" 29—
Ashtabula,	Jefferson.....	Oct. 2—4
Ashland,	Ashland.....	" 2—4
Morgan,	McConnellsville.....	" 2—4
Montgomery,	Dayton.....	" 2—4
Mahoning,	Canfield.....	" 2—3
Clark,	Springfield.....	" 2—5
Preble,	Preble.....	" 2—5
Monroe,	Woodsfield.....	" 3—4
Medina,	Medina.....	" 3—5
Richland,	Mansfield.....	" 3—5
Logan,	Ballefontaine.....	" 3—5
Loraine,	Elyria.....	" 3—5
Greene,	Xenia.....	" 3—5
Stark,	Canton.....	" 3—5
Summit,	Akron.....	" 3—5
Muskingum,	Zanesville.....	" 4—5
Shelby,	Sydney.....	" 4—5
Lake,	Painesville.....	" 10—12
Crawford,	Bucyrus.....	" 11—12
Eric,	Sandusky.....	" 11—12
Wayne,	Wooster.....	" 12—12
Ottawa,	Port Clinton.....	" 16—17

PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY SHOWS.

Philadelphia, Pa.,	XXIVth Ward.....	Sept. 12—14
Delaware,	Media.....	Sept. 20—22
Montgomery,	Morristown.....	Oct. 3—4

NEW-JERSEY COUNTY SHOWS.

Jamesburg (Town)	Jamesburg.....	Sept. 18—
Mercer	Hightstown.....	" 25—
Cumberland,	Bridgeton.....	" 26—
Monmouth,	Freehold.....	" 27—
Salem,	Salem.....	" 27—
Somerset,	Raritan.....	Oct. 3—4

COUNTY SHOWS—MISCELLANEOUS.

Brooke, Va.,	Wellsburg.....	Sept. 9—11
Bourbon, Ky.,	Paris.....	" 11—14
Windham, Conn.,	Brooklyn.....	" 19—20
Lake, Ill.,	Waukegan.....	" 26—27
Waldo, Me.,	Belfast.....	Oct. 3—4
Litchfield, Conn.,	Litchfield.....	" 2—3
Kane, Ill.,	Elgin.....	" 3—4
Ag. Association, Ky.,	Louisville.....	" 9—14
Oakland, Mich.,	Pontiac.....	" 17—18

LAND TITLES IN KANSAS AND NEBRASKA.

The question is frequently asked how titles can be acquired to the Government lands in Kansas and Nebraska Territories, and whether military bounty land warrants can be located in these Territories. We have ascertained, says the Washington Union, that except the lands reserved for military reservations or other public uses, the whole country to which the Indian title has been extinguished is subject to settlement, even prior to survey, and that preëmptions will be allowed for claims predicated on such settlements.

This is an important provision, as in the old land States and Territories claims are not allowed, or settlements, prior to survey. All that an emigrant has to do, therefore, is to select his location, make his improvements on any of the lands not exempted from settlement by any of the restrictions mentioned above, and, on the completion and return of the surveys, file his proofs at the local land office, where his claim will be allowed, and he can pay for the land and secure his improvements, provided the improvements are such as are required by law; or he may delay payment until the lands are advertised for sale, and make payment any time before the day appointed for the commencement of the public sale. Land Warrants will be received, acre for acre, in part payment for the claimant's preëmption; and this is the only use that can be made of land warrants in these Territories before the lands are in market, as the law requires that the lands shall be first subject to private entry before warrants can be located thereon.

CASHMERE GOATS.—A letter from Dr. Davis, of Columbia, S. C., to the Greensboro' Beacon, states that "the fourth cross of the Cashmere upon our native goat, is fully equal to the pure Cashmere." This animal, the Doctor says, is destined to make a great revolution in the agriculture of the whole South. Beautiful cloth is now made by negro weavers, with ordinary plantation looms, from the second cross. All the native goats in South Carolina, he states, are now appropriated to crossing with the Cashmere breeds, and Georgia and Virginia are also breeding these animals extensively.

Horticultural Department.

THE HORTICULTURIST.—This favorite periodical has recently changed hands, and will hereafter be published at Philadelphia, by Robert P. Smith. It will be under the Editorial care of J. Jay Smith, who is not unknown to the readers of the Horticulturist. Mr. Smith will be assisted by a number of able contributors, including its late Editor, Mr. Barry, of Rochester. We have every reason to believe that it will continue to maintain its high character, and we trust that it will advance to a still higher standard of excellence. In its new location it will possess some facilities not enjoyed heretofore, and while loth to, in a measure, part company with its former conductors, we tender the new Editor and Publisher our best wishes for their unbounded success.

WATERING TRANSPLANTED TREES.

BY THOMAS MEEHAN.

It is very customary with many horticultural magazines, to sum up at the end of the season all the improvements which may have been made in gardening during the preceding year. This enables us to see at a glance how much we have progressed, and how far we have left our forefathers behind. Still it must have occurred to many readers of these summaries, that our progress must have been exceedingly slow if all we have been learned to avoid or improve has been noticed in these retrospective sketches. But the fact is, we have advanced faster than our own journals have given us credit for. Ideas that are really sound and valuable creep about among gardeners like ivy over old ruins, till, once well established, no one knows when or by whom it was planted, or how they originated.

I was strongly reminded of this by reading in an old "Gardener's Calendar" the following advice: "Should dry weather prevail, apply frequent waterings to all newly transplanted trees and shrubs." I venture to say, that there are very few of our many intelligent gardeners of the present day, who would give such advice; and yet it seems so reasonable that when a plant is likely to wilt, it must require water, that we can not wonder that the practice still extensively prevails.

It is, therefore, a perfectly natural and legitimate inquiry, that, "If we must not water plants under such circumstances, what must we do to save them?" The answer will be best understood by being given in detail.

That a plant must have a certain amount of moisture to enable it to live, is well known to every one; and that this moisture must be absorbed through the instrumentality of the fibers, or small rootlets, is a no less widely disseminated fact. When a tree is "well established," that is, has been growing for some time in a given situation, the rootlets pierce the soil, so that they are in a manner encased by it. In this position how easy it is for them to draw in their required supplies of water. The communication between them and the soil is unbroken, and moisture passes from one to the other by a process nearly akin to capillary attraction. How important then that soil thrown in around the roots at transplanting should be finely pulverized, and that every means should be taken to induce it to enter every "hole and corner." But with the greatest possible care, this can never be done to a

perfect degree. The soil will still have an opportunity to sink; that is, will be filled with large air spaces; and whatever roots may be in these cavities, or air spaces, will either get dried up or injured.

It is a first-rate plan, and one which, in critical cases, I have often employed to advantage, to fill the hole intended for the tree with water, throwing in soil enough to make it of the consistency of thin mortar, into which the tree is put, and the remaining soil drawn in without tramping or pressure of any kind. A tree so planted will never require watering afterwards; but it will require other treatment, which will be yet noticed before the end of this chapter.

Surface water should never be applied to a transplanted tree in the manner usually given, for the following reasons: Every one knows that there are certain substances which do not absorb heat readily, and which are termed good non-conductors; and others which are soon heated, or conductors. Wood is a tolerably good non-conductor, because it will not become as readily heated as iron; while a brick is a better conductor of heat than clay or other soils, because it sooner becomes warmed through. A large clod of earth, also, becomes heated through in much quicker time, than the same bulk of soil would have done in a well pulverized state. This absorption of heat would not, perhaps, be of so much consequence to the plant, were it not for the increased impetus it gives to evaporation. A large clod of soil not only heats through, but soon dries through—it is a better conductor than pulverized soil.

It is obvious, then, that a soil is in good condition to retain moisture about the roots of newly transplanted trees, when it is as far removed from a clotty condition as possible. But water, when frequently and forcibly applied to the surface, tends to harden it, and renders it liable to "bake" by a very little sun, therefore, surface watering should, if possible, be avoided; as, indeed, should every thing liable to produce this effect on soils.

The question now occurs, that if a tree has not been watered at transplanting in the manner above described; and if it is evidently suffering, or likely to suffer, for want of moisture, how is it to be applied, except through the surface? The mode is this: Draw away the soil from around the stem of the tree with a spade or hoe, until the roots are nearly reached, and in such manner as to form a basin around it; fill in water to the brim. An hour or so afterwards, when the water has soaked thoroughly away, draw back the dry soil forming the brim of the basin to its former position as lightly, and without pressure, as possible. It is all the water it will require that season, if properly performed.

And now that we have seen our trees well planted, and those that need it afterwards well watered, how shall we proceed to aid the soil in retaining the moisture supplied to it? Simply by keeping the surface well pulverized, and in the best condition of a non-conductor that we can bring it into; but it is necessary not to mistake what pulverization means. Stirring, or "loosening up" a soil, is not pulverizing it, though often supposed to be. It is, however, the first step towards it. In farming, the plow stirs up the soil; the roller, or harrow, pulverizes. The hoe and the spade are the gardener's plow; his feet form his roller, or clod crusher. The operations of plowing and rolling, and of loosening and pressing, in gardening should always go together; and, in relation to tree planting, whenever a soil is getting hard, or in a "caky" condition, it should not only be hoed or stirred up, but as soon as the loosened soil has become a little dry, it should be pressed with the feet, and crushed to atoms.

This is the whole secret of the business. Get the soil once well encased around the roots, once well watered, and all that is necessary afterwards is to keep the surface soil well pulverized, that is, its little atoms well divided, in perfect dust if you will; and there will seldom be a failure, if the tree be healthy otherwise.

I do not imagine I am offering any thing new in this article. The facts are well known to practical gardeners; but I presume that among the thousands of readers of the Horticulturist, there are many novices and amateurs to whom the hints may be acceptable.

Horticulturist.

THE CATAWISSA RASPBERRY.

BY JOSHUA PEIRCE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Cattawissa raspberry is a native variety entirely new and distinct in its characteristics, in respect to its manner of bearing and the period of maturing its fruit, which promise to make it an object of general cultivation. From its appearance and mode of growth, I have no doubt but it is a seedling produced from the common wild blackberry of the country, which grows in great abundance about the region where it originated; although I cannot learn that any other varieties, native or foreign, wild or cultivated, ever grew near the original plant, except, perhaps, the thimbleberry (*Rubus purpurea* v. *odorata*) which, from the dissimilarity of the two, could have had nothing to do with its production.

This bountiful gift of nature originated in the grave-yard of the little Quaker Meeting House in the village of Cattawissa, Columbia Co., Penn., situated near the confluence of a stream of the same name with that noble river, the Susquehanna. The history of the discovery is simply as follows. The person who had charge of the meeting house, from whose own lips I received the account, was in the habit of mowing the grass in the yard several times in the course of the year, and on one occasion, some eight or ten years since, observed that a briar, which he had so often clipped with his scythe, showed symptoms of bearing fruit out of the ordinary season. For this time he spared the plant, bestowing upon it his watchful care, and afterwards removed it to his own humble cottage, to be fostered and cherished, no more to "waste its sweetness on the desert air." From a plant that found its way to this district I was struck with its peculiarities, and resolved to devote myself to its cultivation and increase, and am now prepared to describe its properties as far as my opportunities have allowed, after experimenting with it for two years.

The fruit is of medium size, inferior to many of the new popular varieties, but is sufficiently large for all economical purposes. Its color is a dark reddish purple when ripe, and of a very high flavor; it bears most abundantly throughout the season, after the young wood, on which it produces its best fruit, attains the height of four to five feet; usually beginning to ripen in August and sometimes a little sooner. The fruit is produced on branches continually pushing out from all parts, successively appearing in the various stages of growth, from blossom to perfect maturity, and often there may be counted more than fifty fruits on a single branch. As the ripening progresses the later fruits of each branch gradually become less in size, but there is no suspension of blooming and fruiting until checked by frost. If protected in-doors it would undoubtedly produce fruit during the winter months.

The great advantage of this fruit over all other varieties of the raspberry is, that, if the stocks should be accidentally broken or

cut off, or should be killed by winter frost, it is all the better for the crop, and if all other fruits should fail from the effects of spring frost, we should have this to rely upon during the fall month, as its fruit is produced on the shoots made from the ground the same year. Another great advantage is, that from a small space of a few yards of ground, a daily dessert for a small family would always be at hand during the autumnal months.

Hovey's Magazine.

FINE FRUITS AND THEIR CULTURE.

When we consider the influence the cultivation of fruit exercises on the health and morals of a country, as well as on the wealth and luxury of the people, it may be truly said that he who devotes his life to the contribution and advancement of such influences, confers as great a benefit upon them, and follows as honorable a calling as the man who defends his country in time of war, or falls by the bullet or the sword. A productive orchard or a fruit garden is not only a luxury and a source of enjoyment to the farmer or man of wealth, but is essential to the health, comfort, and well-being of individuals, of every class. It affords an amusement or occupation to be coveted beyond all others, and leads to nothing but good—to nothing sensual or vicious. It can give rise to no bad habits; but, on the contrary, will serve to protect a man from the allurements of dissipation and consequent evils.

Our orchard and garden fruits have followed man from the earliest periods of civilization, and perhaps have been more studied, and consequently better known, than any other plants. There are two characteristics, however, concerning their cultivation, which are of great importance to cultivators. First, the liability of almost every sort to "sport" and produce varieties differing, in many cases, more from one another than they differ from other species. But let it be considered that when these varieties take place, they may not always tend to deteriorate the fruit, but may often result in an exchange of one good quality for another, or perhaps even exhibit an improvement in the qualities. For instance, we may, at least, expect to obtain early fruit from the seeds of that which is early, and from those of late fruit the reverse; and by parity of reason, from large or small, from sweet or sour, from juicy or dry fruit, we may also expect to obtain seedlings that will, in a greater or less degree, correspond to their origin—a result which it may often be an object for the prudent cultivator to secure. The second characteristic is, that nearly every class of fruit is remarkably subject to the attacks of insects and of diseases; for trees, like animals have their inherent diseases, or a susceptibility to receive those peculiar to their species. Although insects are the direct source of many injuries to trees and their fruit, they are frequently met with in morbid parts, feculent or putrefying from previous malady, and may be regarded as the *effects* rather than the *causes* of disease; and accordingly should be treated in reference to these facts.

It may not be without interest to compare the valuation of orchard fruits cultivated in this country at different periods within the last fifteen years. In 1840, according to the census of that year, the value of orchard products was \$7,256,904, besides 124,734 gallons of domestic wine. The census of 1850 gives \$7,723,186 worth of orchard products, and 221,249 gallons of wine, showing only an increase of 466,282 in value of fruit, and 96,515 gallons in the production of wine; both of which are unquestionably too low. The amount of domestic wine made in the United States in 1853 may be safely

estimated at 2,000,000 gallons, which, at \$1, would be worth \$2,000,000. Add to this \$18,000,000 worth of strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, cranberries, and orchard products, the value of fruit, cider, vinegar, and wine, of domestic growth and manufacture, would amount to \$20,000,000.—*Patent Office Report, of 1853.*

CULTURE OF SUCCORY AS A WINTER SALAD.

While we see around us abundant evidence of the fostering care of Horticultural Societies in the improved appearance of our grounds, and the increasing attention to the cultivation of the finest kinds of fruits, we regret that so little has been done to improve culinary vegetables. Our zealous amateurs and enterprising commercial gardeners keep us well posted up in the novelties suitable for the pleasure ground and flower garden. We have select lists of fruits adapted to every section of country, presented to us in the valuable reports of the Pomological Society. Greenhouse plants and their culture, have prominent positions in our gardening periodicals. But we look in vain for an essay on Cabbage culture, or even for a reliable and respectable list of the best varieties of vegetables. We think that one of the principal objects of Horticultural Societies ought to be the improvement of edible vegetables, and although this department of Horticulture is by no means neglected, still it occupies a subordinate position in the schedules of most societies. Many of our cultivated vegetables have run into numerous varieties, some of them quite inferior and unworthy of cultivation; we hope some of our competent vegetable growers will favor us with a select list of the most esteemed sorts.

This is a long preface to a few remarks we have to make relative to the introduction of a new ingredient for a winter salad, which can be had in profusion, at trifling cost, within the reach of every one, and pronounced by connoisseurs in these matters as being a very superior article. It consists of the blanched leaves of Succory or wild Endive, now become a common and in many cases a troublesome weed in the fields and road sides in this neighborhood.

The Succory, Chicory, or wild Endive, (*Cichorium Intybus*), has long been cultivated on the continent of Europe, the leaves as food for cattle, and the roots cut in pieces, dried and ground, mixed with coffee; the leaves blanched, that is, grown in the dark, is a favorite salad ingredient in France, known as *Barbe de Capucin*, and its use in this latter form we desire to make more extensively known, as we feel assured it will be appreciated by all who like a good salad in winter.

Summer Treatment.—To procure good plants, seeds must be sown annually about the first or second week in July, if sown much earlier they will run to seed, which materially deteriorates the roots for the purpose in question. The soil being deeply spaded and moderately enriched, sow the seeds in shallow drills eighteen inches apart. As they proceed in growth thin out the plants to stand ten or twelve inches apart; the usual operations of weeding and hoeing must not be neglected, and should the weather prove very dry the soil between the rows may be forked over to keep it loose and mellow, and preserve an uninterrupted growth, that the plants may gain strength without running to seed. Towards the end of October, the plants should be carefully lifted, and all the leaves cut off; it is now ready for its winter quarters.

Winter Treatment.—To those familiar with gardening operations, it would be sufficient to state that the roots are now gently ex-

cited to growth, and the leaves blanched; but to many it may be necessary to enter slightly into details. Those who are in possession of a greenhouse, will find the floor underneath the plant stage, an admirable situation for its growth, while those who have no such convenience, will find a warm dry cellar equally suitable. Procure some common inch boards and construct a rough box similar to a garden frame. The sides should be eighteen inches deep all round. Fill in nine or ten inches of soil, tramp it firm, and plant the roots in rows nine inches apart all over the surface. Water must be carefully applied; very little will suffice, and none until the plants are growing freely. The box should be kept constantly covered with boards; unless light is completely excluded, the blanching operation is imperfect.

In gathering the leaves, those on the outside should be pulled singly off. Cutting with a knife is liable to injure the heart which should not be disturbed. A frame six feet by four, will afford a daily salad for nine or twelve weeks, sufficient for any ordinary family.

In order to save seeds a few roots should be left out in the fall, or the best planted out of the box in spring; the plant is a hardy perennial and seeds profusely.—*Horticulturist.*

MEANNESS.—Almost every one has in his mind's eye, a case which he may have been cognizant of, indicative of a meanness of disposition. One or two have just been brought to the writer's memory, of which the following is a sample:

A certain young man in Northern Ohio, invited a couple of young ladies to ride with him one evening. They called at a store while out, and he had the liberality to buy three sticks of candy, one of which he divided among his companions, and kept the two for his private eating. That was very small, but the next is smaller, if possible.

Old H. had been in town one day, and on his return, had clubbed a quart of chestnuts from a tree by the roadside. Soon after, meeting a neighbor, and who happened to be the owner of the tree, he inquired of the latter if he wanted some. Of course he did, and holding his hand, old H. deposited therein *three*, remarking at the same time, "Perhaps you would like to buy a quart?"

The following was related to me by a friend who witnessed the performance. A party of some six or eight couple from a neighboring town, had been sleigh-riding one afternoon, and had brought up about 3 o'clock at the hotel in which our friend was boarding. They ordered their horses baited on *hay*, and instead of calling for supper, the young gents walked down town and invested some change in gingerbread and candy, which they brought back and distributed among the ladies, and had a good time generally. About dark they called for their teams, and that each of the company might bear his proportion of the expense, the whole amount of monies expended in horse-feed, candies and gingerbread, was averaged and apportioned; but, owing to a scarcity of small change, one of the party found himself out of pocket just three cents. This was more than he was willing to bear, and several ineffectual attempts were made to set matters right. At last an old stage-driver, who had overheard the whole, helped them out of their difficulties by giving the sufferer three coppers, which he pocketed with much satisfaction, and then the party drove off.—*Pioneer Mag.*

A GREAT TRAVELER.—On the last trip of the steamship Atlantic, Capt. West completed his *two hundred and thirty-sixth voyage*, which is about equal to 708,000 miles of ocean travel.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, July 19.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN FARMER ON PERUVIAN GUANO. A DAB AT NEW-YORK DEALERS.

WE have ever been on the alert to warn farmers of the impositions practiced by some unprincipled dealers in guano and other manures, not only in New-York, but elsewhere; and so vigilant has been the watching of these impositions here, that latterly the impostors have transferred their field of operations to other cities, such as Newark, Boston, &c.; and they have even shipped their commodities to Baltimore, Md., and Petersburg, Va. We are well satisfied that the principal dealers in Peruvian guano in this city are among the most honorable men in the country; and that they would, on no account, allow anything but the purest article to pass through their hands. Knowing this to be the case, we must confess to no little surprise at an article in the June number of the Baltimore American Farmer, to which our attention has just been called—an article which we think highly derogatory to the character of any agricultural paper, and deserving of the strongest censure.

The publishers of that paper, Messrs. Sands & Worthington, are agents for the sale of guano, which is all right and proper enough of itself, and even praiseworthy; but in the paper alluded to we find a low attempt to monopolize the business, and secure their own selfish ends by a wholesale attack upon New-York dealers. They quote a ridiculous article from the Petersburg (Va.) Southern Farmer, which paper quotes from Rowlett & Hardy, themselves guano dealers. These worthies say "they would have no confidence in any lot of Peruvian guano purchased in New-York." They claim Baltimore (and Petersburg) as the only places where farmers are likely to secure genuine guano; and the drift of the whole article is, to lead farmers of the farthest North, as well as of the South, to pass by New-York and other cities, and get their guano only through Sands & Worthington, as the only reliable dealers or agents, who, for a consideration, will receive their orders, if accompanied by

cash, and hand them over to the Peruvian Agent in Baltimore.

The next number of the Baltimore Farmer, of July 1st, makes a single exception among these dangerous New-York guano dealers, one "J. J. Barrill, Esq.," in whom, the Messrs. Rowlett & Hardy inform us, implicit confidence may be placed; and that the caution of the former article was only intended to apply to (all other) jobbers in New-York. Now we have been residents of New-York for many a long year, and are familiar with most of the names of leading business men here, but unfortunately can not recall the name of "J. J. Barrill, Esq.," as one ever before heard of in connection with Peruvian guano in this city. Neither this nor last year's Directory contains the name at all. Is J. J. Barrill the agent of Sands & Worthington, recently sent here to forward their interests? or is it their design to hold up an imaginary dealer, and thus indirectly divert to Baltimore all persons wishing to get genuine guano? or, must we be forced to the conclusion that those who have thus spoken on this matter, are utterly ignorant of what they are writing about?

But there is something besides mere ignorance these wiseacres are chargeable with, and it becomes the honorable dealers and the public press of New-York, to hurl back with indignation this wholesale attempt to build up Baltimore and the business of a particular firm there, at the expense of New-York and other cities. That this is their design, is evident from the confessions of the publishers of the Baltimore Farmer, in the very paper (June 1st) which contains the warning against all New-York dealers. We quote a few sentences from that number:

"We warn farmers to be cautious from whom they make purchases." . . . "We are aware that we expose ourselves to the suspicion of interested motives." . . . "Our supplies are of the highest marks of the State Inspector." . . . "The charge for our services has been remunerative." . . . "We are entitled to the thanks of the consumers if not their patronage." . . . "Baltimore is the most desirable point from which supplies should be obtained. The same vigilance is not likely to be given elsewhere to prevent fraud."

Such are some of the subterfuges to which these Baltimore men descend, for the purpose of securing orders for a little more guano, through themselves; and they must permit us to add, that the means they use are what honest, upright men are not accustomed to resort to. We call upon these men to retract their blank, wholesale slanders upon others, or to substantiate them by some more reliable evidence than their own *interested* assertions. Let Messrs. Sands & Worthington point out the names of the (*real*, not imaginary) fraudulent dealers here, if they know of such, and we will not be behind them in holding up such names to public contempt. They have made their charge against all the dealers here, and impliedly against all except themselves, elsewhere. They must have *reasons* for this wholesale charge which they can produce, failing to do which, they will lie under the heavy charge of libel against a large class of the

most honorable men, and a libel of the basest character, because published without provocation and to secure selfish ends.

FARMERS HIGH SCHOOL IN PENNSYLVANIA.

WE learn from the Repository and Whig, that provision is being made for the organization and management of a Farmer's High School in Pennsylvania, in accordance with an act of incorporation, recently passed by the Legislature of that State. The Trustees are empowered to make choice of a suitable location embracing not less than two hundred, nor more than two thousand acres; and also to choose a principal and other officers and assistants of suitable practical and scientific attainments, as well as make whatever arrangements the nature of the Institute may require. The State Agricultural Society is authorized to appropriate any sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, whenever the School may require it; and also to make annual appropriations according to the extent of its resources. Already liberal donations of land have been proffered by gentlemen in different parts of the State, and other lands offered at reduced prices.

NEW WHEAT.—The St. Louis Republican of July 10th, says that "several lots of the new crop of wheat have already arrived there, and that prices range from \$1.28 to \$1.35 per bushel. We learn from all sides that crops were never better. Those who have traversed Missouri, Illinois, Canada, and many of the States bordering the Atlantic, express the most abundant admiration at the immense yield everywhere observable. With such ample supplies awaiting the market, it is hard to comprehend the reason which some entertain that high prices must continue to rule."

CROPS IN MISSISSIPPI.—Mr. J. S. Peacocke writes us, under date of Bolivar County, Miss., July 6: The crops in this vicinity are generally good. A large area of corn is planted, and nearly all come to maturity. The cotton is good, but the difficulty of obtaining a stand will cause the crop to be small. Much late cotton is planted, but the frost will cut all that down. The river is quite low, but slightly rising.

CIRCULARS BY MAIL.—The Washington Union says that inclosing circulars or other printed matter in envelopes upon which is printed, impressed, or written the name, &c., of the person or persons issuing such circular, is decided by the Postmaster General not only to subject the entire package to letter postage, according to the express requirements of the act of 1852, but that such postage must be prepaid to entitle the package to be mailed. If unpaid, being under the law treated as letters, they are of course returned to the dead letter office.

TO BOIL GREEN CORN.—Husk it as soon as gathered, and put it on to boil immediately, covering it closely with the fine inner husks. Corn soon grows vapid after gathering, and should never be exposed to the air without the husks on.

IN CLOVER.—The Camden West Jersey-man speaks of an unusually heavy hay crop thus: Our farmers hereabouts are as busy as nailers, getting the balance of the old crop to market and cutting the new hay. They may not be said to be “up to their eyes in clover,” for that is rather short, but it takes a tall man to look over the timothy and the green grass, and taken together the crop will be found greatly to exceed the most sanguine expectations of the early part of the season.

WESTERN CROPS.—The Vincennes (Ia.) Gazette of the 3d inst. says: “Millers and farmers are closing contracts for new wheat at \$1 per bushel, deliverable in from 10 to 15 days. We may expect flour at about \$6 50 per barrel in the month of August, and before the 1st of January it will doubtless sell for \$4 50 or \$5.”

SUN STROKE.—Wear a sponge, a piece of cotton, or any other similar substance, saturated with water, on the top of the head, covered by the hat. This is a simple preventive, and all who are exposed to the sun should at once adopt it.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.

LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE—No. V.

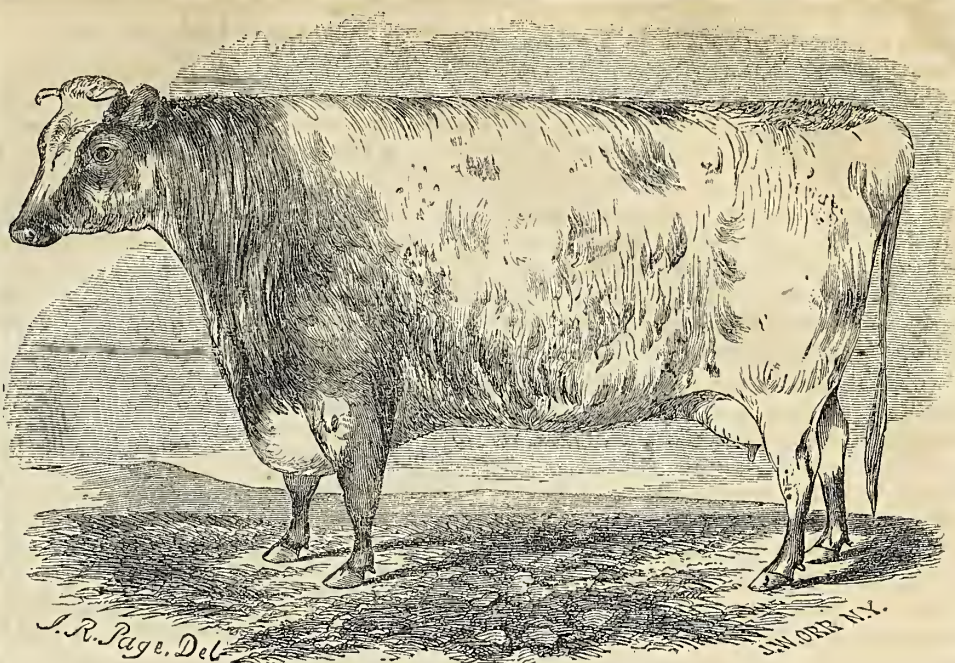
April 10, 1855.

The view of Cincinnati from Covington, on the Kentucky shore of the Ohio River, a little later in the season, when the vineyards and hills have donned their green coats, must be grand. Even now it is very pleasant. The river, the steamboats and other craft forming the foreground; then the landing, crowded with drays, omnibuses, bales, barrels, boxes, passengers, runners, boatmen, coachmen, and all the other matters which appertain to a great commercial city, give life to the picture; while behind the brick and mortar, and high above the loftiest spires, is Prospect Hill. Down stream the view of the river is cut off by a great hill on the south shore, to the right of which you get glimpses of the water, and can trace its course between the hills far away into the dim distance.

The view, it is true, is somewhat obscured by the smoke poured forth by numerous steamboats and iron foundries, yet this has its good points, as it surges and eddies in the wind, casting deep shadows on house and hill. I visited the “Western Gallery of Fine Arts”—saw splendid paintings of views on the “Rhine” and the “Blue Moselle,” but none of the Ohio.

I did not visit the great slaughtering and pork-packing houses—they are not in season; but, in traversing the streets, one is reminded by his nasal organs that he is in a city that does a great business in *grease* and bituminous coal. Habit may perhaps teach the city man to like the mingled odor of bitumen, fish, gas and gutter-mud—but give me the breeze that is laden with the breath of the field, the wild flowers and the forest.

The Railroad from Covington to Paris, Ky., must have been a costly job. Near the former city are several long tunnels, and



DIANA.—(Property of B. J. Clay, Kentucky.)

until near Cynthiana the road-bed is cut from the precipitous lime-rock banks of the Licking, about midway between the river and the summit. This portion of Kentucky is very rough and unpromising; in fact, bears the same proportion in appearance of value to the interior of the State, as does the shell to the oyster within.

Near Paris live many good breeders of Short Horns. I did not call on all, for lack of time. The Kentuckians are very hospitable—which, by the way, is the case with all breeders of good cattle, find them where you will—and they do not expect a cattleman to stop with them less than a day.

At Paris I took a saddle-horse and rode out on the Winchester Pike to the residence of B. J. Clay, situated a half mile from the pike, and reached by turning in through his neighbors' fields.

There are but few roads in Kentucky, save from one county town to another. Every landholder puts up gates, and you pass thro' from one field to another. As much of their land is in grass, one path is traveled until worn out, when another is selected, the old one growing up to grass again. This method, with their heavy, rich soil, manner of farming, and custom of traveling much on horseback, is far more convenient and economical, than cutting up the country with roads.

Mr. Clay is said to have the best estate in Bourbon County, and judging from what I saw, I doubt whether the ‘man in the moon,’ with all his opportunities for observation, sees a better county. This farm, like all I saw about here, is laid out in large fields, with strong, high fences. The stock in this State is never stabled, save the mules and teams. Mr. C. has bred Short Horns for many years—is deep in the blood of the importation of '17, about which there is a sharp discussion going on in the western agricultural papers, touching the purity of their blood. The females of the Kentucky importation of 1817 were, the Durham cow, the Teeswater cow, and Mrs. Motte. Of the

first, I saw no descendants; many from the second-mentioned, and a large number from Mrs. Motte. With this same importation came three Long Horns or Bakewell heifers. The same fate has befallen them as in England—they have had to give place to their rivals, the Short Horns. I saw two Bakewells on the farm of Mr. Clay, which he had bought of a neighbor, and about the last of their race. They are said to be fair specimens of the breed; if so, I do not wonder that they have given way before a better breed. Mrs. Motte *must have been well bred*, from the strong family resemblance which her descendants show. The practiced eye will readily select in a herd, nine times out of ten, the cows tracing to her, although eight or ten generations off; and this, too, notwithstanding much care is taken, by importing fresh crosses, to avoid close breeding. I here describe a Mrs. Motte cow, and will venture that, should it meet the eye of any who knew the original cow, they will recognise her likeness:

Commonly red in color, with some white on the face, flank and legs; head rather long and lean; flesh of nose and ring around the eye dark orange; eye bright and full; well chiseled out between the eye and nose; horns short, fine, drooping, and of a waxy color; neck very fine, short, swelling to the shoulder and brisket; shoulders well placed and moderately heavy; *crops full*; broad loin; hips wide and prominent; rumps wide and level, remarkably well filled with flesh, but sometimes a little short; straight back, brisket deep, wide and prominent; chest good, round rib, body large, and with age often paunchy, and looking like respectable milkers. The bulls have full, masculine necks, with *fine heads* and *horns*, with a great plenty of flesh in the thighs. It is rare that a Kentucky-bred bull is vicious.

Mr. Clay's Diana, four years old, in color roan, is a fine specimen of the family above mentioned.

Lady Stanhope, roan, imported, is a very large, showy cow. She received the first

prize at the National Show at Springfield, last fall; will weigh, in condition, 1,800 lbs., and measures 2 feet 5 inches across the hips; and, take her all in all, is one of the most stylish cows I ever saw. Mr. C. has about eighty thoroughbred Short Horns, old and young; not all equal to the two mentioned, but very many would be gems in any herd. Here I saw the celebrated bull Diamond, for whom Mr. Clay, Capt. Duncan and G. M. Bedford paid \$6,001. Unfortunately for his owners, he has never begotten a calf. He is now running in pasture, has been out all winter and is much reduced in flesh, but is a grand looking bull even in his poverty. The present stock bull of this herd is Locomotive, 3 years old, in color light roan, imported in 1854; of fine size; somewhat coarse about the head and horns; otherwise a fine bull—particularly good in his loin, flank and hind-quarter generally. I thought him very fat, but Mr. Clay considers him in only good working order. Tied up in a stable, as with us in New-York, Locomotive would be useless, but running as he was in a lot of four or five acres, with water, shade, and a stable for stormy weather, he gets plenty of exercise and is without doubt useful even in his high condition. This is the common practice with the Kentucky breeders, allowing their stock bulls to run to grass or in their stables as they choose. It is the true way to keep them healthy and serviceable. Of course the fences are strong; the stable is built of squared timber, about 14 feet each way, and stout enough to hold an elephant.

In the same lot with Locomotive, I saw a couple of tame deer, so tame as to come and lick our hands.

In his stables I saw a horse, an excellent specimen of the Cleveland Bay breed, imported last season. Three thoroughbred steers were especial objects of attraction, blood and breeding telling more strongly in them than in breeding animals.

Kentucky has long been celebrated for its fine stock of all kinds—not least for jacks and mules. Mr. Clay showed me two jacks, which were far ahead of anything in that line I ever expect to see again. One, not yet three years old, measuring sixteen and a half hands high; the other, nearly two years old, fifteen and a half hands. This result is attained only by long and careful breeding. You must see such jacks to get a full idea of their enormous size.

Many other matters of interest on this estate I might enlarge upon, but will forbear.

A NOBLE STATE.—Comparing the figures already made by the Census Marshals with those of 1850, the Albany Argus estimates the population of the State of New-York at four millions. The population of the city of New-York is estimated at 700,000—which we think rather below the mark. Energy, enterprise, industry and intelligence, joined with favorable geographical position, have pushed this State in advance of all her sister Commonwealths.

No man knows when he goes to law or gets into a cab, what he will have to pay on getting out of it.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

A SPINNING-WHEEL SONG.

AIR—"The Little House under the Hill."

I.

Mellow the moonlight to shine is beginning;
Close by the window young Eileen is spinning;
Bent o'er the fire her blind grandmother, sitting,
Is croaning, and moaning, and drowsily knitting—
"Eileen, achora, I hear some one tapping."
"Tis the ivy, dear mother, against the glass flapping."
"Eileen, I surely hear somebody sighing." [ing.]
"Tis the sound, mother dear, of the summer wind dy-
Merrily, cheerily, noisily whirring, [ring];
Swings the wheel, spins the reel, while the foot's stir-
Sprightly, and lightly, and airily ringing,
Thrills the sweet voice of the young maiden singing.

II.

"What's that noise that I hear at the window, I wonder?"
"Tis the little birds chirping the holly-bush under."
"What makes you be shoving and moving your stool on,
And singing all wrong that old song of 'The Coolun'?"
There's a form at the easement—the form of her true
love—
And he whispers, with face bent, "I'm waiting for you,
love;
Get up on the stool, through the lattice step lightly,
We'll rove in the grove while the moon's shining brightly."
Merrily, cheerily, noisily whirring,
Swings the wheel, spins the reel; while the foot's
stirring;
Sprightly, and lightly, and airily ringing,
Thrills the sweet voice of the young maiden singing.

III.

The maid shakes her head, on her lip lays her fingers,
Steals up from the seat—longs to go, and yet lingers;
A frightened glance turns to her drowsy grandmother,
Puts one foot on the stool, spins the wheel with the other.
Lazily, easily, swings now the wheel round;
Slowly and lowly is heard now the reel's sound;
Noiseless and light to the lattice above her
The maid steps—then leaps to the arms of her lover.
Slower—and slower—and slower the wheel swings;
Lower—and lower—and lower the reel rings;
Ere the reel and the wheel stopp'd their ringing and
moving,
Through the grove the young lovers by moonlight are
roving. *Dublin University Mag.*

HUMAN NATURE.

The following is an old story, but illustrates so well one of the peculiarities of this fast age, that we publish it: An old lady in Cincinnati had a large quantity of bacon to ship to New-Orleans, where she was going herself to buy supplies. She stipulated with the captain of a steamer that he should have her freight, providing he would not race during the trip. The captain consented and the old lady came aboard. After the second day out, another steamer was seen close astern, (with which the captain had been racing all the time,) and would every now and then come up to the old lady's boat, and then fall back again. The highest state of excitement prevailed among the passengers, as the two boats continued for nearly a day almost side by side. At last the old lady, partaking of the excitement, said, "Captain, you ain't going to let that thar old boat pass us are you?" "Why, I shall have to, madam, as I agreed not to race." "Well, you can just try it a little, that won't hurt." "But, madam, to tell you the truth, I did." "Gracious! but do try a little more—see, the old boat is almost even with us," and a loud cheer arose from the passengers on the other boat. "I can't raise any more steam, madam, as all the tar and pine knots are burnt up." "Good gracious, what shall we do! see, the old boat is passing us. Is there nothing else on board that will make steam?" "Nothing, madam—eh, eh, (as if a new idea had struck him,) except your bacon." "Throw in the bacon," shrieked the old lady, "throw in the bacon, captain, and beat the old boat."

MODERN DICTIONARY.

Author—A dealer in words, who gets paid in his own coin.

Bargain—A very ludicrous transaction, in which each party thinks he has cheated the other.

Belle—A beautiful but useless insect without wings, whose colors fade on being removed from the sunshine.

Critic—A large dog, that goes unchained, and barks at everything he does not comprehend.

Distant Relation—People who imagine they have a claim to rob you if you are rich, and to insult you if you are poor.

Doctor—A man who kills you to-day to save you from dying to-morrow.

Editor—A poor fellow, who every day is emptying his brain in order that he may fill his stomach.

Fear—The shadow of hope.

Friend—A person who will not assist you because he knows your love will excuse him.

Grave—An ugly hole in the ground, which lovers and poets wish they were in, but take uncommon pains to keep out of.

Heart—A rare article sometimes found in human beings. It is soon, however, destroyed by commerce with the world, or else becomes fatal to its possessor.

Honor—Shooting a friend whom you love through the head, in order to gain the praise of a few others whom you despise.

Housewifery—An ancient art, said to have been fashionable among girls and wives; now entirely out of use, or practiced only by the lower orders.

Lawyer—A learned gentleman, who rescues your estate from your enemy and keeps it himself.

Modesty—A beautiful flower that flourishes only in secret places.

My Dear—An expression said to be used by man and wife at the commencement of a quarrel.

Policeman—A man employed by the corporation to sleep in engine houses at three dollars per night.

Political Honesty—Previous lexicographers have not noticed this word, treating it, we presume, altogether as fabulous—for definition see *self-interest*.

Public Abuse—The mud with which every traveler is spattered on his road to distinction.

Rural Felicity—Potatoes, turnips and cabbages.

Sensibility—A quality by which its possessor in attempting to promote the happiness of other people loses his own.

State's Evidence—A wretch who is pardoned for being baser than his comrades.

Tongue—A little horse which is continually running away.

Wealth—The most respectable quality of man.

WHAT CHAMPAGNE IS MADE OF.—Some one has complained to Mayor Wood, of New-York, that he had a fine pair of patent leathers ruined by walking past the door of a champagne manufacturer. The favorite beverage is enlivened, it seems, by quantities of vitriol and marble dust, and the unfortunate gentleman stepped into some of the scatterings of these first principles of good wine, and thereby lost his boots. He is decidedly of opinion that a substance which will eat up leather, must make sad havoc with the linings of live men.

THE BATTLE OF THE ANTS.

I was a witness to events of a less peaceful character. One day when I went out to my woodpile, or rather to my pile of stumps, I observed two large ants, the one red, the other much larger, nearly half an inch long, and black, fiercely contending with one another. Having once got hold they never let go, but struggled and wrestled and rolled on the chips incessantly. Looking further I was surprised to find that the chips were covered with combatants, that it was not a *duellum* but a *bellum*, a war between two races of ants, the red always pitted against the black, and frequently two red ones to one black. The legions of these Myrmidons covered all the hills and vales in my wood-yard, and the ground was already strewn with the dead and dying, both red and black. It was the only battle-field which I have ever witnessed, the only battle-field I ever trod while the battle was raging; internecine war; the red republicans on the one hand, and the black imperialists on the other. On every side they were engaged in deadly combat, yet without any noise that I could hear, and human soldiers never fought so resolutely. I watched a couple that were fast locked in each other's embraces, in a little sunny valley amid the chips, now at noon-day prepared to fight till the sun went down, or life went out. The smaller red champion had fastened himself like a vise to his adversary's front, and through all the tumbings on that field, never for an instant ceased to gnaw at one of his feelers near the root, having already caused the other to go by the board; while the stronger black one dashed him from side to side, and, as I saw on looking nearer, had already divested him of several of his members. They fought with more pertinacity than bull-dogs. Neither manifested the least disposition to retreat. It was evident that their battle-cry was "Conquer or die." In the meanwhile there came along a single red ant on the hill-side of this valley, evidently full of excitement, who either had despatched his foe, or had not yet taken part in the battle; probably the latter, for he had lost none of his limbs; whose mother had charged him to return with his shield or upon it. Or perhaps he was some Achilles, who had nourished his wrath apart, and had now come to avenge or rescue his Patroclus. He saw this unequal combat from afar—for the blacks were nearly twice the size of the red—he drew near with rapid pace till he stood on his guard within half an inch of the combatants: then, watching his opportunity, he sprang upon the black warrior, and commenced his operations near the root of his right fore leg, leaving the foe to select among his own members; and so there were three united for life, as if a new kind of attraction had been invented which put all other locks and cements to shame. I should not have wondered by this time to find that they had their respective musical bands stationed on some eminent chip, and playing their national airs the while to excite the slow and cheer the dying combatants. I was myself excited somewhat, even as if they had been men. The more you think of it, the less the difference. And certainly there is not the fight recorded in Concord history, at least, if in the history of America, that will bear a moment's comparison with this, whether for the numbers engaged in it, or for the patriotism and heroism displayed. For numbers and for carnage it was an Austerlitz or Dresden. Concord Fight! Two killed on the patriots' side, and Luther Blanchard wounded? Why here every ant was a Buttrick—"Fire! for God's sake fire!"—and thousands shared the fate of Davis and Hosmer. There was not one hireling there. I have no doubt that it

was a principle they fought for, as much as our ancestors, and not to avoid a three-penny tax on their tea; and the results of this battle will be as important and memorable to those whom it concerns as those of the battle of Bunker Hill, at least.

I took up the chip on which the three I have particularly described were struggling, carried it into my house, and placed it under a tumbler on my window-sill, in order to see the issue. Holding a microscope to the first mentioned red ant, I saw that, though he was assiduously gnawing at the near fore-leg of his enemy, having severed his remaining feeler, his own breast was all torn away, exposing what vitals he had there to the jaws of the black warrior, whose breast-plate was apparently too thick for him to pierce; and the dark carbuncles of the sufferer's eyes shone with ferocity such as war only could excite. They struggled half an hour longer under the tumbler, and when I looked again the black soldier had severed the heads of his foes from their bodies, and their still living heads were hanging on either side of him like ghastly trophies at his saddle bow, still apparently as firmly fastened as ever, and he was endeavoring with feeble struggles, being without feelers and with only the remnant of a leg, and I know not how many other wounds, to divest himself of them; which at length, after half an hour more, he accomplished. I raised the glass, and he went off over the window-sill in that crippled state. Whether he finally survived that combat, and spent the remainder of his days in some Hotel des Invalides, I do not know; but I thought that his industry would not be worth much thereafter. I never learned which party was victorious, nor the cause of the war; but I felt for the rest of that day as if I had my feelings excited and harrowed by witnessing the struggle, the ferocity and carnage, of a human battle before my door.

Thoreau's Life in the Woods.

HABITS OF THE WASP.—The subterfuges resorted to by animals in search of food, have been regarded by the general reader, as the most interesting and instructive portion of the works of the naturalist. An incident illustrative of the cunning of the wasp, was recently related to us, says the Exeter News Letter, by an observing gentleman:

A blue wasp, known as the solitary wasp, because it lives alone in its little clay nest, was seen to hurl itself upon the strong, wheel-shaped web of a large spider. Here it sat up a loud buzzing like that of a fly when accidentally entangled in a similar web. The spider watching at the door of its silken domicile, stole cautiously forth. His advance was slow, for he evidently felt that he was approaching no common enemy. The apparently desperate, yet fruitless efforts of the wasp to free himself, encouraged the spider and lured him forward. But when within some three inches of his intended victim, the wasp suddenly freed himself from his mock entanglements, and darting upon the poor spider, in a moment pierced him with his deadly sting in a thousand places.

The wasp then bore his ill-gotten spoil to his lonely home. This house is built of clay, thimble-shaped, and originally containing but one apartment. In the lower part of this *cul-de-sac* the wasp deposits its eggs. Immediately over them, it draws a thin glutinous curtain. Upon this curtain it packs away the proceeds of its hunting excursions, such as spiders, flies, and all other insects which it regards as suitable food for its young; consequently, when the young escape from the ova, they find above them a well stocked larder, and gradually eat their way through the choice depository, finally appearing to the delighted world in the agreeable form and stature of perfect wasps.

HONORING PARENTS.

As a stranger went into the church-yard of a pretty village, he beheld three children at a newly made grave. A boy about ten years of age was busily engaged in placing sods of turf about it, while a girl, who appeared a year or two younger, held in her apron a few roots of wild flowers. The third child, still younger, was sitting on the grass, watching with thoughtless look the movements of the other two.

They wore pieces of crape on their straw hats, and a few other signs of mourning, such as are sometimes worn by the poor who struggle between their poverty and afflictions.

The girl soon began planting some of the wild flowers around the head of the grave, when the stranger addressed them:

"Whose grave is this, children, about which you are so busily engaged?"

"Mother's grave, sir," said the boy.

"And did your father send you to plant these flowers around your mother's grave?"

"No, sir; father lies here too, and little William, and sister Jane."

"When did they die?"

"Mother was buried a fortnight yesterday, sir, but father died last winter; they all lie here."

"Then who told you to do this?"

"Nobody, sir," replied the girl.

"Then why do you do it?"

They appeared at a loss for an answer; but the stranger looked so kindly at them, at length the eldest replied, as the tears started to his eyes.

"Oh, we do love them, sir."

"Then you put these grass turfs and wild flowers where your parents are laid, because you love them?"

"Yes, sir," they all eagerly replied.

What can be more beautiful than such an exhibition of children honoring their deceased parents?"

Never forget the dear parents who loved and cherished you in your infant days. Ever remember their parental kindness. Honor their memory by doing those things which you know would please them were they now alive, by a particular regard to their dying commands, and by carrying on their plans of usefulness.

Are your parents spared to you? Ever treat them as you would wish you had done, when you stand a lonely orphan at their graves. A remembrance of kind, affectionate conduct toward those departed friends, then will help to soothe your grief and heal your wounded heart.

A KANSAS BULL STORY.—Sixty yoke of red bulls, according to the Frontier News, were seen last week by an old lady in Kansas, hitched to an empty wagon, which was mired in the streets of that city. The team reached entirely from hill to hill, across one of our valleys, vulgarly called guts. The wagon, being tight in the mud, refused to move; the consequence was, when that portion of the team in the lead over on the other hill, spread themselves in a strong pull, and straightened the chains, that 27 yoke of the bulls in center were suspended in mid air by their necks, something less than fifty feet above ground.

VALUE OF A SCHOOLMASTER.—There is no office higher than that of a teacher of youth, for there is nothing on earth so precious as the mind, soul, and character of the child. No office should be regarded with greater respect. The first minds in a community should be encouraged to assume it. Parents should do all but impoverish themselves, to induce such to become the guardians of their

children. They should never have the least anxiety to accumulate property for their children, provided they can place them under influences which will awaken their faculties, inspire them with higher principles and fit them to bear a manly, useful and honorable part in the world. No language can express the folly of that economy, which to leave a fortune to a child, starves his intellect and impoverishes the heart.

FLOGGING A CLERGYMAN.

About twenty years ago, when there were but few settlements in the northern parts of Ohio, an itinerant preacher of the Methodist Society, by the name of Johnson, was employed to travel on an extensive circuit in that section of the country. Johnson was a man somewhere about the middle stature, with brawny shoulders and endowed with great muscular strength, and a degree of courage and self-possession adequate to any emergency, qualities which admirably fitted him for conflict with the rude and boisterous element pervading the society by which he was surrounded. In his manner he was ever affectionate, but faithful in whatever he considered his duty, without regard to consequences. The fearlessness with which he assailed the strongholds of depravity and licentiousness, had the effect of drawing down on his head the indignation of a certain class of characters, who determined to get rid of him, insulted and annoyed him in various ways, but through his coolness and shrewdness, not only were their plans entirely defeated, but not unfrequently their wicked devices were made to recoil upon their own heads.

After every expedient had signally failed, it was resolved as a last resort, to cause the preacher to be waylaid and severely beaten, with the assurance that unless he should decamp immediately, the same course of treatment should be followed up until the desired effect should be produced. As the instrument of their vengeance, they were induced to select an Irishman of the name of Kennedy, who had the reputation of being the most athletic man in the country, and who for a stipulated reward readily undertook the disgraceful business.

One time as the clergyman was riding on horseback, he was met in an unfrequented spot by the ruffian, who was also on horseback; Kennedy saluted him with mock respect, and informed him that he intended to give him a sound drubbing.

"Ah, but my dear sir you had better go about your business. If you try it, you will be sure to get the worst of the bargain."

"There's little fear of that," exclaimed Kennedy, "I have basted stronger men than you before to-day." So saying he aimed a blow with his fist at the preacher's head, intending to knock him of his horse, but missing, received one in return, which brought him instantly to the ground. The preacher then dismounted, and picking up his chop fallen adversary, threw him over an adjoining fence.

The bully finding that he had got hold of the wrong customer, wisely concluded upon a cessation of hostilities, and looking over the fence he cried out, as the preacher was patiently waiting for another attack—

"I say, Mister, will you be good enough to throw my horse after me?"

Johnson was thereafter permitted to ride and preach without the smallest molestation.

PLEASANT FOR TOBACCO-CHEWERS.—The Worcester Transcript says: We notice a man about our streets, collecting into a bag old stumps of cigars. In our large cities, the collecting of old cigars is made a lucrative

business, as they are readily purchased by tobacconists, and manufactured into *fine cut chewing tobacco*.

THE DUTIES OF A MOTHER.—She should be firm—gentle—kind—always ready to attend to her child.

She should never laugh at him—at what he does that is *cunning*—never allow him to think of his looks, except to be neat and clean in all his habits.

She should teach him to obey a look—to respect those older than himself; she should never make a *command*, without seeing that it is performed in the right manner.

Never speak of a child's faults, or foibles, or repeat his remarks before him. It is a *sure way* to spoil a child.

Never reprove a child when excited, nor let your tone of voice be raised when correcting him. Strive to inspire love, not dread—respect, not fear. Remember you are training and educating a soul for Eternity.

Teach your child to wait upon itself,—to put away a thing when done with it. But do not forget that you were once a child. The griefs of little ones are too often neglected; they are great for them. Bear patiently with them, and never in any way rouse their anger, if it can be avoided. Teach a child to be successful, whenever opportunity may offer.

GAME OF MARBLES.—This has for ages been a favorite game among boys. At times it absorbs everything else, and becomes for a season the only sport of the school playground. It is not by any means a very desirable game, for several reasons. It necessarily compels to a stooping, squatting posture of body, and as the marble tossed is so light, it can not tend to muscular action and development. But its moral effects are its worst features. It affords many temptations to dishonesty—crowding or reaching too near the marbles thrown at—jostling in the smallest degree the elbow of a competitor—or speaking so suddenly as to disconcert him. For these and other reasons, we incline to discourage it; especially as it is so likely, and tends so directly, to produce the love and to foster the habit of engaging in games of chance, and betting upon success, than which nothing is more injurious.—*Schoolmaster*.

HURRAH.—This word is pure Slavonian, and is commonly heard from the coasts of Dalmatia to Behring's Straits, when any of the populations, living within these limits are called on to give proof of courage and valor. The origin of the word belongs to the primitive idea that every man that dies heroically for his country goes straight to Heaven (*Hu-* to Paradise), and it is so that in the shock and ardor of battle, the combatants utter that cry, as the Turks do that of Allah! each animating himself by the certitude of immediate recompense, to forget earth and condemn death.

NOBLE REPLY.—An officer of distinction and tried valor, refused to accept a challenge sent by a young adventurer: "I fear not your sword but the anger of my God. I dare venture my life in a good cause, but can not hazard my soul in a bad one. I will charge up to the cannon's mouth for the good of my country, but I want courage to storm hell."

WARM.—It is so scorching hot in Dayton, and so perspiring, that the editor of the Journal in that city keeps a large "cullud pusion" by him constantly, with direction to "wring him out" every ten minutes.

HINTS FOR MARRIAGEABLE LADIES.

If a man wipes his feet on the door-mat before coming into the room, you may be sure he will make a good domestic husband. If a man in snuffing the candles, snuffs them out, you may be sure he will make a stupid husband. If a man puts his handkerchief on his knees while taking his tea, you may be sure he will make a prudent husband. In the same way, always mistrust the man who will not take the last piece of toast or Sally Lunn, but prefers waiting for the next warm batch. It is not unlikely he will make a greedy selfish husband, with whom you will enjoy no "brown" at dinner, no crust at tea, no peace whatever at home. The man, my dears, who wears goloe shoes, and is careful about wrapping himself up well before venturing into the night air, not unfrequently makes a good invalid husband, that mostly stops at home, and is easily comforted with slops. The man who watches the kettle and prevents its boiling over, will not fail, my dear, in his married state, in exercising the same care in always keeping the pot boiling. The man who doesn't take tea, ill-treats the cat, takes snuff, and stands with his back to the fire, is a brute, whom I could not advise you, my dears, to marry upon any consideration, either for love or money, but decidedly not for love. But the man who, when tea is over, is discovered to have had none, is sure to make the best husband. Patience like his deserves being rewarded with the best of mothers-in-law. My dears, when you meet with such a man, do your utmost to marry him. In the severest winter he would not mind going to bed first.—*London Punch*.

"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT!"

Can you rub it out? Wet your finger and with it rub out the veins in the hewn granite! and then try and destroy the fact that though a man be poor he is still a man. The butterfly has more reason to be proud of the colored dust of his wings, than man of the colored dust of his pocket—the snail of his fancy built shell, than the nabob of his palaces; for God has given them, but how often on the contrary has man stolen his magnificence?

Who sleeps the sounder, the poor little child that falls asleep upon the husk-mat, or the dainty thing that lies on feathers piled? Whose dreams are the pleasanter, the little urchin who springs with delight at the illusion of a bright sixpence found by the roadside, or the miser who wakes with frenzied eye and tortured brain, crying, "Murder, murder, thieves!"

Wealth surely has its advantages, but he who considers haughtiness, disdain and derision as among the number is a fool. That's flat! but get away from the conclusion, if you can. Old Pharaoh found it out, to his heart's content—so did Haman and any quantity more of them. So, if you are poor don't despair, neither fret if the nose is sometimes turned up at you. Noses turn to dust like other things, and though you have not got gold, still remember, "A man's a man for a' that!"

WHERE TO FIND A WIFE.—In one of the factories in Maine recently, the proprietors reduced the wages, whereupon there was a general determination to *strike*, and as they were obliged to give a month's notice before quitting work, they have meanwhile issued a circular to the world at large, in which is the following interesting paragraph: "We are now working out our notice, and shall soon be without employment; can turn our hands to 'most anything; don't like to be idle—but determined not to work for nothing where folks can afford to pay. Who wants help? We can make bonnets, dresses, pud

dings, pies and cakes, patch, darn, knit, roast, stew, and fry; make butter and cheese, milk cows, feed chickens, and hoe corn; sweep out the kitchen, put the parlor to rights, make beds, split wood, kindle fires, wash and iron, besides, being remarkably fond of babies, in fact can do anything the most accomplished housewife is capable of, not forgetting the scoldings on Mondays and Saturdays. For specimens of spirit, will refer you to our overseer. Speak quick. Black eyes, fair foreheads, clustering locks, beautiful as a Hebe, can sing like a seraph, and smile most bewitchingly! an elderly gentleman in want of a good housekeeper, or a nice young man in want of a wife—willing to sustain either character; in fact, we are in the market. Who bids? Going-going-gone! Who's the lucky man.

THE SAINTED DEAD.—They are our treasures—changeless and shining treasures. Let us look hopefully. Not lost, but gone before. Lost only like stars of the morning, that have faded into the light of a brighter heaven. Lost to earth, but not to us. When the earth is dark, then the heavens are bright; when objects around become indistinct and invisible in the shades of night, then objects above us are more clearly seen. So is the night of sorrow and mourning; it settles down upon us like a lonely twilight at the graves of our friends, but then already they shine on high. While we weep, they sing. While they are with us upon earth, they lie upon our hearts refreshingly, like the dew upon the flowers; when they disappear, it is by a power from above that has drawn them upward; and, though lost on earth, they float in the skies. Like the dew that is absorbed from the flowers, they will not return to us; but, like the flowers themselves, we will die, yet only to bloom again in the Eden above. Then those whom the heavens have absorbed and removed from us, by the sweet attraction of their love, made holier and lovelier in light, will draw towards us again by holy affinity, and rest on our hearts as before. They are our treasures—loving ones—the sainted dead!—*Harbaugh's Heavenly Recognition.*

THE ROSE.—In a lecture upon the trees of America, Professor Agassiz states a remarkable fact in regard to the family of the rose, which includes among its varieties, not only many of the most beautiful flowers which are known, but also the richest fruits, such as the apple, pear, peach, plum, apricot, cherry, strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, &c.; namely, that no fossils of plants belonging to this family have ever been discovered by geologists. This he regarded as conclusive evidence that the introduction of this family of plants upon the earth was coeval with, or subsequent to the creation of man, to whose comfort and happiness they seem especially intended by Providence to contribute.

TRANSIENT YOUNG MEN.—Girls, beware of transient young men; never suffer the addresses of a stranger; recollect that one good steady farmer boy or mechanic is worth all the floating trash in the world; the allurements of a dandy jack, with a gold chain about his neck, a walking-stick in his paw, some honest tailor's coat on his back, and a brainless skull, can never make up the loss of a kind father's house, a good mother's counsel, and the society of brothers and sisters; their affections last, while that of such a young man is lost at the wane of the honeymoon—*Evansville Journal.*

If you want to make a mark in the world, put your foot down and hold your head up. Then go ahead any way.

CAMPHOR FOR STRYCHNINE.—The beneficial effects of camphor as an antidote to strychnine, are illustrated in a case reported by Dr. Tewkesbury, of Portland, Maine. It appears that a boy was seized with convulsions, and it was ascertained that he had just eaten a biscuit picked up at the door of an eating house, that was made for the purpose of killing rats, and contained about one and a half grains of strychnine. The boy's spasms were so severe, that immediate death was inevitable, though all the usual remedies were resorted to. Camphor could not be introduced into the stomach on account of lock-jaw. Accordingly, strong injections of camphor were used, and the body immersed in a hot camphor bath, and in a few hours the boy was comparatively well.

Kind words never blister the tongue.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Most grades of flour have fluctuated somewhat during the past week, and are now a little lower than at our last report; there being a very small stock of certain extra brands, especially Genesee, which some families will have at any price. This kind of flour has sold as high during the past week, as at any time in 20 years. The constant high prices of such qualities of flour should induce wheat raisers and millers to give greater attention to securing a superfine article, no matter in what part of the country it is produced. Thousands of barrels of extra flour from the western States are every year branded and sold as "extra Genesee." Superior quality will always find a name which will give it currency and price. It is better to sort wheat with a fan-mill screen, or otherwise, and grind it in lots, since the poorer portion will bring nearly the price of the assorted, while the selected portion would command from 25 to 50 per cent. more. A very small quantity of "foul stuff" in wheat will make a large difference in the price of the flour. We hear of extensive combinations among holders of old flour, to keep up the price until their stocks are gone. If these reports are well founded—and they may be—the effect will be to keep wheat at a high figure for two or three weeks, after which there will be a sudden and very great decline. That wheat will soon be much lower, we can hardly doubt. We are anxious to see farmers realize the highest possible price for their hard earned produce; but we do not ask any one to follow our advice. Everything considered, we think the safest plan is to get all wheat into the market that it is possible to do at once, and as soon as a very material decline takes place, to then hold on for a future rise. Perhaps the lowest price will be reached during the latter part of September, and the highest price for new wheat during the first part of October. These, however, are opinions merely, which may in the end prove erroneous. The harvest is progressing finely at the west. The unfavorable reports have been very few during the past week, while from every part of the country cheering evidences of abundance are daily pouring in upon us.

Corn has declined a little, say 1 to 3 cents per bushel. Oats are scarcely varied, perhaps a slight advance. Rye has fallen off considerably, and promises to go much lower.

Cotton has advanced again, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. per pound.

The weather up to Monday evening was cool and showery. The last two days (Tuesday and Wednesday) have been excessively hot with us, but this is just the thing for corn; the ground is too moist to fear curling, and it shoots forward with great rapidity. The frequent rains of the past week or two have proved the value of Mowing Machines, which enable farmers literally to "make their hay while the sun shines."

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, July 17, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The market has been slow for a day or two past. Potatoes are abundant, and a little down. Many potatoes from the South have been badly injured by heating—the best of which are hawked about the city at a cheap price. The market is glutted with cucumbers, squashes, and such like stuff. Blackberries and Whortleberries begin to appear, while goosberries are nearly out of season.

Butter begins to come in from Ohio, but the farmers are rather holding on. Eggs and Cheese the same.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island.....	¥ basket	\$—75@	87
New-Jersey.....	¥ bbl.	2 50@	—
Charleston, round.....	do	2 —@	—
Norfolk Mercers.....	do	2 50@	2 75
Turnips—White.....	¥ bbl.	1 12@	—
Onions—Bermuda Reds.....	¥ bbl.	2 25@	—
New-Orleans Reds.....	do	—@	—
Connecticut, Red.....	do	—@	2 50
Cabbages.....	¥ 100	2 —@	4 —
Cucumbers.....	do	25@	37
Lettuce.....	do	50@	75
Gooseberries.....	¥ bus	1 50@	—
Raspberries—Antwerp.....	¥ basket	9@	—
Shrewsbury.....	do.	3@	—
Whortleberries.....	do.	3 50@	—
Blackberries.....	¥ bush.	4 @	—
Tomatoes.....	"	2 @	—
Cherries.....	¥ lb	7@	—
Apples.....	¥ bbl.	\$2 —@	3 50
Butter—new.....	¥ lb.	18@	20c.
Orange County.....	do.	22@	24c.
Cheese.....	do	8@	10c.
Eggs.....	¥ doz.	—@	17c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY July 18, 1855.

The total supply of cattle for the week is 3139. At Allerton's we find to-day 2283, against 2116 of last week, which is an increase in number of 169. Of these 253 were in the new yards just opposite Allerton's, occupied to-day for the first time.

The weather is intensely hot, and the market flat as need be. The prices were started this morning at 11c., though butchers were very backward, and few sales effected at that price. Both the warm weather, and the large number of cattle operate against owners. The decline is full 5c. per cwt., and some say more. The prospect is that we shall not have occasion to quote above today's figures for a long time.

It will be seen that most of the cattle come from Indiana and Illinois. All the cows, sheep and lambs came by the Harlem Railroad. The quality of stock is fair. We saw nothing very bad, and nothing remarkably fine.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality.....	10½@	11c.
Good retailing quality.....	10@	10½c.
Inferior do. do.....	9@	10c.
Veals.....	4@	6c.
Swine, alive.....	5½@	6c.
" dead.....	7@	8c.
Cows and Calves.....	\$25@	\$60.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street. A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

Table with columns: RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK, IN MARKET TO-DAY. Rows: Beeves, Cows, Veals, Sheep and lambs, Swine.

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves... 1079 By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves... 38 By the Hudson River Railroad... 487 By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves... 428

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows: Sheep and Lambs... 5897 Beeves... 524 Veals... 66 Cows and Calves... 26

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's: 204 Beef Cattle... 9@12c. 58 Cows and Calves... \$25@35 5,004 Sheep and Lambs... 2 1/2@57. 290 Veals... 4@7c.

The sheep market has been fair except the last two days. The quality is common. The total receipts for the week are 12,575. Mr. McCarty's sales are 1,513, for \$4,874 38—averaging \$3 45 per head.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Table of prices for various commodities including Ashes, Coal, Cotton Bagging, Cotton, Flax, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, Molasses, and various oils and fats.

Table of prices for various provisions including Beef, Pork, Rice, Salt, Sugar, Tobacco, Wool, and Tallow.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion.

BAGS.—NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip.) New-York.

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT, GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

TWO FARMERS AND OTHERS.—A valuable FERTILIZING MANURE.—A manure made entirely of Animal Matter, Gypsum, and Ammonia, is offered for sale by FINDLEY & WAKEFIELD.

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT, GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

AYRESHIRE BULL.—FOR SALE, A Thoroughbred Ayshire BULL, 2 years and 4 mos. old. Bred by Wm. Watson, Esq., of Westchester. Price \$250.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, for sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT, 95-120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description.

THOROUGHbred DEVONS.—I have for sale Thoroughbred DEVON Yearlings and two-year old Bulls, the set of imported REUBENS, and yearling Heifers, the set of WINCHESTER, who was sired by imported ALBERT 2d.

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS Single Horse Power \$85 00 Double do. do. 116 00 Do. do. do. with Threshor and Separator, 160 00 Single do. do. do. do. 128 00 Belts \$5 and \$10 each.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BEGAR, 187 Broadway, New-York.

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad.

PRATT & BROTHERS, MANUFACTURERS OF DITCH-DIGGERS, TILE AND BRICK MACHINES, Canandaigua, N. Y. THE MOST USEFUL AND PERFECT MACHINES KNOWN.

They are in use by many persons, and proving themselves capable of vastly cheapening and extending drainage. The Tile machine is gaining a reputation beyond any precedent, for the following reasons: 1st.—Because it is the only Tile and Brick machine known, enabling brick-makers to make Tiles and tile-makers to make Bricks, with one and the same machine.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents.

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY. This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing.

THE FARMERS' BEST FRIEND.—Is a box of REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE—the very best ointment to have in your family in case of accidents. Burns, cuts, wounds, of every description, are healed and completely cured.

TENTS! FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, MILITARY COMPANIES, EXHIBITIONS, &c. The Subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of Tents of every description, suitable for Agricultural Fairs, Military Encampments, Camp Meetings, Conferences, Political Gatherings, Exhibitions, &c., &c., which he will rent on liberal terms.

He has furnished Tents to the Agricultural Societies of New-York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Canada, and to many other prominent Agricultural and other Associations, and can therefore with confidence refer those who are about purchasing or renting Tents, to any of the officers of these Associations as to the character of his work and fairness of his dealings.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.--Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do. do.
- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
- TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
- WARREN'S do. do. do.
- TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES:

- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine.
- ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do.
- KETCHUM'S Mowing Machine.
- HUSSEY'S Reaping do.
- MCCORMICK'S do. do.
- ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

TREASHERS--

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
- do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
- EMERY'S overshot.
- EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES--For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles--and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS--A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power--a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

FAN MILLS--Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS--A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES--Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS--For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON MILLS, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

WATER RAMS, SUCTION, FORCE and Endless-chain Pumps; Leather, Gutta Percha, India Rubber Hose, Lead Pipe, &c.

DRAINING TILES OF ALL FORMS and sizes.

SOUTHERN PLOWS--Nos. 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 19 1/2, 20, A, 1, 2, Nos. 50, 60, and all other sizes.

PLOWS--A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Soil, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS--With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

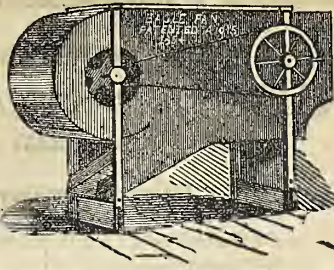
BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGERS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Shingle Machines, Apple Parers, Hay and Manure Forks, Saws, Scales, Rakes, Belting for Machinery, &c.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New-York. 86-6m

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists First--In cleaning without a screen; by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c. by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second--An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third--Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth--Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth--The cheapness and durability of its construction.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

BOOKS FOR THE FARMERS.

ALL SENT FREE OF POSTAGE, on receipt of the price annexed.

Furnished by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

I. The Cow, Dairy Husbandry, and Cattle Breeding. Price 25 cents.

II. Every Lady her own Flower Gardener. Price 25 cents.

III. The American Kitchen Gardener. Price 25 cents.

IV. The American Rose Culturer. Price 25 cents.

V. Price Essay on Manures. By S. L. Dana. Price 25 cents.

VI. Skinner's Elements of Agriculture. Price 25 cents.

VII. The Pests of the Farm, with Directions for Extirpation. Price 25 cents.

VIII. Horses--their Varieties, Breeding, Management, &c. Price 25 cents.

IX. The Hive and Honey Bee--their Diseases and Remedies. Price 25 cents.

X. The Hog--its Diseases and Management. Price 25 cents.

XI. The American Bird Fancier--Breeding, Raising, &c., &c. Price 25 cents.

XII. Domestic Fowl and Ornamental Poultry. Price 25 cents.

XIII. Chemistry made Easy for the Use of Farmers. Price 25 cents.

XIV. The American Poultry Yard. The cheapest and best book published. Price \$1.

XV. The American Field Book of Manures. Embracing all the Fertilizers known, with directions for use. By Browne. Price \$1 25.

XVI. Buist's Kitchen Gardener. Price 75 cents.

XVII. Stockhart's Chemical Field Lectures. Price \$1.

XVIII. Wilson on the cultivation of Flax. Price 25 cents.

XIX. The Farmer's Cyclopaedia. By Blake. Price \$1 25.

XX. Allen's Rural Architecture. Price \$1 25.

XXI. Phelps's Bee Keeper's Chart. Illustrated. Price 25 cents.

XXII. Johnston's Lectures on Practical Agriculture. Paper, price 25 cents.

XXIII. Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry. Price \$1 25.

XXIV. Johnson's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology. Price \$1.

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XXVI. Miner's American Bee-Keeper's Manual. Price \$1.

XXVII. Dad's American Cattle Doctor. Complete. Price \$1.

XXVIII. Fessenden's Complete Farmer and Gardener. 1 vol Price \$1 25.

XXIX. Allen's Treatise on the Culture of the Grape. Price \$1.

XXX. Youatt on the Breeds and Management of Sheep. Price 75 cents.

XXXI. Youatt on the Hog. Complete. Price 60 cents.

XXXII. Youatt and Martin on Cattle. By Stevens. Price \$1 25.

XXXIII. The Shepherd's own Book. Edited by Youatt, Skinner and Randall. Price \$2.

XXXIV. Stephens's Book of the Farm; or Farmer's Guide. Edited by Skinner. Price \$1.

XXXV. Allen's American Farm Book. Price \$1.

XXXVI. The American Florist's Guide. Price 75 cents.

XXXVII. The Cottage and Farm Bee-Keeper. Price 50 cents.

XXXVIII. Hoare on the Culture of the Grape. Price 50 cents.

XXXIX. Country Dwellings; or the American Architect. Price \$6.

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 98.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON CHEESE MAKING.

[Continued from page 290.]

31. *Whey-Cheese*.—In giving the principal varieties, we did not allude to whey-cheese. The whey which separates from the curd, particularly the white whey which is pressed out towards the close, frequently contains considerable quantities of curd, and especially of butter. (See §23, page 273.) If this whey is heated, the curd and butter will rise to the surface, when they can be readily skimmed off and made into a very rich cheese. A very excellent cheese may be made with alternate layers of new-milk curd and this whey-curd. It will almost always pay to let the whole whey stand a few hours, and churn the cream which rises for butter, if it is not made into whey-cheese. It will thus be seen that buttermilk (see §26), and even whey itself, may often be used to better advantage than for feeding to swine, as is commonly practiced.

32. *Heating the Milk*.—This is an important point. Before adding the runnet, the milk should be as nearly as possible to ninety-five degrees (95°), for whole milk, and a little lower for skimmed milk. If colder than this the curd is soft and difficult to be freed from whey, and if warmer it is hard and tough. Heating in an iron kettle is objectionable, since there is danger of singeing or fire-fanging those portions of the milk in contact with the vessel, which is certain to injure the flavor of the cheese more or less. If heated in any vessel placed directly over a fire, the milk should be stirred constantly, to prevent over-heating any portion. The best method is to use a vessel with a double bottom, or one placed within another, the outer one being filled with water. But when this is not convenient—and it seldom is in small dairies—the best plan is to put the whole of the milk into a tin vessel, and im-

merse it in hot water. Some practice adding hot water directly to the milk; but this is objectionable, because the quantity of whey is often inconveniently increased, and especially because the milk first touched by the hot water is too much scalded. It is very desirable that none of the milk should at any time be raised above the required temperature (95°), lest the oil sacs be melted and broken before being inclosed in the curd, which will give an oiliness to the fatty matter of the milk, and also waste some portion of it. If by chance the milk is heated above 95° before the addition of the runnet, it should be reduced to the proper temperature, by letting it stand a few minutes, or by immersing the containing-vessel in cold water; or, better still, by placing in it a tin vessel of cold water.

33. *Adding the Runnet*.—The preparation of the runnet was referred to in section 29. It may be further stated, that it should not be in a putrid state, for in this case it will be likely to affect the flavor, and also introduce the elements of decay directly into the cheese. It should also be filtered or strained clear just before using. We often see decay commencing at one or more points, and spreading over the whole cheese. This is no doubt generally to be attributed to small portions of the runnet, which would have been avoided by careful straining. The quantity of runnet required for a given amount of milk can not be definitely stated, since we have no means of obtaining it of a uniform strength. Trial in each case is the only guide. If a large quantity is prepared, as recommended in §29, little difficulty will be experienced after two or three trials. The first trial of a new "batch" of runnet should be made with a few quarts or gallons of milk, by which the proportion for a larger quantity can be readily estimated. Too much makes the curd tough, injures the flavor of the cheese, causes it to heave or swell out from fermentation, and renders it more liable to decay; while too little consumes too much time, and permits a large quantity of butter to escape entanglement in the curd. Just sufficient should be added to curdle the milk well in from 20 to 30 or 35 minutes.

34. *Separation of the Whey*.—This is also an important point, since any thing short of perfect separation leaves behind sugar of milk and lactic acid—both elements of decay; while too rapid separation greatly diminishes the amount of butter. This last point is not as important where the second

cheesing, or churning of whey-cream, described in §31, is practiced. We can not recommend a better practice of *handling* the curd, than that of Mrs. Lincoln, described on page 273, §21. In making the celebrated Stilton cheeses, of England, we believe the curd is not broken at all, but is carefully—gently at first—pressed till the whey gradually drains out. We do not see why this plan is not an excellent one, though we are not aware that it is practiced elsewhere. If any of our readers have tried it, will they please inform us as to their experience.

35. *Salting Cheese*.—The kind of salt is important, and we earnestly advise all cheese makers to prepare their salt in the manner described in §19, page 242. Some add the full quantity of salt to the finely-chopped curd, just before putting it into the press. Others give a double salting to one-third of the curd, and place it in the center of the cheese, and then rub salt upon the surface. Others again make the whole cheese without and salt, and depend upon after absorption of salt from the surface. This may answer for small cheeses, but is not to be recommended for general practice. The plan first named is, we think, the safest and the least troublesome. It is quite desirable that every particle of the cheese should be in contact with salt, though this is not so important as in salting butter, since salt will diffuse itself through cheese, which it will not do in butter. The amount of salt depends somewhat upon its quality, upon the perfect separation of whey, and upon the length of time and the climate in which the cheese is to be kept. A medium quantity is about one ounce of salt to three pounds of cheese. An ordinary tea-cupful of dry, Syracuse salt weighs 5½ ounces, so that about a tea-cupful may be applied to 15 or 16 pounds of cheese. It is always best to rub the surface of the cheese occasionally with a little salt, that the outside, which is most exposed to the air, may be more effectually preserved. The same end is secured when salt butter is rubbed over the surface.

36. *Coloring Cheese*.—Various substances are added to the milk before curdling, to give color to the cheese. Saffron is the most common; others use annatto, or marigold or carrots steeped in milk. The quantity of annatto required is very small, not more than a quarter of an ounce to 30 or 40 pounds of cheese. There is probably little injury from either of these substances, though the latter is largely adulterated. We do not believe it advisable to employ any coloring

matter, unless in cheese designed for some unusually fastidious market.

COMPARISONS DRAWN FROM CENSUS RETURNS NOT ALWAYS CORRECT.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

On page 211, of June 14, you have statistics from the National Intelligencer, relative to the "value of farms in different States," which strikes me as showing a comparison, though in truth a difference, yet not a very fair inference of the condition of the citizens of the different States. These comparisons are dependent upon so many contingencies, that they do not give satisfaction.

Allow me to state a case: Vermont stands second, showing that each inhabitant owns in cash value \$201. Suppose in Louisiana there be a cash value "of her farms," as giving only \$100; thus the citizens of Vermont would be worth double as much. Land in Vermont may be valued at an average of \$50 per acre, and in Louisiana at \$5. Mr. A. owns a farm in Vermont of 100 acres, worth \$5,000, from which, with industry, economy, &c., he takes off \$500. Mr. B., in Louisiana, owns 500 acres, worth \$2,500 only, cash value, as per the late census; yet he sells 100 bales of cotton, worth \$3,000, or 100 hogsheads of sugar, worth \$5,000. The first article is carried to Massachusetts, and adds to her value on land, and the proceeds to the Louisianian is laid out in land at \$1.25, or less or more.

Again, these comparisons are unjust in another phase. The census shows, for instance, the hay crop as a part of the profit of—say Connecticut or Ohio. The hay crop in Mississippi is set down as nothing, because the planters make but very little, they feeding on corn-blades, shucks (husks of corn), millet, &c.; yet Pennsylvania has near two million tons—is all sold, or is that her crop?

Mississippi has 170,007 horses, mules and asses; 83,485 working oxen; with a corn crop of 22,440,552 bushels—71 bushels per head; with nearly 310,000 slaves to be fed—from what? 1,582,734 hogs to be fed—from what? Does it not appear very evident to any man, that such statements are not reliable for comparing one country with another?

Why, Sir, the corn crop of Mississippi in 1850, would not be enough by one-third, at the lowest possible limit. Feeding 253,000 work animals would require about 25,000,000 bushels. The hogs, at only two bushels each, would require 3,000,000 more; 309,878 at 15 bushels each, would require 5,000,000 more. This added up gives \$33,000,000, showing a demand for 11,000,000 more than were made. Mind you, here is no waste, nothing for whites, nothing for poultry, rats, dogs, &c. Why, Sir, the corn necessities alone would involve a drain of nearer \$10,000,000 than less than \$5,000,000, while our export article was only worth some \$15,000,000.

Yet again. 10,560,000 acres are put down at a cash value of near \$55,000,000—not \$5 per acre. Vermont, with 4,000,000 acres, at

\$63,000,000. Horses, mules and oxen, in Vermont, \$109,852; farm implements and machinery, \$2,740,000; while Mississippi, with 253,000 work animals, with all her cotton gins, &c., has only \$5,973,000! Why, Sir, estimating a gin, mill, press, gearing and horse, at \$1,000 each—one to every 50 negroes—there will be \$6,000,000 required alone, nothing said of saw-mills, plows, wagons, and the forty thousand *et ceteras*.

Any school boy can figure up there are errors, and that comparisons between the South and the North are not a fair criterion. Others may say, these are statistics. So they are; but some of the South do not render in the reports as many do of the North, for they do not really know the data as correctly as should be, and they prefer to always under-estimate. I am required to say what is the cash value of my land. I own 1,200 acres. I can only judge by sales. We seldom sell land for cash. I then make a guess, at, say \$8 per acre, and I pay taxes on the, say, \$10,000. But I would not take \$30,000. This is my homestead; I do not want to sell. From this \$10,000 investment and operatives, &c., I can sell some two or three hundred bales of cotton. My \$10,000 worth of property divided among my ten children, gives them only \$1,000 each; yet I sell yearly \$6,000 to \$10,000 worth, or I can pay expenses and give them each \$300 each year, or 30 per cent on the capital.

I have hunted up these statistics, from ten to twenty years, and have pointed out to former Commissioners of Patents such apparent errors, that it seems nothing but the desire alone to disparage could have prevented a correction. I do not think the worth of a man should be judged by the dollars and cents. I hope I shall not be thus estimated. Other folks may desire it—but for me and mine, we do not.

A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

FOWL RAISING AMONG THE SHAKERS.

One of the editors of the Cincinnati Star in the West, has visited our friends at Union Village, and gives the following items of their way of raising chickens:

We were much interested in the poultry department of the Union Community. They have the choicest cocks and hens, capons, turkeys, ducks and geese. The hatching process is left to the charge of one "brother," who, with his long straight hair and broad brim, superintends the work with gravity and faithfulness, and who, generally, has good "luck." If chickens can be hatched, he will hatch them. As soon as they are fairly "out of the shell," they are taken from the hen and given into the hands of a careful "sister," who nurses them with the tenderness of a mother. She places them in a room provided for this purpose, which is kept warmed to a certain temperature with stoves. Those near the same age are placed together. In this room were four or five small apartments or pens, in each of which there were at least 100 to 200 chickens, none of which could have been over ten days old. They all seemed strong and healthy, and very clean and pretty. The "sister" assured us that they do much better when taken from the hen, and are thus cared for by human attention. Moreover the hen gets to her work of laying more speedily than

when permitted to run with her brood. The warmth of the room supplies the absence of brooding.

THE EFFECT OF PROHIBITORY LAWS ON THE FARMING INTEREST.

There are few questions presenting themselves to the farming community at present, of more importance than this—what is going to be the effect of prohibitory liquor laws on the price of produce? We see one State after another falling into the ranks of prohibition, regardless of the clamor of politicians who are denouncing these laws as unjust, and oppressive. Of course this great question can be settled only by a fair trial of the operation of the prohibitory law. I think a conclusion different from that of noisy politicians can be reached in this matter. One thing farmers may take very calmly—they need not be alarmed at the prophecies of those politicians who predict disaster and ruin to the farming interest, and therefore ruin to the country, from the operation of prohibition in the liquor traffic. The world will move on without the aid of their wisdom and power. But let us come to a direct examination of the question.

On page 182 of the Compendium of the United States for 1850, we find the total amount of corn distilled that year in the United States, to be 11,067,761 bushels; but on page 174, the whole amount produced was 592,071,104—showing that the amount distilled in the United States, was to the amount produced as 1 to 53½ bushels. Hence while distilleries consume one bushel, 53½ bushels are consumed in other ways. Until I saw these figures, I supposed distillers consumed a much larger proportion of the corn crop.

Now suppose that all the distilleries in the land should close up their business at once, the amount of corn that would be thrown back into the hands of farmers would be only one to every 53½ bushels—less than 2 bushels on a hundred, or 20 on a thousand. If this corn could not find a market, it would only be a loss of 1-53 part of the farmer's crop. The average price of a bushel of corn throughout the country, as it comes from the hands of the producer, can not be over 40 cents. In this case the loss to the farmer would be only about ¼ of a cent per bushel, even admitting that there would be no market for it.

We allow the corn is not consumed and wasted in making whiskey. The slops of the distillery are used for fattening beef and pork. It is said that the same corn, after making whiskey, produces half as much pork as it would have done without being distilled. Now if you suppose all the distilleries to be stopped, there will then be a demand at least for half the corn to fatten the number of hogs that have heretofore been fattened at the distilleries. If this supposition is granted, the loss of corn, instead of being 1-53 part, will be 1-106 part, or about ½ of a cent on a bushel, even if the rest can find no market.

But every bushel of corn distilled yields about 3½ gallons of whiskey. What becomes of this liquor? It first passes into the hands of the wholesale dealer—then into the retailer's hands, who distributes it through the alleys and streets of our cities; and through all the towns, villages and neighborhoods in our land. This fiery liquid flows in all directions, stinging like a serpent and biting like an adder—paralysing the arm of industry, entailing unnumbered sorrows, abject poverty and wretchedness on multitudes of noble women and innocent children. If now distilleries should stop, and the traffic in liquor should cease, can any one for a moment conclude that the corn which would

otherwise be distilled, will not be in demand? Would not 3½ gallons of whiskey kept out of a family by a prohibitory law, let into that family more than one half bushel of corn? If so, then let your distilleries be closed, and all the corn will be wanted and used.

It is stated to be a fact by those who are extensively acquainted at the West, that the farmers throughout the corn-growing region, have really found a better market for this grain in fattening pork than distillers have furnished them. It needs no labored argument to show that when corn is applied to the fattening of hogs, it seldom fails of yielding a greater profit, than when sold to the distiller. Numerous experiments have been made to prove this point. A writer in the *Ohio Cultivator*, in 1853, stated that he could make, and had made, pork at the rate of 1 lb. for every 3½ lbs. of corn. But others affirm that it will require 5 lbs. of corn to make 1 lb. of pork. Suppose now the latter estimate to be correct; then one bushel of corn will make 11½ lbs. pork, which at 5 cents per pound would be 56 cents per bushel—a greater price than distillers in the West are in the habit of giving for corn. They are generally unwilling to pay over 30 or 35 cents per bushel, when pork is worth 5 cents per lb., and consequently corn is worth 56 cents per bushel.

Mr. J. Scobey, a reliable farmer of Franklin Co., Indiana, has lately furnished me the results of two experiments made by himself. In the first trial he met with a loss of two of his hogs by death, after having fed them four months; yet he sold the residue of his hogs, when fattened, for enough to cover his loss and pay him at the rate of 45 cents a bushel for his corn, when the market price was only 25 cents. In the second experiment he took young pigs, and fed them until nine months old on nothing but corn and water. These, when sold at the low price of 4½ cents per lb., yielded him enough to bring his corn up to 55 cents per bushel. If this same corn had been taken to the distillery and sold, it would not have yielded him more than 30 cents per bushel.

In view of these incontrovertible facts, where is the danger that our farmers will become poor, or be injured at all by the operation of prohibitory laws? There can not be any real danger, notwithstanding the alarming predictions and menaces of bar-room politicians, and angry liquor dealers. These vain menaces and pitiful predictions may remind one of a certain speech made in the British Parliament, when the subject of abolishing the slave trade was agitated in England. A certain boisterous politician in a set speech declared that if "the Bill for abolishing the traffic in slaves should pass, in less than ten years the streets of London would be deserted, and the city itself would be deserted." Yet we are assured on the most recent and reliable authority, that London, instead of meeting with such a terrible disaster, has nearly doubled her wealth and population since that famous speech. So I am confident in the opinion that our corn trade will grow better and better, after the fires in every distillery in the land shall have gone out—that crime will be less frequent, and of course jails, penitentiaries and prisons will be less tenanted—that vagabond poverty will be less seen—that thousands of families will be saved from want and wretchedness—that industry, economy and thrift will be more generally prevalent among all classes of people—that order, law and religion will be in the ascendant—and that intemperance and vices of every name, and lawlessness will be abolished.—J. R. Goodwin, in *Northern Farmer*.

Give your children education, and no tyrant will trample on their liberties.

HOEING—ITS PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE.

BY A PRACTICAL FARMER.

Hoeing is that minor operation in tillage of which plowing may be considered the foundation, and which is to be followed up and be completed by the cultivator, the roller, and the harrow. The two great objects to be attained is the most perfect subdivision of the soil and the truest cleanliness. In the one case it can only, for the most part, be accomplished before the crop is sown; but in the other, it can be proceeded with while the crop is growing, and with the greatest prospective advantage to it.

HOEING: ITS PRINCIPLES.—The true principles of hoeing consist in the minute subdivision of the soil, the aëration of the soil, and the extirpation of weeds from the surface.

The minute subdivision of the soil.—Jethro Tull says, that "as soon as the plowman has done his work of plowing and harrowing, the soil begins to undo it, inclining towards and endeavoring to regain its natural specific gravity; the broken parts by little and little coalesce, unite, and lose some of their surfaces; many of their pores and interstices close up during the seeds' incubation and hatching in the ground; and, as the plants grow up, they require an increase of food proportionable to their increasing bulk; but, on the contrary, instead thereof, that internal superficies which is their artificial pasture gradually decreases. The earth is so unjust to plants, her own offspring, as to shut up her stores in proportion to their wants; that is, to give them less nourishment when they have need of more; therefore man, for whose use they are chiefly designed, ought to bring in his reasonable aid for their relief, and force open her magazines with the hoe, which will thence procure them at all times provisions in abundance and also free them from intruders—I mean, their spurious kindred, the weeds, that robbed them of their too scanty allowance." Thus wrote Tull 125 years ago; and those quaint and homely phrases contain the pith of the whole subject. Hoeing—deep continuous hoeing, judiciously applied—does surprisingly advance the growth of plants. It prevents the soil regaining its natural solidity. It keeps open the soil, and by breaking and subdividing it, causes it to present innumerable surfaces, interstices, or crevices, into which the young rootlets will penetrate, and extract their daily food as it is required; whereas if no new surfaces or interstices are presented, the plant has to force its own unaided way in search of this food, which much retards its progress by exhausting its powers upon a given spot too long. But if the soil is constantly stirred, subdivision goes on, and new particles of soil are brought into contact with the searching rootlets; besides this, the very tread of either man or horse will so shake and jar the earth around as to open many pores, into which the roots will find a way, long after the operation of hoeing is of necessity given up, and thus the crop is progressively and safely brought forward to maturity.

The aëration of the soil.—This is one of the most important principles involved in hoeing. It is an undoubted fact "that the roots increase their fibers every time the earth is stirred about them," and consequently the plants themselves grow the faster, providing of course, fair judgment is exercised in directing the operation. This manifest advantage can only be rightly attributed to the supply of food thus communicated to the plants by promoting the admission of atmospheric influences into the soil, and by the minute disintegration of the soil, its subdivision and repeated stirrings making a new and plentiful "internal superficies" in it.

The theory of the food of plants.—The modes by which it is supplied from the soil, from the artificial aids now generally adopted and from atmospheric influences, as also the appropriation of these various life-giving properties by the plants, is somewhat beyond the sphere of inquiry of a plain practical farmer; but if my readers would trouble themselves to read upon the subject they will find the simple fact as I have stated it. The great object, therefore, in hoeing, should be to provide a deep, loose soil contiguous to the plant, for the reception of their food from the atmosphere, that the near and spreading rootlets may be induced to possess themselves of it; and the corresponding one should be with a view of providing a large extent of internal superficies or openings in and around which the plants can fix their rootlets and obtain food.

The extirpation of weeds from the surface.—Cleanliness is indispensable to good cultivation; hence, one great principle in hoeing is the eradication of weeds. I shall reserve for my next paper, on the practice of hoeing, any notice of the ways and means by which it is accomplished. I only wish now to draw attention to the principles involved. Weeds will grow everywhere, and they will grow apace; they must be kept down, and, if possible, destroyed. Hoeing—repeated hoeing in all its variations—is the best method hitherto discovered for the destruction of weeds during the growth of the crop. In row culture it is an admirable adjunct to agriculture; and in broadcast sowing it may be advantageously adopted—the horse-hoe for deep culture, the hand-hoe for surface work.

There is something very encouraging in the consideration of these principles, the mere outlines of which I have but pointed out. If the surface of the earth or soil is left untilled, neither air nor moisture can be imbibed to any extent. The evening's dews are taken up by the morning's sun. Hoeing provides a suitable deposit in the upraised mold for whatever gaseous matter or moisture may descend upon it. In this way food is found both for the spongioles or rootlets, as well as the many mouths of the leaves or blades; this is, in fact, the act of feeding the plants. Another great consideration is that this very feeding creates greater necessity for food, it gives more mouths in the blades and leaves, more roots and fibers, all requiring daily supplies or sustenance. Now hoeing or stirring the soil is the great means of its replenishment, and the faster the plant grows the more and deeper hoeing it requires, and which it ought to receive so long as it can be given without injury being sustained by the operation itself. This continuous hoeing will, of course, insure the destruction of innumerable weeds, which would otherwise infest the soil, partially exhaust it, and damage the crop, besides leaving a large progeny for future condemnation. Hoeing, then, is the greatest means to promote the full and healthy development of the latent powers of the soil, by its continuous breaking up and subdivision of the gradually consolidating soil, by its rendering admissible every atmospheric fertilizing agency, and by the destruction of every obnoxious and intruding weed.—*Mark Lane Express*.

POLL EVIL.—For the benefit of those who have or may hereafter have horses that have poll evil or fistula, I would say, don't sell the animal for a trifle, or give him away; but cure him sound and well. I care not how long it has been running, it can be cured with one dime; yes, one dime's worth of muriatic acid will cure the worst case of old poll evil. First wash the sore well with strong soap suds, then drop eight or ten drops of the acid in it twice a-day, until it has the appearance

of a fresh wound; after which, it should be washed clean with suds made from Castile soap and left to heal, which it will quickly do if the acid has been used long enough; but if it does not get well, apply the acid again until it does cure, for it is a sure remedy and will not fail if it is applied until the diseased flesh is all burnt out.

PUMPKINS AND SQUASHES OF AMERICAN ORIGIN.

The common field pumpkin (*cucurbita pepo*), as well as squashes, properly so called, is believed to be of American origin, as will appear from the following remarks by Dr. T. W. Harris, of Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts:

"Accident led me some four years ago to undertake the investigation of the history of squashes and pumpkins, which has led to quite interesting results. Most of the older and well-known species and varieties were by modern botanists supposed to have come originally from Asia, and particularly from India. This I have proved to be an error, and have shown that these fruits were wholly unknown to the ancients, no mention being made of them in the Scriptures, nor by Greek and Latin authors; the writers of the middle ages, while they describe or take note of other cucurbitaceous plants, entirely omit pumpkins and squashes; and these did not begin to be known and noticed in Europe till after the discovery of America. Early voyagers found them in the West Indies, Peru, Florida, and even on the coast of New-England, where they were cultivated by our Indians before any settlements were made here by the Europeans. The old botanists who flourished during the first century after the discovery of the New World, or the West Indies, began to describe them for the first time, and give to them specific names, indicating the Indian (American) origin. Here arose the mistake of modern botanists in referring these plants to the East Indies and to Asia.

"From a study of the history of the plant I went next to a study of the species, with particular reference to their botanical characters, and to this end have been cultivating and examining every year all the kinds accessible to me. I think I have established the facts that all the fruits known by the names of 'pumpkins' and 'squashes' are of American origin; that there are three distinct groups of them: the first including summer squashes and pumpkins, with deep, five-furrowed fruit stems; and the third, the winter pumpkins and squashes, with short, cylindrical, and longitudinally wrinkled (but not five-furrowed) fruit stems. The last group was, probably, originally confined to tropical and sub-tropical parts of the western side of this continent, from California to Chili. The most esteemed varieties now cultivated in New-England belong to this group, and the best of them are the 'autumnal marrow' and 'acorn squashes.'"

TREE PLANTING IN THE PAPAL STATES.—The government of Rome has had an annual appropriation of \$10,000 for the encouragement of tree-planting in the Papal States. Premiums are offered to all who will plant trees on their own property, under the inspection of the officers in their district. Provision is made to supply the deficiency, if the sum appropriated should prove inadequate. The olive, lemon, oak, elm, chestnut, and almond, are among the trees named.

To guard effectually your own interests, you must, in the first place, attend to the interests of others.

BLOODY MURRAIN—A CURE.

Since our last issue we have conversed with Mr. C. Hays, one of our most reliable farmers, on the subject of Murrain in cattle. He has had considerable experience with the disease and formerly lost a good many of his cattle, but latterly, he has succeeded in curing every case among his own cattle, and some for others. His mode of procedure is as follows:

Take of white oak bark, newly peeled 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 the water off, and dissolve in it a lump of alum 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. In only one instance did he have need for any additional remedy, and then, to facilitate the opening of the bowels, he administered a plate of lard.

We hope this remedy will be extensively and thoroughly experimented with in all parts of the country, and the results reported. Murrain is a disease which takes largely from the profits of stock raising in the west, and as there is no known cure there will be no harm in trying this.—*Prairie Farmer.*

TOADS. (*Bufo vulgaris*.)

From the earliest recollection of the "oldest inhabitants," this little creature has been under the ban, a source of terror to every little Miss, an object of disgust to maids and matrons, a byword and term of reproach for every old aunt and grandma in the land, who would never seek further in their vocabulary of opprobrious terms for a suitable name for little urchin, than to call him a "little, nasty toad." Boys have made it their sport, have pelted it with stones, pierced it through and through with sharp sticks, substituted it in the place of a ball, upon a bat board, throwing it high into the air, and exulting in its torture; and even men in the field, hoeing their crops, have been wont to rudely thrust it aside with their hoes, as a useless reptile, wondering for what purpose such a loathsome object could have been created. The Toad has been accused of being a venomous reptile, a fit object of dread, a poisoner of choice garden plants, deserving banishment from every one's premises, and fit only to inhabit an *uninhabitable* morass or desert. The toad, has, however, occasionally been brought into respectable notice by curiosity hunters, and newspaper paragraph writers, whenever he has chanced to have been found in a torpid state in the cavity of a rock, or in the trunk of a tree, in which cases an antiquity has been ascribed to it equal to that of Egyptian Mummies, or perhaps set down as of antediluvian origin. In this manner, poor toady has gone the rounds of newspaper notoriety, not for any merit or value it might have possessed, but as a matter of mere curiosity. But this poor and despised creature has not been left entirely friendless nor without an advocate.

Naturalists have placed him in the scale of usefulness where he belongs, and have shown that he is not deserving the very many opprobriums that have been heaped upon him.

To the gardener, the toad is a very useful assistant, as it devours a great number of insects and worms that prey upon the plants. In the dark of the evening, the toad comes forth from its hiding place, and commences its work of extermination. Noiselessly it passes through the garden, regaling itself upon the insects that have just begun their nocturnal work upon the tender plants. No one but those who have observed the move-

ments of this little animal, can form any correct estimate of its usefulness. A few evenings since, I watched one a short time, and observed that in the space of fifteen minutes, it devoured some fifteen or twenty insects, of that class too, that in the day time, lie concealed from the observation of the birds, but at night go forth in armies to carry on their work of destruction, to lay waste the gardener's toil. It would be a matter of economy for those who till the ground, to provide the toad with a suitable place for retreat in the day time, thus virtually saying to him: "My dear little fellow, I value your services, and will do all I can for your comfort."

With proper appreciation for his services, and care for his preservation, the toad will become quite domesticated, and will continue his valuable work, for years, simply for his "board and lodging." Those who wantonly destroy the toad, should be classed with those who kill harmless and useful birds.

Some years ago a family in Braceville, Trumbull County, observed one day, in the hall of the house, a large toad, leaping along in an orderly and moderate way towards the dining room door. It entered the room and took a circuit around, then stationed itself between the door and a window, and sat there all day; whenever a fly came near enough, he would catch it, and as this was quite often, the work of extermination went on bravely; sometimes he would spring up a foot or more for a fly upon the wall. At sundown he went out to enjoy the refreshing coolness of the evening, and probably, the society of his kindred. The next day, to the surprise of the family, he came in and took the same place by the door, and so continued to do during the whole summer. The family whose premises were so unceremoniously occupied, being aware of the useful and harmless nature of their visitor, and being curious to learn its habits, allowed it to remain. Thus the toad carried on the war against the flies, until autumn, when they, having become greatly reduced in numbers, and it being difficult for him any longer to obtain supplies by forage, he concluded to go into "winter quarters." Immediately on the opening of the spring campaign, however, he was at his old post. His message to the flies, as near as can be ascertained, was, "Come, and I'll take you;" they came, were seen, and were swallowed. The enemy being immensely numerous, the war was carried on in the same way, and in the same place, for *six years*, the toad meanwhile having grown strong and increased in stature, and having regularly spent every night skylarking.

He was cool and prompt in action, and moreover a very *slippery* antagonist; whenever anything was said to him by any person passing his stand, his eyes would twinkle in a very pleasant way. The only weapon he ever used was his tongue, which was very long and rough. The human tongue is known to be an exceedingly formidable weapon, but no one has been known to be swallowed outright by its means, though a great many have been *taken in*.

Sometimes a fly would light within a foot of toady, and sit rubbing its miraculous little feet with great delight apparently, when the toad, imitating the notorious Jeffreys, would "give him a lick with the rough side of his tongue," and the poor fly would be condemned and executed instantly.

In one respect, however, the immortal Jeffreys had the advantage of the toad, for he could "smell a puritan a mile off" he said, while the toad had no sense of smell apparently, but was in point of practice, *all tongue*.—*Ohio Farmer.*

CORN, RYE, AND INDIAN BREAD.

We have been resolved into a committee for a special report on this very important branch of the great culinary art, and if our readers do not understand and act discreetly in reference to it hereafter, it is not our fault.

We profess to speak, in the following passages, *ex cathedra*, and if others do not succeed in their earlier experiments, they must try again.

CORN-BREAD AS MADE AT GREEN'S CHAMBERS-STREET, N. Y.—Take 7 pints yellow corn-meal, 3 pints wheat flour, and mix them well together; then 6 eggs, well broken, 2 cups of melted butter, and a little salt and sugar to suit the taste. Put this mass together, and mix with milk to make a batter about the consistency or stiffness of paste prepared for drop-cake. Then dissolve three teaspoonsful of cream of tartar, and the same of soda; pour it upon the mass, stir it thoroughly, and dip it at once into pans, and bake in a hot oven.

CORN-BREAD AS MADE AT CROOK'S CHATHAM-STREET, N. Y.—Take 1 quart of milk, 3 eggs, beaten, butter half the size of an egg, cream tartar 1 teaspoonful, salt and sweeten to your taste. To this add corn-meal to make a paste about the consistency of griddle-cakes; put in pan immediately, and bake in a hot oven.

BOSTON BROWN-BREAD.—To make this article, take of best yellow corn-meal two parts; of unbolted rye-meal (the rye should be screened before grinding) one part; partially wet and mix the corn-meal with hot water, then add the rye and the yeast, (hop-yeast, one pint to nine quarts of meal,) and thoroughly mix with more warm water, if necessary, to make a mass neither hard nor soft, but stiff enough to be transferred with care by the hand from the kneading trough to the pan; then let it stand till it begins to show signs of rising; put it into the pans, and let it stand a few minutes, if it is not "rising" too fast, then put it to bake; if in a brick oven, six hours will be none too many; if in a common stove or range, care must be had not to burn, and bake from three to six hours according to size of loaf. The heat should be moderate after the first two hours, but steady; keep up a scalding heat after the outside is browned properly.

Many people use three quarts or pounds of rye-meal to five quarts or pounds of corn-meal, which, we think, are the best proportions for pure New-England "rye and Indian." S. D. Ostrander, Boston brown-bread baker, of this city, 378 Bleecker-street, uses 2 parts rye to 4 of corn-meal, and hop-yeast, adding a little molasses to a part to suit the taste of customers. Too much molasses is worse than none for most people.

But we next give the receipt which we would set forth as making a better article than all the brown-bread ever baked in this city of Boston, where, of course, bakers only imitate the "real original" article made by the housewives of Yankeeland. It will be perceived that we still hold on upon *milk*, and though a large proportion of this bread is mixed with water only, we go for this liquid as a valuable improvement.

REAL NEW-ENGLAND BROWN-BREAD.—Take equal proportions of sifted rye and Indian meal, mix them well together; add half a tea-cup-full of molasses, and two gills of good yeast, to about three quarts of the mixed meal. Wet this with good new milk, sufficient to make a dough that can easily be worked, even with one hand. For economy's sake, milk that has stood twelve hours, and from which the cream has been taken, may be a substitute for the new milk; or water which has been pressed from boiled, squash, or in which squash has been boiled,

is a substitute much better than pure water. But warm water is more commonly used. The ingredients should be thoroughly mixed, and stand, in cold weather, for twelve hours; in warm weather two hours may be sufficient before baking.

If baked in a brick oven, a three-quart loaf should stand in the oven all night. The same quantity in three baking-pans will bake in about three hours.

Serve this warm from the oven, with good, sweet butter, and we could fast upon it every morning for breakfast, from January to December.—*Plow, Loom and Anvil.*

COOKERY—EFFECTS OF HEAT UPON MEAT.

A well-cooked piece of meat should be full of its own juice or natural gravy. In roasting, therefore, it should be exposed to a quick fire, that the external surface may be made to contract at once, and the albumen to coagulate, before the juice has had time to escape from within. And so in boiling. When a piece of beef or mutton is plunged into boiling water, the outer part contracts, the albumen which is near the surface coagulates, and the internal juice is prevented either from escaping into the water by which it is surrounded, or from being diluted or weakened by the admission of water among it. When cut up, therefore, the meat yields much gravy, and is rich in flavor. Hence a beefsteak or a mutton-chop is done quickly, and over a quick fire, that the natural juices may be retained. On the other hand, if the meat be exposed to a slow fire, its pores remain open, the juice continues to flow from within, as it has dried from the surface, and the flesh pines, and becomes dry, hard, and unsavory. Or if it be put into cold or tepid water which is afterwards gradually brought to a boil, much of the albumen is extracted before it coagulates, the natural juices for the most part flow out, and the meat is served in a nearly tasteless state. Hence to prepare good boiled meat, it should be put at once into water already brought to a boil. But to make beef-tea, mutton-broth, and other meat soups, the flesh should be put into cold water, and this afterwards very slowly warmed, and finally boiled. The advantage derived from simmering—a term not unfrequent in cookery books—depends very much upon the effects of slow boiling as above explained.—*Prof. Johnston's Chemistry of Common Life.*

CORN CAKE.—A special premium was awarded to Mrs. Chas. W. Wampole, at the late Exhibition of the Montgomery (Ala.) Agricultural Society, for a corn cake, made after the following recipe:

"Take the white of eight eggs; one-fourth pound each of corn-starch, flour and butter; half pound sugar; one teaspoonful of cream tartar; half a teaspoonful of soda. Flavor with almond to suit the taste."

GOLD CONSUMED FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.—It is computed that the amount of the precious metals consumed in various ways is from forty to fifty millions of dollars' value per annum. It is stated that for gilding metals by the electrotype and the water gilding process, no less than 18,000 to 20,000 ounces are annually required. In Paris, 18,000,000 francs are used for manufacturing purposes yearly; and in the United States, \$10,000,000 is the estimated amount converted into ornamental jewelry.

Our very *manner* is a thing of importance. A kind *no* is often more agreeable than a rough *yes*.

MEASURING DISTANCES BY SOUND.

Sound passes through the air with a moderate and known velocity; light passes almost instantaneously. If, then, two distant points be visible from each other, and a gun be fired at night from one of them, an observer at the other, noting by a stop watch the time at which the flash is seen, and then at which the report is heard, can tell by the number of intervening seconds how far apart the points are, knowing how far sound travels in a second. Sound moves about 1,090 feet per second in dry air, with the temperature at the freezing point, 32° Fahrenheit. For higher or lower temperatures, add or subtract 1½ foot for each degree of Fahrenheit. If a wind blows with or against the movement of the sound, its velocity must be added or subtracted. If it blows obliquely, the correction will evidently equal its velocity multiplied by the cosine of the angle which the direction of the wind makes with the direction of the sound. A gentle pleasant wind has a velocity of 10 feet per second; a brisk gale, 20 feet per second; a very brisk gale, 30 feet; a high wind, 50 feet; a very high wind, 70 feet; a storm or tempest, 80 feet; a great storm, 100 feet; a hurricane, 120 feet; and a violent hurricane, that roots up trees, &c., 150 feet per second. If the gun be fired at each end of the base in turn, and the means of the times taken, the effect of the wind will be eliminated.

If a watch be not at hand, suspend a pebble to a string, (such as a thread drawn from a handkerchief,) and count its vibrations: If it be 39½ inches long, it will vibrate in one second; if 9 inches long, in half a second &c. If its length is unknown at the time, still count its vibrations; measure it subsequently, and then will the time of its vibration in seconds, equal the square root of the string divided by 39½.—*Prof. Gillespie.*

PRESERVATION OF MILK.—The following method is recommended for the preservation of milk, either at sea or in warm climates:

Provide pint or quart bottles, which must be perfectly clean, sweet, and dry; draw the milk from the cow into the bottles, and, as they are filled, immediately cork them well up, and fasten the corks with pack-thread or wire; then spread a little straw on the bottom of a boiler, on which place the bottles with straw between them, until the boiler contains a sufficient quantity. Fill it up with cold water; heat the water, and, as soon as it begins to boil, draw the fire, and let the whole cool gradually. When quite cold, take out the bottles and pack them with straw or sawdust in hampers, and stow them in the coolest part of the ship, or in a cool place.

Some years since, there was a Swedish or Danish vessel at Liverpool, having milk on board, preserved in this manner. It had been carried twice to the West Indies, and back to Denmark, and been above eighteen months in the bottles; nevertheless, it was as sweet as when first taken from the cow.

METHOD.—All things in us and about us are chaos without method; and so long as the mind is entirely passive, so long as there is an habitual submission of the understanding to mere events and images, as such, without any attempt to classify and arrange them, so long the chaos must continue. There may be transition, but there can never be progress; there may be sensation, but there can not be thought; for the total absence of method renders things impracticable; as we think that partial defects of method proportionally render thinking a trouble and a fatigue.

He that hath no money needeth no purse.

BOBLINK.

Of all the birds of our groves and meadows, the boblink was the envy of my boyhood. He crossed my path in the sweetest weather, and the sweetest season of the year, when all nature called to the fields, and the rural feeling throbbed in every bosom; but when I, luckless urchin! was doomed to be mewed up, during the livelong day, in that purgatory of boyhood—a school-room—it seemed as if the little varlet mocked at me, as he flew by in full song, and sought to taunt me with his happier lot. Oh how I envied him! No lessons, no task, no hateful school—nothing but holiday, frolic, green fields and fine weather. Had I then been more versed in poetry, I might have addressed him in the words of Logan to the cuckoo:

Sweet bird! thy bower is ever green,
Thy sky is ever clear;
Thou hast no sorrow in thy note,
No winter in thy year.
O! could I fly, I'd fly with thee;
We'd make, on joyful wing,
Our annual visit round the globe,
Companions of the spring!

Further observation and experience have given me a different idea of this little feathered voluptuary, which I will venture to impart for the benefit of my school-boy readers, who may regard him with the same unqualified envy and admiration which I once indulged. I have shown him only as I saw him first, in what I may call the poetical part of his career, when he in a manner devoted himself to elegant pursuits and enjoyments, and was a bird of music, and song, and taste, and sensibility, and refinement; while this lasted he was sacred from injury; the very school-boy would not fling a stone at him, and the merest rustic would pause to listen to his strain.

But mark the difference. As the year advances, as the clover-blossoms disappear, and the spring fades into summer, he gradually gives up his elegant tastes and habits; doffs his poetical suit of black, resumes a russet dusty garb, and sinks to the gross enjoyments of common vulgar birds. His notes no longer vibrate on the ear; he is stuffing himself with the seeds of the tall weeds on which he lately swung and chanted so melodiously. He has become a high liver, a "gourmand;" with him now there is nothing like the "joys of the table." In a little while he grows tired of plain, homely fare, and is off on a gastronomical tour in quest of foreign luxuries.

We next hear of him, with myriads of his kind, banqueting among the reeds of the Delaware, and grown corpulent with good feeding. He has changed his name in traveling. Boblincon no more—he is the *reed-bird* now, the much sought-for titbit of Pennsylvania epicures; the rival in the unlucky fame of the ortolan! Wherever he goes, pop! pop! pop! every rusty firelock in the country is blazing away. He sees his companions falling by thousands around him.

Does he take warning, and reform? Alas, no he! Incorrigible epicure! Again he wings his his flight. The rice swamps of the South invite him. He gorges himself among them almost to bursting; he can scarcely fly for corpulency. He has once more changed his name, and is now the famous *rice-bird* of the Carolinas.

Last stage of his career; behold him spit-ted, with dozens of his corpulent companions, and served up, a vaunted dish, on the table of some Southern gastronome.

Such is the story of the boblink; once spiritual, musical, admired, the joy of the meadows, and the favorite bird of spring; finally, a gross little sensualist, who expiates his sensuality in the larder. His story

contains a moral, worthy the attention of all little birds and little boys; warning them to keep to those refined and intellectual pursuits, which raise him to so high a pitch of popularity during the early part of his career, but to eschew all tendency to that gross and dissipated indulgence, which brought this mistaken little bird to an untimely end.

IRVING.

Horticultural Department.

THE GRITTIENESS OF PEARS.

The grittiness of pears is the chief circumstance which diminishes their value at the dessert. Some are more subject to the affection than others; but all are occasionally deteriorated by it. The proximate cause is known to consist in the deposit of hard matter in certain cells of the flesh, analogous in all respects to that which gives its bony texture to the stone of Plums, Cherries, &c. In all these cases, the tissue is originally soft and pulpy, and if it were to remain so the whole of a Plum would be as perfectly eatable as a berry of the Grape. But in stone fruits gritty matter is gradually deposited within the pulpy cells of the lining of the flesh, as constantly and naturally as phosphate of lime in the gelatinous tissue of the bones of animals. In the Pear, on the contrary, there is no special part set aside for the reception of grit, which manifests itself accidentally here and there among the soft flesh, sometimes in large and sometimes in small quantities. In fact, in the Pear the grittiness may be regarded as an unnatural secretion, induced by unknown causes, while in stone fruits it is part and parcel of their nature.

We say induced by unknown causes, for we are not aware that any attempt has been made to show out of what circumstances the grittiness arises, or by what it is diminished or prevented. We are now, however, assured that it is entirely owing to the exposure of the Pear fruit to too much cold. It appears that on the 16th of last November, Mr. A. Delaville, gardener at the Chateau de Fitz James, near Clermont (Oise), exhibited before the Imperial Horticultural Society of Paris, some St. Germain pears, a part of which were covered with spots and full of grittiness, while the others were remarkable for their beauty, and wholly exempt from grittiness. We are assured that both samples came from the same tree, and that the only difference consisted in the fine ones having been protected, while the others had been exposed to the weather without any shelter. In fact, M. Delaville is of opinion that the external spots and the internal grittiness were wholly caused by the cold rain which had fallen on the fruit during its growth, and had arrested the free circulation of sap.

With reference to this hypothesis, he remarks that the sorts which are most subject to spotting (*tavelage*) and grittiness are those which have the finest skin, such as the St. Germain, Crasanne, Brown Beurré, and Winter Bonchretien. The effect of aspect also supports this view, it being notorious that the affections in question are most common with Pears on open standards or exposed to the east and south, the quarters whence (at Clermont) the coldest rains always come.

The manner in which M. Delaville protects his Pears is thus described: As soon as the fruit is completely set he incloses every cluster in a cornet of paper, fixed to the top of the stock by a piece of rush (bast). This cornet must be large enough to cover all the upper part, so as to guard the fruit

perfectly from the direct action of exterior agencies. If a tree is trained to a wall the same degree of protection is not necessary, because the wall affords a natural shelter on one side, but where pyramid or other openly trained trees have to be dealt with, the cornet must be very wide, and the small end placed upwards, so as to leave nothing uncovered except the bottom of the fruit stalk.

These cornets remain in their places during the whole season, and are not disturbed till about a fortnight before gathering, at which time they are removed, in order to give the fruit color and to complete the ripening, "just as peaches and grapes are unleafed a short time before gathering them." M. Delaville concludes by assuring the public that by this simple method his whole crop of Pears is very fine, instead of a third or more being unmarketable, as is often the case.

The effect of these precautions should certainly be tried here, now that Pears are getting into the condition when paper cornets are first applied.—*Gard. Chron.*

PACKING BUDS AND GRAFTS.

We have on former occasions given directions on this subject, but have observed among the packages of grafts occasionally received, indications that the best modes are not well understood, even by some intelligent cultivators of fine fruit, by whom errors are often committed.

Since the reduction of postage, the transmission of buds and grafts by mail, has become a great convenience to fruit raisers and pomologists, and the only difficulty is to put them up so that they shall carry long distances with safety. The essential requisites, are to secure the moisture they contain from evaporation, and to prevent bruising.

To prevent evaporation, it was formerly the custom to encase them in muslin covered with a coating of grafting wax; but this was found inconvenient to apply and troublesome in removal. The writer therefore introduced an improvement some fifteen years since, which has since been generally adopted throughout the country. This is to wrap the grafts in *oil-silk*, selecting a piece large enough to cover them and to bend it up over the ends, so as to bring it down *air-tight* on every part, by winding a fine thread around it at very short intervals from end to end. This forms a complete *air-tight* case, through which the moisture from the graft or buds can not escape; and if well put up, *grafts* may be sent in this across the Atlantic without the slightest risk. Buds in summer being greener and more succulent, and the temperature being warmer, can not be forwarded to such great distances. Peach buds, and other kinds cut before the wood is well ripened and hardened, should not remain in this condition longer than three or four days; but well ripened shoots of the pear and apple, near the close of the season of growth, will continue uninjured for at least a fortnight.

To prevent bruising during the period of conveyance, cotton batting, or several thicknesses of soft paper, should be placed *outside* the oil-silk wrapper. A pomological friend, to whom we gave instructions some years since in sending grafts, took the especial precaution of applying a coating of cotton batting *first* to the grafts, and then encased them in oil-cloth. The consequence was that the dry cotton in immediate contact absorbed the moisture from the grafts, and on their arrival they were found as dry as if exposed to a summer sun. In another instance, several thicknesses of soft paper were used for a similar purpose, and with a

like result. For this reason, even the strip of paper containing the name, should be as small as possible; and it is still better to write it with a finely pointed soft pencil on a shaved portion of the scion—or to cut notches as reference-numbers.

When large quantities of scions are sent by "Express," a different mode of packing is adopted. We have sometimes received them withered and dried, without any thing to preserve their moisture; in one instance a bundle of grafts was sent *with the leaves left on to keep them moist*, but instead of producing this result, the leaves had operated as evaporators (as they always do), and had pumped all the moisture out of the grafts, through the leaf-stalks, and they were thoroughly seasoned when they came to hand. The leaves should always be removed, and the grafts packed in alternate layers with fine damp moss, and with a good moss coating outside. Damp sawdust is a good substitute for moss, for packages of moderate size. The packing should not be *wet*, as in this case it will cause the scions to become water-soaked and tend to induce decay. Buds at mid-summer may be put up in this way, and will keep without injury from three days to a week or more according to the degree of maturity which the wood has obtained.—*Country Gentleman*.

THE WILD CHERRY.—(*Cerasus serotina*.)

Among the numerous neglected native trees, there is one, above all others, that demands greater respect from the cultivator of trees—the wild cherry. It has no fault, but has many admirable qualities; yet there is not a tree in our nurseries perhaps less often met with. It may not possibly be deemed "a shade tree;" its light thin foliage is not equal to that of many other trees, in affording us sensual pleasure, by a grateful shade during the dogdays; and it is not desirable that it should. It is not a tree to sit under: it is one rather to be looked at, and admired from a distance. To us, accustomed to its appearance, it is not so striking as to a stranger to our vegetation. To him it has a peculiar cast. It is like a "peach that is not a peach;" an anomaly among familiar faces.

Early in spring it commences its growth, bearing with it its blossom buds, which become fully expanded early in June; at this time it is truly beautiful. The cylindrical branch of numerous white and fragrant blossoms generally occupy half the surface of the head of the tree. Dotted at regular intervals, it gives the appearance of a huge variegated holly at a little distance off: but too beautiful to last long. A few weeks only is its appointed time; then all is over for awhile. But, like a pleasant dream, it follows us along. We may not have forgotten its beauties; but, hardly conscious of what we have seen, we are recalled to it again with the warm days of July, by a constant rustling among its branches. The early songsters of the spring are there. *The birds*—the no small ingredient in the cup of pleasure meted out to those who have chosen a country home—the birds find a pleasant *pasturage* in the field of foliage spread out before them. The berries are "delicious bits" to them; and many a meal's victuals, besides an occasional "lunch between whiles," do they afford them. They will leave all other trees for the wild cherry; it is at once their favorite "hunting ground" and "council chamber." You who feel proud of the welcome the feathered tribes give you, on your first arrival at your rural residences, will you not, in all gratefulness, surround your homes with the means of their support? If you are not a member of the

"Carson League," you may reserve to yourself a tithe of the fruit, for the manufacture of "cherry bounce," and when in a social mood, invite your friend, as a worthy one of mine does, to "take a *leettle*, just by way of medicine," with you. But, should you eschew all these unpopular modes of showing fraternal feelings, you will still have an immediate personal interest in the culture of the wild cherry; for while you have it within your reach, you may make to yourself a tonic and a febrifuge, by which you may safely reap the advantages of any "cherry pectoral," and that, too, without infringing the patent laws.

The wild cherry is as easily cultivated as any of the garden kinds. The nuts should be sown as soon as ripe, or before the frosts set in. If kept till the spring, they seldom appear till the year following, and, in some cases, not at all. The second year from germination, the young seedlings should be taken up, their main roots shortened, and replanted into nursery rows. They will move readily for some years after.

The best time to transplant the wild cherry is in the autumn, as soon as ever some rain has moistened the ground, after the fall of the leaf. Their success is less certain, when moved in the spring.—THOS. MEEHAN, in *Philadelphia Florist*.

THE MAPLE AND ITS ENEMY.

BY A LADY.

Few trees in our varied forest claim more deservedly our admiration than the maples, for few have so much merit, or repay our care more satisfactorily. Unexceptionable as shade trees in the highway or grove, and beautiful in their gorgeous hues in autumn, the American turns to them with pride and pleasure, and unhesitatingly plants a maple wherever a roof is to be sheltered. Hitherto the maples have been free from the ravages of insects; but an enemy has now appeared that will mar their beauty, unless checked by the careful hand of the tree lover, who may, if warned in time, restrain its further progress, at least upon his own grounds, and perhaps his good example may induce the public to take care of the shade trees in our streets, and by a timely pruning, rid the trees of their enemy.

The *Dryocampa rubicunda*, heretofore known to science only in the winged state, proves to be the parent of a green worm, that appeared in numbers on many of the maples near Philadelphia, in the summer of 1854, and most frequently on that valuable species *acer dasycarpum*.

Early in June, a careful observer may see groups of insect's eggs glued to the underside of the leaves of the maple, which soon hatch; the worms are without hair, and of a pale green color, with fine white lines extending the whole length of the worm, interrupted by the deep rings that mark the segments of the body; two black hair like spires grow, one on either side of the head, and when fully grown, the worms measure two inches in length; they feed in company, devouring the entire leaf, even to the naked rib and foot stalk; they feed at first on the tender leaves on the end of the branches, but as they grow older proceed downwards, until all the foliage on the branch is entirely consumed. They continue to feed in a family group until they have attained their full size, when they separate, and become very active for some days, crawling about without any apparent object, but in reality to accomplish a two-fold purpose—first the loosening of their outer skins, which are to be cast off before their final change, and secondly to find a suitable place to enter the ground, where they are to pass their chrysalite existence.

When their active exertions have sufficiently loosened the outer skin to make it easy to cast it off, they enter the ground, and with muscular strength, that appears Herculean when compared with vertebrated animals, they make their way through the solid earth, leaving in their progress their outer skins, now useless to them; then, in common with the rest of their tribe, they throw out a liquid, and at the same time move their bodies rapidly around, forming in the moistened earth a commodious cell, with smoothly plastered walls, impervious to frost or moisture. There they lie, secure from all external injury, until the following spring, when from the last week in May to the middle of June, they rise from their death-like slumber, and appear in their perfect forms—moths of great beauty, clothed in down of the most delicate shades of pink and sulphur colors.

Now in this attractive form, we shrink from injuring a creature so beautiful; but the syren allures only to destroy, for she is on her way, insidiously to place the germs of blight on our fairest trees, and, unsuspected by her admirers, she is the mother of the hateful brood of green worms, that in July and August deform the maples by their presence, and from which we shrink with disgust as they crawl across our path, or drop upon us from the trees when least we expect such arrogance.

To protect these most valued shade trees from this disgusting pest, requires less care than is generally necessary when an insect tribe makes its appearance. The habit of feeding in numbers together soon exposes the family of the *Dryocampa rubicunda* to observation, and their situation on the ends of the branches, renders it easy for the gardener to take them off with a tree-pruner before they begin to wander; but after that time all care is vain, as they elude our search and disappear in the ground, there to remain until they rise again in the following spring to renew their ravages.—*Horticulturist*.

WALKING.—To walk gracefully, the body must be erect, but not stiff, and the head held up in such a posture that the eyes are directed forward. The tendency of untaught walkers is to look towards the ground near the feet; and some persons appear as if admiring their shoe-ties. The eyes should not thus be cast downward, neither should the chest bend forward to throw out the back, making what are termed round shoulders; on the contrary, the whole person must hold itself up, as if not afraid to look the world in the face, and the chest by all means be allowed to expand. At the same time, every thing like strutting or pomposity must be carefully avoided. An easy, firm, and erect posture, are alone desirable. In walking, it is necessary to bear in mind that the locomotion is to be performed entirely by the legs. Awkward persons rock from side to side, helping forward each leg alternately by advancing the haunches. This is not only ungraceful, but fatiguing. Let the legs alone advance, bearing up the body.

We stated a week or two ago, says an Exchange, that farms in Vermont stood so much on their edge, that men with one short leg commanded double wages. A correspondent wants to know if a man with one short leg commands double wages, what will a gent with two short legs command?

SLIGHTLY EMBARRASSING.—An Exchange thinks it rather embarrassing, to lift your hat to a lady in the street, for the sake of politeness, and let a couple of dirty collars roll out upon the sidewalk.

One to-day is worth two to-morrows.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, July 26.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

WE occasionally send a number to persons who are not subscribers. This is sometimes done as a compliment, and in other cases to invite examination. Those receiving such numbers are requested to look them over, and if convenient show them to a neighbor.

USING BONES.

"Of all the possible modes of applying the bones of the premises, that of burning them, although attended with the loss of the gelatine, is on the whole to be preferred, if the preparation is to be made at home, as we suppose, and only on a small scale, and without any special conveniences."

THE above is from an editorial in the *Amerst* (Mass.) *Farmer* for July. We are sorry to find Prof. Nash giving such directions to the readers of the *Farmer*. To say nothing of the theory, or the chemistry of the matter, oft-repeated experiments made with bone-black—that is, *burned bones* from the sugar refineries—have proved that this substance is of comparatively little value for most kinds of crops. It is true it has occasionally been found beneficial to some degree; but in these cases the benefit is most probably to be attributed to the organic matters retained from the sugar, and to the ammonia secreted from rains and the atmosphere, and held in the pores of the charred bones, or in the water contained in these pores. As a simple manure, to be applied to the land, we would not give *five dollars* a ton for burned bones. Indeed we estimate them as but little better than the same weight of the best charcoal dust.

Bones should always be ground or dissolved in acid to preserve the organic part, or, where neither of these methods are practicable, let them be broken with a hammer as finely as may be, and applied in this form.

Burned bones from the sugar-house have been used extensively in the manufacture of artificial manure. They are treated with sulphuric acid, and Peruvian guano is then added. Theory ascribes the benefit from this compound to the superphosphate of lime. To doubt this theory would call down upon our (not) defenseless heads, the maledictions, and the cry of "old fogie," from the interested manufacturers, and those sympathizing specially with them, and from those who have looked just far enough into chemistry to believe that a short method has already been discovered for ascertaining precisely

the elements necessary to be added to a soil to adapt it to raising any crop. So we will not undertake to deny any of the virtues ascribed to phosphoric acid in the form of superphosphate, or in any other form. But we will suggest that it is quite possible, that as good results may be obtained from a compound made by taking all the other ingredients—the sulphuric acid, guano and organic matters—used in making the superphosphate, but instead of the bone-earth, substituting pulverized charcoal. There must, of course, be organic matter enough added to supply the loss of that contained in the bone-earth after its use as a sugar clarifier. Until these substances are tried separately from the phosphate, it is not the part of earnest inquirers after truth to lay too much stress upon the *theoretical* value of the phosphoric acid.

We should be glad to see fair trials of the manufactured superphosphate side by side with an equivalent amount of sulphuric acid and guano, which may be purchased separately for less than half the price paid for them in their manufactured form. We merely throw out these suggestions as hints, at the present time, intending hereafter to discuss more fully some points in the mineral manure theories so popular with certain agricultural writers and teachers.

MEDITERRANEAN vs. SOULE'S WHEAT.—Mr. George W. Rector, of Newfane, Niagara Co., N. Y., has a field of Mediterranean wheat, in which there is no appearance of the weevil, while a neighbor has an adjoining field of Soule's wheat, which is almost entirely destroyed by this insect. What makes the contrast still more striking, is the fact that a number of scattering stalks of the Soule's wheat in Mr. Rector's field, are full of weevils. We shall feel greatly obliged if our correspondents and subscribers, in different parts of the country, will furnish us accounts of all similar instances of the exemption of Mediterranean wheat, and also of those cases where it has been injured by insects of any kind. Early information on this point will be of great benefit to those who are desirous of procuring the best seed for the next crop.

WHERE TO KEEP THE GREAT WHEAT CROP.—The Illinois Central Railroad Company have commenced building a granary at Chicago, which is 200 feet long, 100 wide, and more than 100 feet high. This building covers nearly half an acre, and will require about two millions of Milwaukee brick in its construction. Its capacity will be over two millions of cubic feet; so that, if filled full, it would hold more than one million six hundred thousand bushels of grain. It is, however, to be arranged with bins, &c., so as to hold about seven hundred thousand bushels. This is to be the storehouse at one end of a single railroad.

CHARLES L. FLINT, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture of Massachusetts, will deliver the annual address before the Hampshire Agricultural Society, at the annual Cattle Show, which is to be held on the 10th and 11th of October.

COLIC IN HORSES.—A horse does not digest as well when at work. If you are on a journey, driving your horse forty miles or more a day, and feeding him extra messes of grain to keep his spirits up, without allowing him time during the day to digest them, if he should have a turn of colic at night, don't lay it all to *luck*. The poor fellow can't vomit, and the undigested contents of his stomach have passed on into his small intestine. Let him stir about a little and he will get over it the sooner. Do not bleed him or give him any drugs. Until we have educated veterinary surgeons, commend us to the unaided provisions of Nature.

HAY BOXES FOR HORSES.—Some of the New-Orleans livery stables have wide plank grain mangers at a convenient height, and instead of racks, boxes for hay extending up from the mangers through the floor of the loft above. These boxes are a trifle smaller at the top than at the bottom, so that the hay will slide down readily. They are open sufficiently at the side over the manger to allow the horse to pull out the hay, while the dust accumulates in the manger instead of in his mane. One hay box answers for two stalls.

YELLOW BIRDS vs. WEEVIL.—Mr. D. H. Roberts, residing on the farm of Orson Marsh, in Colesville, communicates the following to the Binghamton Republican: "A neighboring farmer wished he would get a gun and kill some yellow-birds, which farmers generally suppose destroy the wheat. Mr. R. declined, as he does not like to kill birds of any kind. Out of curiosity, however, he killed one of the birds and opened its crop, when he found that the bird, instead of eating the wheat, eat the weevil—the great destroyer of the wheat. He found as many as two hundred weevil in the bird's crop, and but four grains of wheat, which had the weevil in them. This is a very important discovery, and should be generally known. The bird resembles the canary, and sings beautifully."

TREES AT THE SIDE OF RAILWAYS.—The Austrian government requests the directors of the railways in the Empire to plant young trees, of a description indicated, at convenient distances along the lines, intending them eventually to replace the posts upon which telegraphic wires are at present affixed. If this plan should be adopted in the United States, a graceful tree would take the place and perform the service of the unsightly poles which are to be seen along our railways and public roads.

REGULARITY OF MEALS.—The first thing to be attained in the economy of a household, is regularity of meals. There should be an hour for every meal, and every meal should be ready precisely at the hour. Until the beef steak can come at the right time, let us have something that will, if it is nothing but bread and milk. The energy of a man is paralyzed, and the business of the whole day deranged, by a nine o'clock breakfast; and if dinner is delayed until three, the day

is nearly wasted. So give us our meals, if you please, Mistress Cook, when the "hand splits the figure," and we'll try to not keep the table waiting.

RUNNET FOR SCOURS.—Mr. Reed Burritt, of Burdett, N. Y., writes the Country Gentleman that he has found runnet an infallible cure for scours in cattle and lambs. He gives the lambs four spoonsful, the same as prepared to set a curd for cheese. We should be glad to hear his method of preparing the runnet, that we may judge how strong to make it; and also what he considers a dose for a full-grown cow or ox. Unless the runnet contains considerable quantities of something besides maw-skins, we can not, from its nature, account for any beneficial action upon the irritated intestines of an animal having the scours.

LONGER THAN JACK'S BEAN.—The Monongahela City (Pa.) Republican of the 13th inst., says there is a pumpkin-vine in the garden of Mr. Wm. Coulter, of that city, which is already 225 feet long, and has 27 pumpkins upon it. Will neighbor Hazzard report again, about next frost-time, and give also the total weight of the pumpkins?

THE PEACH CROP.—The Peach crop in New-Jersey and Delaware gives promise of being the largest ever known. Contracts have already been made for the delivery of large quantities of this fruit at very low prices.

CAUTION TO BOYS.—At Newburyport, Mass., a son of Phineas Drew, aged 14 years, met his death, a few days since, from a rush of blood to the head, caused by the very dangerous and common habit among boys, of standing on the head.

HON. GEORGE W. CLINTON will deliver the address at Flushing, before the Queens Co. Agricultural Exhibition on the 20th of September.

We would direct especial attention to the advertisement of Messrs. Elwanger & Barry. They have few rivals in this country ahead of them in their business.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE RABBIT FANCIER; A Treatise upon the breeding, rearing, feeding and general management of Rabbits, by C. N. Bement, Author of *The American Poulterer's Companion*. New-York, C. M. Saxton & Co. Price 25 cents.

This is an interesting and practical "hand book" for those interested in breeding rabbits, and is especially valuable to beginners, or those having little experience.

Some of the August magazines are already upon our table.

PUTNAM'S is, as usual, full of sterling original American articles, and is evidently taking the lead of its more noised and more pretentious rival. Dix & Edwards, No. 10 Park-place, New-York, Publishers. \$3 a year.

THE NATIONAL holds its course, which is *excelsior* from month to month. The num-

ber before us embraces a wide range of interesting and highly instructive articles, illustrated in the best style. Carleton & Phillips, 200 Mulberry-st., New-York, Publishers. \$2 per annum.

THE LADIES REPOSITORY.—The present number contains a very life-like and finely engraved portrait of Alice Carey, and a beautiful rural scene entitled, *Noonday Rest*. There are twenty or more longer articles with a number of short ones, all of an instructive, interesting and elevating character. Carleton & Phillips Publishers. \$2 per annum.

From our Foreign Correspondent.

THARAND—ITS FOREST AND AGRICULTURE.

ACADEMY — — —

Some twelve or fifteen miles from the city of Dresden, in Saxony, nestled among wild, romantic mountains, lies the thrifty little city of Tharand. Green checkered hillsides, dark, rich meadow-lands in the valleys, and a grand show of heavy timber on the hill-tops—descending in some places down the steeper slopes quite to the edge of the stream in the valley—meet the eye of the visitor on approaching, and give the simple, rustic village a real thrifty look that both farmer and forester well appreciate. Directly in the center of the village, upon an abruptly ending spur of one of the three ranges of hills that, crowding upon each other, press the little village into an odd triangular shape, stands a very picturesque ruin of a castle, out of whose ancient windows impudent young birches of a few summers peep down, cushioning their white elbows on the venerable mosses of a former century. The old castle does not frown. Oh, no! it is beyond that. It smiles now. The mosses have filled up the cracks and the wrinkles of age (natural cosmetics for ruined walls), and cornice and battlement have crumbled and fallen away, leaving an irregular outline of turret, wall and window, over which the ivy stretches its green mantle and the white birch and aspen intertwine their branches, as if nature and wildness were asserting their claim upon the materials which man and art tore from the mountain. From this ruin, which is that of an ancient hunting seat of the Saxon princes, a fine panoramic view may be obtained, and the beauties of Tharand will be most impressive, if the first view is obtained from this spot. Mineral baths, whose chief recommendation is that they are perfectly harmless, draw out from Dresden many to recreate in the enjoyment of the baths, the scenery, the milk, the berries, and the society of Tharand.

But though I have an eye to all natural beauty, and an extraordinary fondness for berries and milk, it was another feature of the pretty village that claimed for me most interest. Tharand is the seat of a Forest and Agricultural Academy, which as a school of forest culture is the first in Germany.

A prominent building of not unpleasing architecture, from its size and general look of distinction, attracts the stranger's attention. Its cornice and portico are ornamented with stag horns and emblems of the chase.

Its spacious stair-cases and halls are profusely decorated in the same way. The heads of the elk, the stag, the roe, the reindeer, and the boar, give the school of science the look of a feudal castle of the thirteenth century almost. Still everything is arranged with taste and appropriateness. The building contains a large and well selected library, almost exclusively of works pertaining to agriculture and forest-culture, and closely-related subjects; a zoological cabinet of the animals, birds and insects of Saxony; geological and mineralogical cabinets; a collection of tools used by the forester and the farmer, and many models of machines for various purposes; models of barns, stables and sheds for various uses; miniature hay and grain stacks of various forms; horse-powers, dog-chains, etc. The building contains, besides, a well-arranged chemical laboratory; and the remainder of the building, except that part occupied by the family of the janitor, is filled by the spacious hall, the "aula," and the lecture-rooms.

There are six professors and about eighty students. A charge of about 80 thalers (\$60) is made, which entitles the pupil to attend all the lectures and other courses of instruction, including the practical course in the chemical laboratory, for half a year.

Among the professors, Dr. Stœckhardt is best known in the United States. He is, in the estimation of many, the very first of the real teachers of agriculture in Germany at the present time. His great aim seems to be, to make knowledge popular, to enable the people to reason independently and correctly in regard to the many minor questions of agricultural practice and policy that can not be treated of generally in the books, and he certainly does present principles in such clear, simple forms to the mind, that they are grasped almost without an effort. Dr. S. is the author of an elementary chemistry, of which there is an American edition, and which is very elementary, very full, and very excellent. Another more recent work of his, "Chemical Field Lectures for the German Farmer," has been translated by the late Dr. Teschemacher, and pretty widely circulated in the United States—and from this one many obtain a good idea of the man and of his writings. The book is, in almost every respect, as applicable to the American as to the German farmer.

I have to regret that Prof. Stœckhardt was absent at the time of my visit. His house, a new, pretty cottage, is cuddled under the old ruin, in a wild sort of place, having the beautiful *Forest Garden* as a back-ground and the fine view of which I spoke.

By Prof. Krutsch I was shown through this Forest Garden, and really a wonderful place it is. It is several miles in extent, laid out in avenues and paths, and every advantage is taken of the natural beauties of the spot. The trees are, or seem to be, perfect examples of their kind, and the great variety of them awakens astonishment. I observed many species natives of the American forest looking finely, and apparently doing quite as well on Saxon soil as some of the *genus homo*, who find their way here also.

The trees were hickory, oaks, and ash. The oaks are particularly valued as an addition to the number of trees that best reward cultivation. One of the avenues, the principal one, bears the name of the "Sainted or Holy Halls," and is celebrated for the size and magnificent beauty of the trees. Adjoining is an excellently-kept botanical garden, and not far off the land devoted to agricultural investigation and instruction. This by no means compares with that illustrating forest culture; indeed I think in this department there is a decided want. It consists of a small farm so divided up and cultivated as to illustrate the theory of rotation and successive crops, and a portion devoted to experimental beds. It was in good order, and, as far as it went, was very well. The number of farmers compared with the number of foresters among the students is small. This will probably not long be the case, as I learn the class has been for some years gradually increasing, owing to the just popularity of Dr. Stœckhardt.

Still Tharand does not, and for the present can not, offer advantages to learn the theory and *practice* of agriculture combined, equal to several other German institutions. Prof. Stœckhardt's theories and rules for practice, however, even though they should be (as they are not) unaccompanied by all practical illustration, have really, in my opinion, a greater practical value to the young farmer, than the instruction accompanied by more extensive field illustration of many larger schools.

M. C. WELD.

THE BIBLE AND THE DISCOVERIES OF SCIENCE.

The following eloquent passages are from Lieut. Maury's late work, the "Physical Geography of the Sea:"

"The Bible frequently makes allusion to the laws of nature, their operations and effects. But such allusions are often so wrapped in the fold of the peculiar and graceful drapery with which its language is occasionally clothed, that the meaning, though peering out from its thin covering all the while, yet lives in some sense concealed, until the lights and revelations of science are thrown upon it; then it bursts out and strikes us with the more force and beauty.

"As our knowledge of nature and her laws has increased, so has our understanding of many passages in the Bible been improved. The Bible called the earth 'the round world;' yet for ages it was the most damnable heresy for christian men to say the world is round; and finally, sailors circumnavigated the globe, proved the Bible to be right, and saved christian men of science from the stake. 'Canst thou tell the sweet influence of the Pleiades?'

"Astronomers of the present day, if they have not answered the question, have thrown so much light upon it as to show that, if ever it be answered by man, he must consult the science of astronomy. It has recently been all but proved that the earth and sun, with their splendid retinue of comets, satellites and planets, are all in motion around some point or center of attraction inconceivably remote, and that point is in the direction of the star Alyon, one of the Pleiades! Who but the astronomer, then, could tell the sweet influences?

"And as for the general system of atmospheric circulation which I have been so long

endeavoring to describe, *the Bible tells it all in a single sentence:* 'The wind goeth toward the South and turneth about into the North; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.'—Ecl. i. 6."

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

ADDRESS OF A THREE CENT PIECE.

I am the tiniest piece of coin
From precious gold or silver made;
Quite famous in the *giving* world,
Though far less famous in the trade.

Three Cents is all I'm worth they say,
And yet ('tis true) I'm never slighted,
For when there's *giving* to be done,
Know ye, I always am invited.

I often charm the selfish heart,
Where nobler graces ought to flow,
And into certain boxes slip,
Where larger pieces ought to go.

I have the power—unsought by me—
To give the startled conscience rest;
For men who ought large sums to give,
Give me—and count it for the best.

I'm brother to a host of coins,
Like me in office, worth, and ways,
As you have seen, alas! too oft,
Upon our *contribution* days.

They say we cheat the heathen world:
For when the boxes pass about,
We come—a band of brothers true—
And keep the golden dollars out.

From such a charge our specie-band
We pray you freely to deliver,
And put the stigma where ye should—
On him who is the faulty *giver*.

We court the children's little hands;
The poor man's freest welcome seek,
When others take us for a gift,
We think it *small*—but can not speak.

ORIGINAL SPELLING.—80 you be—a tub. 80 oh! pea—a top. Be 80—bat. See 80—cat. P 80—pat. R 80—rat. See a be—cab. Be you double tea—butt. Be a double ell—ball. Ef a double ell—fall.

Away down South, in the parish of Concordia, they have a bayou they call Van Buren, because since its first discovery, one hundred and fifty years ago, it has been impossible to tell *which way the water runs*.

BISHOP HALL says it is no small commendation to manage a little well. He is a good wagoner that can turn in little room. I will study more how to give a good account of my little, than how to make it more.

The following is cut from an Ohio paper: "Notis ise hear By Given that knoe pursen is pur Mitted 2 taikc Ene Nuts of Ene kinde oute of Mi Woods Mi hoggs Must Live—Look oute."

"Sambo, what kind of keys would it take to open the gates ob Sebastopol?"
"Well, I guess it's Tur-keys."
"No, dat ain't it, Sambo."
"Well, what is it, den, Julius?"
"Why, Yan-kees—yah! yah!"

A NICE QUESTION.—Jim—"You'll get it for hooking dat turkey last night—'case Mas'r knows it."

Pompey—"I didn't hook it. Warn't de turkey Mas'r's? Well, ain't I Mas'r's? Well, I eat de turkey, didn't I? Well, ain't de

turkey part o' me? Mas'r ain't got so much turkey, but ain't he got more nigger? I tell you de turkey on'y change persishuus, dat's all."

TOO ANXIOUS.—An amusing affair happened lately between a coal dealer and a purchaser. The latter was very anxious to see that the former did not cheat him; so he (the purchaser) inspected the weighing of the coal himself, and felt perfectly satisfied that he got his full allowance, without any desire on the part of the coal dealer to *shave*. However, while the coal was weighing, the driver of the team could not help laughing, aware at the time that the purchaser was particular about the full weight of coal. The purchaser noticing the laughing of the driver, asked him, when he received his coal, what it was about; so the driver told him:

"Why," said he, "when your coal was weighing you were *standing on the scales*, and was weighed with it."

"Is it possible? Why, I weigh nearly two hundred pounds!"

"Well, sir," said the driver, "you are *sold!*"

"Yes," was the sorrowful reply, "and I have *bought myself*, too."—Patriot.

MAKING A DISTINCTION.—A Roman ecclesiastic, in reply to whatever question might be proposed, began by saying, "I make a distinction." A cardinal, having invited him to dine, proposed to derive some amusement for the company from the well known peculiarity of his guest. Saying to him that he had an important question to propose, he asked—

"Is it under any circumstances, lawful to baptize in soup?"

"I make a distinction," said the priest; "if you ask is it lawful to baptize in soup in general, I say *no*; if you ask is it lawful to baptize in your excellency's *soup*, I say *yes!* for there is really no difference between it and water."

UNDER-HILL.—There was a dry old fellow, whose wit was the amusement of the residents of the south of Jefferson County. He was sitting one day in the village store; a gentleman who came in, thought he recognized a friend, and said:

"How do you do, Mr. Underhill?"

"Sir," said the old man, "you have described my circumstances—but that is not my name."

The same old fellow called one day on the member of Congress elect; the family were at breakfast; there was a vacant seat, but the old man was hardly in a plight to be invited to the table. The following conversation took place:

"How do you do, Mr. —? What is the news?"

"Nothing much," said the old man; "but one of my neighbors gave his child a queer name."

"What was it?"

"Come and eat."

The name sounded so peculiar that it was repeated.

"What, come and eat?"

"Yes, thank you," said the old man, "I don't care if I do," and drew up to the table.

Rome Sentinel.

"Brudder Jones, can you tell me the difference 'tween dying and dieting?"

"Well, ob course I kin, Samuel. When you diet you lib on nuffin, and when you die you hab nuffin to lib on."

"Well, dat's different from what I tort it was—a race atween doctorin' stuff and starvation, to see which will kill fust."

ANECDOTES OF LORD NORTH.

This good-humored minister was always ready with a joke, and always appreciated one, even though it was at his own expense. One night he rose to deprecate the too great readiness to give and take offense which prevailed in the House.

"One member, for example," said he, "called me 'that thing called a minister.' Now, to be sure, (patting his portly sides) I am a thing; when, therefore, the gentleman called me a 'thing' he said what was true, and I could not be angry with him. But when he added, 'that thing called a minister,' he called me the thing which of all others he himself most wishes to be; and, therefore, I took it for a compliment."

A prosing old sailor, well known for his lengthy orations, began to speak on an admiralty question. Lord North said to one of his supporters, "Now — will give us a history of all the naval battles, from that of Salamis to that of last year. I shall take a nap; wake me when he gets near our own time."

After an hour's infliction, the friend nudged Lord North. "My lord, my lord, wake up—he has got to the battle of Van Tromp."

"Oh, dear," said the sleepy minister, "you have waked me a hundred years too soon!"

On his last night in office, his antagonists had collected for a grand battle. Lord North rose in his place and declared the Administration at an end. Of course, the House adjourned immediately. It was an awful wet night, and in those days cabs were not; the members, expecting a long debate, had ordered their carriage at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning; and Lord North, as he passed out through the baffled and imprisoned crowd of his opponents to his own chariot, bowed to the right and left, saying, with a smile,

"Adieu, gentlemen; you see it is an excellent thing to be in the secret."

The following toast, given at Plymouth, is excellent:

"The American Fair—Too wise to take the veil, and too beautiful to need it."

"Pat, you fool, why do you steal after that rabbit in that manner, when your gun has no lock on?"

"Hush! ye spalpeen—be jabbers, now, the rabbit don't know that!"

"Well Alick, how's your brother like getting along?"

"O, first rate—he's got a good start in the world—married a widow who has seven children."

The following notice was affixed to a shop in Leeds: "This Ouse 2 Lett. Hinquir Necks Doar."

The Journal of the Academy of Medicine at Turin states, among other things, that tall men live longer than those of small stature. Of course they do, and lie longer in bed.

It requires 2,280 full grown trees, or the mature crop of forty-four acres of woodland, to furnish timber for a single 74 gun-ship.

Hartley Coleridge once being asked which of Wordsworth's productions he considered the prettiest, very promptly replied, "His daughter Dora."

To correct an evil which already exists is not so well as to foresee and prevent it.

MY FATHER.

We are much mistaken, says the Home Journal, if the following touching stanzas, sent to us by a southern correspondent, do not "come home" to the feelings of many of our readers—for wide is the experience of suffering similar to that the memory of which inspired these lines. The author, a lady of refined education, intellect, and deservedly high social position, had the misfortune, we are told, to wed a man toly unworthy of her, who took her to the far west, and there infamously endeavored to destroy her. Her father, though well stricken in years, journeyed thither and brought her home again; and to celebrate the parental devotion which inspired that act the stanzas were written:

In childhood's years, who loved me best?
Who blamed me least, and most caressed?
My father.

When I was young, and full of glee,
Who rode me on his tired knee?
My father.

Who did for all my wants provide,
And was my best and kindest guide?
My father.

When kneeling at the throne of prayer,
Who plead for me most earnest there?
My father.

Who taught me, by his words and ways,
To trust in God through darkest days?
My father.

When far from friends, and racked with pain,
Who brought his wanderer home again?
My father.

And now, for years, oh! may it be
My pleasant task to wait on thee,
My father!

And when on earth our toil is o'er,
May we, with angel songs adore
"OUR FATHER!"

MONEY A MEDICINE.—Prosperity is the best pill, it wakes up the failing pulses of life, and renovates the whole machinery of man. Take two poor men who are equally ill, to whom exercise is alike applicable, condemn one to the unendurable drudgery of walking a mile thrice daily to a certain post, and when he gets there to turn round and walk back again; and let another spend an equal time in collecting bills, or obtaining subscriptions at a per centage, which clears him ten dollars a day, if he is diligent; it is easy to conjecture which of the two will convalesce the more rapidly. One thing I am certain of, making money helps me amazingly; it is the elixir of mind and body both. This idea of the hygienic value of money on men is strikingly illustrated in the report of M. Vellerme, as the Secretary of the Poor Law Commissioners in Havre, where the average age of the rich is twelve years greater than that of the poor.

1,088 prosperous persons died at an average age of 42 years. 4,791 middling class died at an average age of 29 years. 19,849 poor persons died at an average age of 20 years.

Therefore, as it is easier to take money than to take pills, I advise my readers, one and all, as a means of long life, to get rich by prudent industry and honorable economy.—Hall's Journal.

DUTY.—We love to see a woman treading the high and holy path of duty, unblinded by sunshine or storm. There are hundreds who do so from the cradle to the grave—heroines of endurance of whom the world has never heard, but whose names will be bright hereafter, even beside the brightest angels.

TIME is a grateful friend; use it well, and it never fails to make suitable requital.

BENEFITS OF ADVERSITY.—A smooth sea never made a skillful mariner, neither does interrupted prosperity and success qualify for usefulness and happiness. The storms of adversity, like the storms of the ocean, arouse the faculties, excite the invention, prudence, skill, and fortitude of the voyager. The martyrs of ancient times, in braeing their minds to outward calamity, aquired a loftiness of purpose, a moral heroism, worth a life of softness and security.—Literary Journal.

HAPPINESS.—That all who are happy, are equally happy, is not true. A peasant and a philosopher may be equally satisfied, but not equally happy; a peasant has not capacity for having equal happiness with a philosopher. A small drinking glass and a large one may be equally full, but a large one holds more than a small one.

MIND.—It is mind that gives beauty to the rose, and throws sublimity around the mountain or the comet. It is mind that envelops the cascade with beauty, and the heavens with grandeur. In proportion to the mind's breadth and depth, the store of information it possesses, and accumulated ideas of its experience, so are the intensity and loftiness of its enjoyment.

CHIEF JUSTICE HALE.

A GOOD STORY.

One of the first stories we were able to read in our boyhood was the following, and it made so deep an impression that we have never since seen Matthew Hale's name in print or heard it spoken, without picturing him in our mind, as he sat in the jury box in his miller's coat, comparing bribe money with the man sitting by his side. The story will bear oft repeating.

A gentleman who possessed an estate in the eastern part of England, worth five hundred pounds a year, had two sons. The oldest, being of a rambling disposition, went abroad. After several years, the father died. The younger son destroyed the will and seized on the estate. He gave out that his elder brother was dead, and bribed witnesses to attest it. In the course of time, the elder brother returned, in miserable circumstances. The younger repulsed him with scorn, saying that he was an impostor and a cheat—that his real brother was dead long ago, and he could bring witnesses to prove it.

The real brother, having neither money nor friends, was in a dismal situation. At last he found a lawyer who agreed, (as he had nothing to pay him,) that if he would give him one thousand guineas, if he undertook and gained the cause, he would act for him; to which he assented. The case was to be tried at the next General Assizes, at Chelmsford, Essex. The lawyer being now engaged, he set his wits to work to obtain success. At last he thought he would consult the first judge of that age, Lord Chief Justice Hale; accordingly he hastened to London, and laid open the cause and all its circumstances. The judge, who was a great lover of Justice, listened attentively, and promised all the assistance in his power. The lawyer having taken leave, the judge contrived so as to finish all his business at the King's Bench before the Chelmsford Assizes began. He started for Chelmsford, and when within a short distance of that place he dismissed his horse and sought for a private house; he found one occupied by a miller. After some conversation, making himself very agreeable, he proposed to the miller to change clothes with him, and as the judge had a good suit on, the miller did

not object; but accordingly the judge put on a complete suit of the miller's best. Adorned with a miller's hat, shoes and stick, away he marched to Chelmsford, where he procured lodging against the Assizes next day. When the trial came on, he walked like an ignorant fellow, backwards and forwards along the country hall, and when the court began to fill, he found out the poor fellow who was the plaintiff. As soon as he came into the hall, the miller drew up to him:

"Honest friend, how is your case like to do to-day?"

"Why," replied the plaintiff, "my cause is in a very precarious situation, and if I lose it, I am ruined for life."

"Well, honest friend," replied the miller, "will you take my advice? I will let you into a secret which, perhaps, you do not know. Every Englishman has a right and privilege to except any one juryman through the whole twelve; now do you insist upon your privilege without giving a reason why, and, if possible, get me chosen in his room, and I will do you all the service in my power."

Accordingly, when the clerk called over the names of the jurymen, the plaintiff excepted one of them. The judge on the bench was highly offended with this.

"What do you mean," said he, "by excepting that gentleman?"

"I mean, my lord, to assert my privilege as an Englishman, without giving a reason why."

The judge, who had been highly bribed, in order to conceal it by a show of candor, and having confidence in the superiority of his party, said:

"Well, sir, as you claim your privilege in one instance, I will grant it. Whom would you like to have in place of that man excepted?"

After a short time taken in consideration, he said, "My Lord, I wish to have an honest man chosen in," and looking around, "there is that miller in the court; we will have him, if you please." Accordingly the miller was chosen.

As soon as the clerk of the court had given them all their oaths, a dexterous fellow came into the apartment, and slipped ten caroluses into the hands of eleven jurymen, and gave the miller but five. He observed they were all bribed as well as himself, and said to his next neighbor in a soft whisper, "How much have you got? "Ten pieces," said he. The miller did not say what he had.

The cause was opened by the plaintiff's counsel, and all the scraps of evidence they could pick up were adduced in his favor. The defendant had a great number of witnesses and pleaders, all bribed as well as the judge. The evidence deposed that they were in the self-same county when the brother died, and saw him buried; and everything went with a full tide for the younger brother. The judge summed up with great gravity and deliberation: "And now, gentlemen of the jury, bring in your verdict as you shall deem most just." In a few minutes the judge said, "Are you agreed? Who shall speak for you?"

"We are all agreed; our foreman shall speak for us."

"Hold, my Lord," replied the miller, "we are not all agreed."

"Why," said the judge, in a surly manner, "what is the matter with you—what reason have you for disagreeing?"

"I have several reasons, my Lord," replied the miller. "First, they have given all the gentlemen of the jury ten broad pieces of gold, and me only five, which is not fair. Besides, I have many objections to make to the false reasoning of the pleaders, and the contradictory evidence of the witnesses."

Upon this the miller began a discourse that discovered such a vast penetration of judgment and extensive knowledge of law, that it astonished the judge and the whole court. As he was going on, the judge, in surprise, stopped him.

"Where did you come from, and who are you?" he asked.

"I came from Westminster Hall," replied the miller. "My name is Matthew Hale, Lord Chief Justice of the King's bench. I have observed the iniquity of your proceedings this day; therefore come down from the seat you are in no way worthy to hold. You are one of the corrupt parties in this iniquitous business. I will come up this moment and try the whole over again."

Accordingly Lord Matthew went up in his miller's dress and hat, began the trial from the commencement, and searched every circumstance of truth and falsehood; he evinced the elder brother's title to the estate, and gained a complete victory in favor of truth and justice.

HALL STOVE AND BROKEN PANE.

In the hall are a stove and a window. The former is kept full of glowing coal; in the latter, a pane is broken out, and it has been left unattended throughout the whole winter. What a wise economy is here presented! Yet it is of a piece with many a man's and woman's conduct during life. Good principles and habits may be conspicuous; but bad ones are suffered to go uncorrected. Virtues may abound, but so does vice; weeds grow apace as well as wheat, and it is frequently a question, which of them will get the mastery. Sometimes the broken pane in the hall lets in more air than the stove can warm.

And one fact it is important to remark. Vice seems always perfectly able to take care of itself; while good principles need cultivation and care to maintain or multiply them. The cold wind will come in at the broken pane of itself without an anybody's attention. But labor and vigilance are required to keep up a fire in the stove. The draught of the one is constant and perpetual, night and day, whether any one minds it or not. On the other hand, the stove fire is apt to wane, and even go out, is almost sure to do so in the night, and needs incessant replenishing to enable it to maintain an equipoise to the blast from the window. Error, wrong and vice are rushing in upon us in ceaseless stream, whether we will or not; the equilibrium of goodness and right is always in danger of being overcome. Indeed, this is pretty sure to be the issue, unless those evils shall be encountered by such bravery and stability of principle and good habits, as shall oppose a barrier equal in strength and endurance to the assaulting forces.

The *Stove and Broken Pane* may be met with in various departments of life. When we see a man wasting ten thousand a year, while his business yields a profit of five only, the broken pane and neglected hall stove reappear to view. Another man talks loudly of temperance. It is well; but when he spoils his precepts by hard drinking, or opposes measures which can only really produce the spread of temperance, it puts us in mind of the broken window, which nullified all the good that the entry stove could do. There is a multitude of people possessing amiable and valuable traits of character, but so tangled up are they with disagreeable habits and propensities, as to render them objects on the whole which one should avoid, as he would a bee, who has honey at one end, but a sting at the other.—*Newark Sentinel*.

"LET IT LIVE."

"Let it live," said a kind-hearted lady, a short time since, as she picked up a flying bug from the floor, and helped it out of the window. She probably thought there was plenty of room in the wide world for it, and there was no good reason for killing it.

We can see nothing wrong in killing a poisonous serpent, or a dangerous beast of the forest, as they are hurtful, and are evidently our enemies. God has also shown us that it is perfectly right to kill such animals as are good for our food; but to kill any thing that has life and feeling merely for sport, or through wantonness, is wrong, and the habit indulged in begets and cultivates cruelty in one's heart.

The fishes that swim in the waters, the beasts that roam in the forests, the birds that fly in the air, and the insects that crawl among the leaves, were all made to live, and they love to live: and when we, through recklessness, destroy them, it does no good but brings death to them, and the act injures us, as it engenders a cruel feeling.

More than half the music in the world is made by the birds and insects; and yet there is cruelty enough among men and boys to hush all this melody by recklessly killing the creatures which God has made to live, to sing, and be happy.

Let us not be thus cruel, but let these creatures live and enjoy life as best they can; let them skip over the hills, or glide through the waters, or fly in the air, or sing among the trees, as God has given them ability. Let them live, and by their example teach us lessons of activity and industry. Be kind towards insects, birds, and beasts, and you will be more likely to be kind to your fellow-beings, and to secure kindness in return.

PRETTY WOMEN AND POLITENESS.

A talented lady who "writes for the papers," speaks thus of city railway cars:

"The seats of the car were all occupied—crowded, yet the conductor waited for me. Not wishing to disturb those who were seated, I was intending to stand, but a gentleman up at the far end arose and insisted upon my taking his seat. Being very tired, I thanked him and obeyed. Presently a lady, much younger, much prettier, and much better dressed than myself, entered the car. No less than four gentlemen arose instantly, offering her a seat. She smiled sweetly and unaffectedly, and thanking the gentleman who urged the nearest seat to her, she seated herself with a peculiar grace of manner, she had one of those faces Raphael was always painting—touchingly sweet and expressive. A little after this young beauty had taken her seat, a poor woman, looking very thin and pale, with that care-worn haggard look that poverty and sorrow, and hard labor always give, came in. She might have been one of those poor seamstresses who work like slaves and starve for their labor. She was thinly and meanly clad, and seemed weak and exhausted. She had evidently no sixpence to throw away, and came into the car not to stand, but to rest while she was helped on her journey. While she was meekly standing for the moment, none of the gentlemen offering to rise, Raphael's angel, with sweet reproving eyes, looked on those who had so officiously offered her a seat, and seeing none of them to move, and just as I myself was rising to give the poor old lady a seat, she arose and insisted upon the woman taking her seat. It was all the work of but a moment; and the look of grateful surprise the old woman gave her, and the glance of sweet pity the beautiful girl bestowed on the

woman as she yielded her seat, and the evident consternation of the broad-cloth individuals, who were manifestly put to shame—all were to me irresistibly interesting and instructive. One of the same broad-cloth wearers, apparently overcome with confusion, got up and left the car, and Raphael's angel took his vacant seat.

Well done, Raphael's angel!

A DOG'S AFFECTION FOR HIS MASTER.—Mr. O. M. Hopkins, late of Scottsburg, who died in January last, had a small and sprightly terrier, named "Nig," of which he was very fond. After the death of his master, Nig grew melancholy. Nothing the family could do seemed to amuse him. He could not be enticed from the side of his mistress, but would follow her about everywhere, grave and sedate, as though actually thinking of his dead master. One day a closet containing his master's clothing was opened. No sooner did Nig discover the garments, than he frisked about almost frantic with delight, evidently expecting his master to appear. When the poor animal discovered his error, he testified his disappointment by piteous and mournful howlings.

In May last poor Nig grew more melancholy than ever. All attempts to induce him to leave the house were unavailing, until one day his mistress went to visit the grave of her husband. Then followed, and on arriving at the mound commenced digging and moaning, testifying his grief in the most affecting manner. From that time he could not be enticed to leave the grave, but stayed day and night till he starved to death. He was found there, stretched on the earth, cold and stiff.

This is an affecting but beautiful story; the man who can read it without a tear in the corner of his eye, is not to be envied.—*Dansville Herald.*

THE CORAL.

Can a child do as much as an insect?—"Why yes," exclaims every young reader, "and more too." Let us see. Imagine that you and I are sailing in a vessel on the South seas. How beautifully we glide along! But what is that yonder, rising above the billows, like a painted highland? Now it sparkles in the rays of the sun like a rock of silver, and now it assumes different colors, variegated in the most charming manner. Red, golden, silvery hues, all blend together in delightful richness. Nearer and nearer we come to the attractive object, all the while appearing more beautiful and brilliant: when lo, we discover it is the splendid work of insects, so small that we can not see them with the naked eye. Yes, the little coral insect threw up those many colored reefs, a little at a time, until we have this magnificent sight.

And just over there, beyond that line of reefs, you see that little island, covered with tall palm trees so green and slender. The foundation of that island, now a fit habitation for men, was laid by the same little coral insect.

Myriads of them worked away, year after year, until a huge bed of coral became the foundation of the island; then the soil accumulated, seeds were dropped, and the trees grew as they are now seen.

This is what some insects do towards making this world a habitation for mankind. They make Islands. God did not create them to be useless in this world, where there is so much to be done. Their work amounts to something.

Would you not be useful as the little coral insect? You can not build islands, but you can help the people who live upon them, and those who live in other parts of the

earth. A cent is a small gift, but one hundred of them make a dollar. A grain of sand is very minute, but enough of them will make a mountain.

So the little which one child can do may seem too small to be counted, but perhaps twenty of these little ones are equal to the work of a full grown man or woman. Try then, to be useful.

Every body can do something. If the coral insect works so hard for others, ought you to be idle?

A few days since a gentleman who was en route for New-York, got out at a station, leaving his "better half" sole occupant of the seat; returning, and finding a good-looking gentleman occupying his seat, and making himself sociable with his traveling companion, politely requested the stranger to give him his seat. "Your seat, sir?" said the stranger; "I don't know that you have any better claim to it than I have." "Very well sir," replied our friend, "if you will keep it, allow me to introduce you to my wife." The stranger looked blank, and made very hasty tracks for the next car.

THE WEEPING WILLOW.—I presume that it is known to few that, for the weeping willows that hang their pensive boughs beautifully over the hallowed graves of the dead, England and America are indebted to the distinguished Lady Mary Montague. It is said that while at Constantinople, whose husband at that time occupied the embassy, she sent, in a basket of figs, home to her intimate friend, the poet Pope, a sprig of the Asiatic willow. He set it out in his garden, and from that twig has come all the weeping willows in England and America.

Lady Mary Montague was born about the year 1690, in Nottinghamshire, England; she was one of the finest and most accomplished scholars of her age; was cotemporary and on terms of intimacy with Hannah More, Addison, Pope, Steele, Bishop, Burnet, &c.; was the wife of the accomplished Charles Montague for nearly fifty years; at the court of George I. for some four years; resided upwards of twenty years in Italy and its neighborhood; lived to the advanced age of seventy-three, and died August 21, 1762.

To Lady Mary, also, it is said, belongs the honor of introducing inoculation for the small-pox, a practice which has annually saved many lives.—R. H. HOWARD, in *New England Farmer*.

CHANGE.—Change is the disguise time puts on, lest we grow weary of him. Even while we are complaining of change, he is preparing some new surprise for us; and if we did but know it, of many a man it would be said, as of one of old, "he went out and hanged himself;" were it not that Time turns life into a masquerade.

Sometimes he is a youth with a garland of flowers; sometimes a matron in cloth of gold; sometimes a warrior in the midst of the fields he has won; sometimes his footsteps are like the chime of bells; sometimes his tones are very like a knell.

We picture Time a poor old man, wings depending from his shoulders, a scythe in his hand, and frost in his bosom. And when we think of him, drifting snows, and tolling bells, and withered leaves, and the bearded grain, with the flowers that grow between, he has reaped and bound together many a time and oft—all form part of the picture.

But time never sat for his portrait, and this is not like him. Time is not old—he is as young as the last hope; he is not cruel, when he mosses over the inscriptions that would ever remind us of the loved and lost.

Time has a new wardrobe for each year.

Refer to the old letters you have written, if you would see what wondrous changes heart and life are ever putting on. But they come so gently and so gradually we scarcely perceive them. What transition more wonderful than when the boy of sunny brow and sunny locks bounds into stern heavy-treading manhood, or when the girl, all feeling, all hope, all song, becomes the thoughtful woman, or the watchful, loving matron.

Change is the beautiful livery of Time, and there are but two things beneath the stars that never wear it—true friends and true hearts.

FIGHTING ON EQUAL TERMS.—I will tell you a little incident that occurred in Georgia many years ago. Judge T. a celebrated duelist, who had lost his leg, and who was known to be a dead shot, challenged Col. D. a gentleman of great humor and attainments. The friends tried to prevent the meeting, but to no effect. The parties met on the ground, when Col. D. was asked if he was ready.

"No," he replied.

"What are you waiting for then?" inquired Judge T.'s second.

"Why, sir," said Col. D., "I have sent my boy into the woods to hunt a bee gum to put my leg in, for I don't intend to give the Judge any advantage over me. You see he has a wooden leg!"

The whole party roared with laughter, and the thing was so ridiculous that it broke up the fight. Col. D. was afterwards told it would sink his reputation.

"Well," he replied, "it can't sink me lower than a bullet can."

"But," urged his friends, "the papers will be filled about you."

"Well," said he, "I would rather fill fifty papers than one coffin."

No one ever troubled the Col. after that.

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, July 25.

All grades of flour have sensibly declined during the past week—even the "Extra Genesee;" which, on account of its scarcity, has held its own for a long time, has now taken a downward turn. The decline on the different grades has been from 37½ to 75 cts. per bbl. Were there no "combination," such as was alluded to last week, the coming week would give a fair criterion for judging of future prices; but those having considerable quantities of old flour on hand, will make a desperate effort to keep up at least a show of high prices as long as possible. In all probability those who get their grain into market within three weeks will be the more fortunate ones. South of the latitude 42°, the wheat crop is mostly secured; and while nearly every locality has produced at least an average crop, a large area has given much beyond the usual yield. It is also to be remembered that wheat growers generally, stimulated by the high prices, sowed more acres than in former years, which will go far to swell the aggregate production. These considerations, together with the continuous pouring in of favorable reports from almost every section of the country, lead us to the inevitable conclusion that when the wheat market is fairly opened, prices will sink much below their present mark. We do not write for specu

lators or buyers of wheat—for we have no connection or interest with them—but for wheat raisers, whom we wish to aid in getting the highest prices possible, and this we think they can now do. However, we are this week having wet, sultry days, which may bring on the rust, and make a material difference in the gathered product of the great wheat regions farther north; so that our more sanguine expectations of an unprecedented crop over the whole wheat country, may be somewhat lowered. While giving our leading impressions from the reports already in, we would speak with all due caution. We should add that the most recent accounts from the Genesee country, Michigan, &c., say that former reports of injury from weevil, &c., have proved to have been exaggerated; on the other hand, considerable grain cut in this vicinity, in consequence of the recent wet weather, has commenced growing in the shock, and will suffer material injury.

Corn has declined 2 to 3 cents per bushel. Oats are a little lower. Rye is considerably lower.

Cotton is not much changed, the better grades we quote at a slight reduction.

The Weather continued excessively hot—perhaps the hottest for the season during a number of years—until Friday, when cold rains set in, which continued daily till Monday evening. Tuesday morning it commenced very sultry, with slight showers during the day. At night it rained very hard accompanied with vivid lightning and heavy thunder. To-day it is showery, the air close and sultry. This weather puts back haying in the northern counties. Corn and every thing else are growing with great rapidity.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, July 24, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The market is good to-day, while yesterday there was a scarcity of produce, and high prices. The supply of potatoes has been scant of late, farmers having been pretty much taken up with harvesting; but now they begin to come in more plentifully. Potatoes which bring, to-day, from \$2 25 to \$2 75 per bushel, brought yesterday \$3 @ \$3 25. All kinds of light produce passes off briskly. Onions from Connecticut are plentiful. The market is full of Whortleberries and Blackberries. Cherries are nearly out of season. Butter, Eggs, and Cheese, about the same as last week.

VEGETABLES.

Table of vegetable prices including Potatoes, Onions, Turnips, Cabbages, Cucumbers, Lettuce, Raspberries, Squashes, Blackberries, Tomatoes, Apples, and Butter.

Table listing Cheese and Eggs prices.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY July 25, 1855.

The total weekly supply of cattle at all the markets is 2,681, which is 458 less than last week, at Allerton's there are 1,647 to-day without including those left over from last week.

The weather is warm and muggy, and consequently operates unfavorably on the market. The butchers were very backward in making purchases, since it is impossible to preserve meats any length of time this weather. The supply of cattle, though small, is much above the demand; the sales were very slow this morning, and doubtless will be slower this afternoon. The prices do not vary much from last week; at the same time, the run of cattle is much better, which added to the diminished supply, tends to keep them firm. 11c. is the highest notch, and that with difficulty. 10c. is a fair price for good retailing quality, while nearly all the sales fell within 9c. and 10c.

It will be seen that Ohio, is largely represented to-day, which Mr. Allerton attributes to an emetic. Nearly two-thirds of the cattle were from that State. The cows, calves, sheep and lambs, came by the Harlem Railroad.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Table of cattle prices: Extra quality, Good retailing quality, Inferior do., Veals, Swine, Cows and Calves.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK. IN MARKET TO-DAY.

Table showing received during the week and in market to-day for Beeves, Cows, Veals, Sheep and lambs, and Swine.

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves.. 700

Swine 192

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves..... 35

By the Hudson River Railroad..... —

By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves..... 375

New-York State furnished—beeves..... 46

Ohio, "..... 925

Indiana, "..... —

Illinois, "..... 395

Kentucky, "..... 90

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs..... 5083

Beeves..... 418

Veals..... 39

Cows and Calves..... 7

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:

328 Beef Cattle..... 9 @ 12c.

65 Cows and Calves..... \$25 @ \$60

5,181 Sheep and Lambs..... 2 1/2 @ \$6.

200 Veals..... 4 @ 7c.

The supply of sheep and lambs for the week is over 10,000. The market for sheep is rather dull to-day, but lambs are in good demand. The average price of sheep is about \$3 50; of lambs, \$4.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes—Pot, 1st sort, 1855..... \$ 100 lb. — @ 6 50

Pearl, 1st sort, 1855..... 6 50 @ —

Coal—Liverpool Orrel..... \$ chaldron — @ 7 50

Scotch..... — @ —

Sidney..... 5 75 @ 6 —

Pictou..... 5 25 @ —

Anthracite..... \$ 2,000 lb. 5 50 @ —

Cotton Bagging—Gunny Cloth..... \$ yard. — 12 1/2 @ —

Cotton—

Ordinary..... Upland. Florida. Mobile. N. O. & Texas.

Middling..... 9 1/2 10 1/2 10 1/2 11

Middling Fair..... 11 1/2 11 1/2 12 12 1/2

Fair..... 12 12 12 13

Flax—Jersey..... \$ lb. — 8 @ — 9

Flour and Meal—

State, common brands..... 7 75 @ —

State, straight brands..... 7 87 @ —

State, favorite brands..... 7 91 @ —

Western, mixed do..... 8 25 @ —

Michigan and Indiana, straight do..... 8 50 @ 8 75

Michigan, fancy brands..... 9 62 @ —

Ohio, common to good brands..... — @ 8 37

Ohio, fancy brands..... — @ 9

Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do..... 9 37 @ 10

Genesee, fancy brands..... 8 50 @ —

Genesee, extra brands..... 10 50 @ 12

Table of various grain and flour prices including Canada, Brandywine, Georgetown, Petersburg City, Richmond Country, Alexandria, Baltimore, Howard-Street, Rye Flour, Corn Meal, Jersey, Corn Meal, Brandywine, and Corn Meal, Brandywine.

Table of grain prices including Wheat, White Genesee, Wheat, do. Canada, Wheat, Southern, White, Wheat, Ohio, White, Wheat, Michigan, White, Rye, Northern, Corn, Round Yellow, Corn, Round White, Corn, Southern White, Corn, Southern Yellow, Corn, Southern Mixed, Corn, Western Mixed, Corn, Western Yellow, Barley, Oats, River and Canal, Oats, New-Jersey, Oats, Western, Peas, Black-Eyed.

Hay—North River, in bales..... @ 1 25

Molasses—

New-Orleans..... \$ gall. — 30 @ — 33

Porto Rico..... — 27 @ — 32

Cuba Muscovado..... — 26 @ — 30

Trinidad Cuba..... — 27 @ — 29

Cardenas, &c..... — @ — 26

Provisions—

Beef, Mess, Country..... \$ bbl. 10 50 @ 13 —

Beef, Mess, City..... — 10 @ — 10

Beef, Mess, extra..... — 16 25 @ 17 —

Beef, Prime, Country..... — @ 9 75

Beef, Prime, City..... — @ 11 —

Beef, Prime Mess..... \$ tcc. 21 @ 24 —

Pork, Prime..... — 16 12 @ —

Pork, Clear..... — 20 @ —

Pork, Prime Mess..... — 16 50 @ —

Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels..... \$ lb. — 10 @ 11 —

Hams, Pickled..... — @ — 9 1/2

Shoulders, Pickled..... — @ — 7 1/2

Rice—

Ordinary to fair..... \$ 100 lb. 5 25 @ 5 50

Good to prime..... 5 87 1/2 @ 6 25

Salt—

Turk's Island..... \$ bush. — @ — 32

St. Martin's..... — @ —

Liverpool, Ground..... \$ sack. — 95 @ —

Liverpool, Fine..... — 1 20 @ 1 30

Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's..... — 1 46 @ —

Sugar—

St. Croix..... \$ lb. — 7 @ —

New-Orleans..... — 5 @ — 6 1/2

Cuba Muscovado..... — 5 @ — 6 1/2

Porto Rico..... — 5 @ — 6

Havana, White..... — 7 @ — 7 1/2

Havana, Brown and Yellow..... — 5 @ — 7

Tallow—

American, Prime..... \$ lb. — 11 1/2 @ —

Wool—

American, Saxony Fleece..... \$ lb. — 38 @ — 42

American, Full Blood Merino..... — 36 @ — 37

American, 3/4 and 1/2 Merino..... — 30 @ — 33

American, Native and 1/2 Merino..... — 25 @ — 28

Superfine, Pulled, Country..... — 30 @ — 32

No. 1, Pulled, Country..... — 23 @ — 25

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

(AUTUMN 1855.)

Our new wholesale Catalogue or Trade List, for the Autumn of 1855, is ready, and will be sent gratis to all who inclose a stamp.

The stock now on the ground is of the finest description, and by far the largest that has ever been offered in this country.

Nurserymen, Dealers and Planters can be supplied on very advantageous terms, and they will find it to their interest to consult our list and examine stock before purchasing. Our arrangements for packing and shipping are so complete that we can forward packages to the most remote parts of the United States and Canada with safety. Any of the following Catalogues will be sent to all who apply and inclose a stamp.

No. 1. A Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits.

No. 2. A Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c.

No. 3. A Catalogue of Fruits, Verbenas, Petunias, and select new Green-house and Bedding Plants, published every spring.

No. 4. A Wholesale Priced Catalogue for Nurserymen and Dealers.

No. 5. A Supplemental Catalogue of Fruits—containing prices of Fruit Trees for 1854 and 1855, and lists of New Varieties.

ELLWANGER & BARRY, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

98—99n1216

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine

Plants may be purchased of WM. LAWTON, 83-108n1188 No. 54 Wall-st., New-York.

TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.—A valuable FERTILIZING MANURE.—A manure made entirely of Animal Matter, Gypsum, and Ammonia, is offered for sale by FINDLEY & WAKEFIELD, Manufacturers, as cheaper than any manure ever before offered to the public. It is adapted to any crop whatever, and has been used with signal success, upon summer and winter crops, and also for top-dressing. The Proprietors have had experience of the working of it, on their own farm, for fourteen years, and can confidentially recommend it to give general satisfaction to purchasers. It is packed in barrels of 300 lbs. each, and will be delivered on board any vessel or railroad in New-York city free of charge, at the rate of \$25 per tun. Address FINDLEY & WAKEFIELD, Brooklyn, N. Y.,
Or apply at the Manufactory, on Sedgwick-st., near Van Brunt-st., South Brooklyn. 97-100n1215

AYRESHIRE BULL.—FOR SALE, A Thoroughbred Ayreshire BULL, 2 years and 4 mos. old. Bred by Wm. Watson, Esq., of Westchester. Price \$250. Apply to WILLIAM REDMOND, No. 30 Pine-st., New-York. 96-100n1213

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:
GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.
SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.
HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.
GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

THRESHERS—ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot. do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot. EMMERY'S overshot. EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which evenly large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Subtle, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coupler, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS and WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

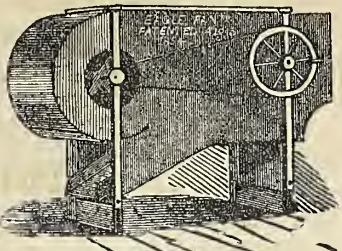
HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

- VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.
- BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.
- Grub Hoes, Spades, Cultivators, Picks, Wheelbarrows, Road-Scrapers, Shovels, Harrows, Grindstones, Garden Engines.
- Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.
- Clover Hullers, Shingle Machines, Apple Parers, Saw Machines, Scales, Rakes, Cotton Gins, Gin Gear, Wire Cloth, Belting for Machinery, &c.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New-York. 86-6m

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists
First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.
Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.
Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.
Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.
Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

PRATT & BROTHERS, MANUFACTURERS OF DITCH-DIGGERS, TILE AND BRICK MACHINES, Canandaigua, N. Y. THE MOST USEFUL AND PERFECT MACHINES KNOWN.

They are in use by many persons, and proving themselves capable of vastly cheapening and extending drainage.
The Tile machine is gaining a reputation beyond any precedent, for the following reasons:
1st.—Because it is the only Tile and Brick machine known, enabling brick-makers to make Tiles and tile-makers to make Bricks, with one and the same machine.
2d.—As a Tile machine it challenges competition in compactness, simplicity, completeness and economy. It will make Tiles at about one-half the cost of the machines in general use.
3d.—As a Brick machine, it produces a quality superior in density and perfection to every thing but the best pressed bricks, and at a cost less than the cheapest common brick.
4th.—This machine is equally applicable to the use of Horse, Steam, or Water Power, without clap-trap, detention, or fault, and requires manual labor only to supply the clay and remove the tiles and brick as fast as made.
The Digger will cut 100 rods of ditch, from 2 to 3 feet deep, as easy as the same team in the same soil will plow 1½ to 2 acres.
PRATT & BROTHERS, Canandaigua, N. Y. 95-96n1211

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY.

This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing.
Special attention will be paid to the Elements of Agricultural Science.
The FALL TERM will commence Thursday, August 30th, and continue eleven weeks.
REFERENCES—Henry C. Bowen, Esq., New-York City; Hou. A. N. Skinner, and Benjamin Silliman, L.L.D., New-Haven, Conn. For further particulars, address
E. CONANT, Principal. Woodstock, Conn., June 21, 1855. 94-101n1209

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS
Single Horse Power - - - - - \$85 00
Double do. do. - - - - - 116 00
Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator, 160 00
Single do. do. do. do. do. 128 00
Belts \$3 and \$10 each.
R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York. 189 and 191 Water-street.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 167 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86-11n1194

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 99.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.

LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE—No. VI

KENTUCKY, April, 1855.

The Kentucky blue grass pastures have long been celebrated. This grass is supposed by northern and eastern farmers to be something entirely strange to their soils. Nevertheless, it is very common in those sections, and is called June grass (*Poa Pratensis*). The excellence of these pastures, in addition to the mild climate, arises from the care bestowed upon them. They are rarely plowed, lightly stocked, and no weeds or bushes allowed to plunder the soil. Canada thistle, the great pest of New-York lands, is not seen in Kentucky.

As I have previously said, much of the pasture is woodland. All the very large and quite small trees have been cut, leaving only the timber valuable for fencing or fuel, such as the ash, elm, cherry, hickory and maple. The stumps are then grubbed out, knolls leveled down, and all rubbish carted off. I should say sufficient trees are left to about half shade the ground. Cattle fatten finely in these parks, but mules thrive better in the open grounds.

Five miles from Paris, away back from the pike, and on the banks of the Stoner, lives Mr. G. M. Bedford, who has a large herd of Short Horns, derived from the late importations. The drouth of 1854 was particularly severe in Kentucky; in consequence, I found Mr. B.'s cattle in low condition, having been kept through the winter chiefly on cornstalks—rather hard fare for Kentucky cows, that are used to having grass twelve months in the year. Very many of them, however, were fine specimens of the breed. With a roan heifer, belonging to A. M. Bedford, I was much pleased; very even in her points, with an

extra brisket. The stock bull is "King Cyrus," Kentucky bred, and a good one; two years old; has carried several premiums, and, what is much liked in Ohio and Kentucky, has a very fine head, neck and horns, and proves a remarkably good getter.

At Mr. Bedford's I met Capt. Jeremiah Duncan, and rode through the fields with him to his house, which is pleasantly situated on a gentle rise (two miles from a public road) surrounded on all sides by the woodland pastures, vocal this pleasant evening with the far-off sounding wail of the mourning dove. On this farm, and the only one in my whole journey, I saw a superabundance of feed. The Captain's cattle were all in fine condition. His stock bull, De Otley, is a large, massive, fine bull, got by imported Otley, out of Louan. I have never yet seen six so good calves from any one cow as from Louan, by De Otley, Perfection, Louan 2d and 3d, and a heifer, name forgotten.

Louan 2d, chiefly red, two years old, is the gem of this herd; has been running out all winter, in high order, and in shape is a parallelogram—that is, trimming off the head, neck, legs, and a little from the lower part of the brisket, you have a great oblong box.

Short Horns are higher-priced in Kentucky than any other State of the Union. To show the estimation put on their breeding by purchasers from other States, I would mention, that Capt. D. could have sold the above heifer, a few days since, for the handsome sum of \$1,000.

Much pains is taken by the inhabitants in directing a stranger on his way across the country, and after a little practice, no trouble will be met with in going from one house to another. From Capt. Duncan's it is a pleasant ride of five or six miles, through the splendid woodlands, to the farm of Mr. E. G. Bedford, the owner of the celebrated bull Perfection, a descendant of Mrs. Motte, and winner of the first prize at the National Cattle Show last fall.

Perfection is a very large animal, light roan color, fine head, neck, and horns, very broad across the loin, hip and rump, with a brisket which drops quite to his knees; full crops; carries his head high; and with a temper so mild that he has never yet been rung, although six years old.

Laura, a red, 3-year-old heifer, the get of Perfection, has been beaten once, but has carried enough prize cups to set up a silversmith; she traces on both sides to Mrs. Motte, of the importation of 1817. She has a fine lean head, short neck, short, straight

legs, of fine bone, and in shape is like Louan 2d, a parallelogram.

I have seen recently several hundred Short Horns; many of them have crossed the Atlantic; but have never yet seen the superiors of these two American-bred heifers, Laura and Louan 2d.

Mr. Bedford also showed me several other heifers which were highly creditable to his breeding.

Hon. John Cunningham is another breeder of Short Horns near Paris. I found his herd so thin in flesh, that Mr. C. declined showing any thing, save two or three promising calves, the get of his bull Deceiver, imported last season.

Deceiver is a light roan, in moderate condition, stylish about the fore end, with good chine, wide loin, and long quarter. Without doubt he will prove a good getter.

Mr. C. also breeds thoroughbred horses and jacks, and feeds annually a large lot of steers for the eastern markets. He gave me the results of feeding several lots of cattle, which were quite interesting, as showing that it can be done at a profit—but, neglecting to take notes at the time, the particulars have escaped my recollection.

Mr. B. C. Bedford had a sale last fall; hence his herd is quite small. I saw several fine specimens of descendants of the importation of 1817. Mr. B. has been using, the season past, the well known bull Vane Tempest, imported by Col. Sherwood, of Auburn, N. Y.

But a few miles from Paris was the first white settlement. We were reminded that we were on the "Dark and Bloody ground," while walking with Mr. Bedford over one of his fields, by finding several relics of antiquity—pieces of the flint arrow-heads used by the Aborigines.

SHEEP.—The Texas State Gazette of the 7th inst. says, "We have conversed with several farmers lately who are raising sheep, and we find that the result of their experiments have far exceeded their expectations. One farmer tells us that the yield, this season, of wool from his sheep, will be 82 per cent upon his small capital invested. From this rate to 45 per cent are the extremes of profit upon sheep raising, as far as we learn, from actual experiment. Farmers, think of this, and diversify your labor. A few sheep to begin with is better than many, and the cost of purchase will be trifling."

If there be no faith in our words, of what use are they?

SHORTHORNS, THEIR PEDIGREES, AND MILKING POWERS.

In my last letter to you on the subject of Short Horns, I mentioned that I had a cow in calf to the Duke of Glo'ster (11382). On Saturday last, the 9th of June, she produced a fine roan calf, which to my great satisfaction proved to be a bull. As the births of thoroughbred foals are recorded as they occur, so it would not be uninteresting if the births of the highest bred calves of the Short Horn race were chronicled in like manner. In modern times, the latter have fetched prices quite as high as the former, and they certainly are as well worth them, since they conduce in an equal degree to the improvement of their race. In order to sustain the claim of my calf to the honor of his name appearing in your columns, I add the pedigree of his dam: Ferret Roan, of 1849, (bred by Mr. G. Bell), by 4th Duke of York (10167); dam, Fancy by Duke of Northumberland (1940); grandam, Fancy by Shorttail (2621); gr.-g.-dam, Fletcher the 2nd by Belvidere (1706); gr.-gr.-gr.-dam, by a son of Young Winyard (2869), descended from Mr. J. Brown's old Red Bull.

It will be evident to any one conversant with the pedigrees of Mr. Bates' herd, that there is much very close breeding in that of my calf, and yet he far exceeds any calf I have bred this year in size and stoutness; in fact, his size is considerably above the average. This is another confirmation of the truth of Mr. Bates' view, that although to breed in and in from bad stock was to use his own expression, "ruin and devastation," yet that practice may be safely followed within certain limits where the animals so related are descended from first-rate parents, and are themselves of undeniable excellence. In this, as in every other point, success or failure depend upon the judgment of the breeder. It is, however, so much more common for men to over-estimate the merits of their own stock than to rate them too low, that it can not but be useful to breeders carefully to guard against this tendency in themselves. It is certain that he who keeps his eyes open to excellence, wherever it exists, and avails himself of it whenever it is within his reach, will, in the end, have a better herd than he who, taking it for granted that his stock is perfection, never troubles himself to look beyond it. The history of Short Horn breeding affords abundant evidence of the truth of this maxim, from the time when Mr. C. Colling purchased Hubback, which though of unknown pedigree, is an ancestor of many of our best Short Horns, down to the introduction of Cleveland Lad by Mr. Bates into his herd.

I think that Mr. Horsfall, in his interesting record of his dairy practice, does not state whether he adheres to any one breed of cows, or whether he purchases such as he conceives best adapted for milking, irrespective of any other consideration. It would be both useful and interesting, however, if he and other agriculturists would state the results of their experience of the milk-producing powers of the principal breeds of cattle in the kingdom. As regards the Short Horns, there is, I believe, a prevalent notion that they are indifferent milkers. Although facts may seem to lend a certain degree of support to this opinion, it is nevertheless a mistake which an impartial investigation must dispel. In the first place, the principal ancestors of the improved Short Horns—the old Holderness cows—were, and are still, the deepest milkers in the kingdom. Is it likely, then, that these descendants should wholly have lost this valuable property? It may, indeed, be alleged that the celebrated cross with the Galloway cow resorted to by Mr. C. Colling may have produced injurious

consequences in this respect. I think that the effects of this "alloy," whether for good or the reverse, have been over-estimated inasmuch as the cow "Lady," from which this family is descended, had only $\frac{1}{16}$ th of the Galloway blood in her veins. As Favorite (252) was quite unconnected with the "alloy," as were also several other celebrated originals of the Short Horns, it is evident that the Union of them with the cow Lady would give $\frac{1}{32}$ d of that cross in the next generation. Except, therefore, in those herds where the "alloy" has been purposely followed out, it may be estimated that from $\frac{1}{30}$ th to $\frac{1}{50}$ th of Galloway blood is the utmost proportion which exists in modern Short Horns, and it is obviously insufficient to obliterate any well established property belonging to the original race.

But leaving the domain of speculation to pass to that of fact, are the improved Short Horns good dairy cows or not? From a considerable mass of evidence which I have collected to prove the affirmative of this proposition, my limits here only allow me to refer to the pamphlet of the Rev. Dr. H. Berry, who gives a long list of cows of the highest pedigree with the measured quantity of milk given by each. Several of these gave 24 quarts daily; one 32, another 36, and one as much as 38 quarts. From this authentic testimony as to the early character of the breed, I must pass on to the valuable article of Mr. Dickenson, (Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, vol. xi.) on the farming of Cumberland, and the perusal of which I recommend to all interested in this subject. He mentions a high-bred cow called Kate, which gave 13 quarts at a meal, and from this quantity yielded at the end of a week 26 lbs. of butter! About the fact itself there can be no doubt, noting as it does on the testimony of her owner, Mr. Fisherson, of Harker Lodge. Another cow mentioned by Mr. Dickenson produced in 32 weeks 373 lbs. of butter, being at the rate of 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. per week! My own experience on the subject is, that while their milking powers are at least equal to those of any other breed, they possess over all others the great advantage of keeping their condition on food on which common cows would starve. I am far from maintaining that all Short Horns are good milkers. Two causes have contributed to injure them in this respect; 1st. That being a point to which many breeders are indifferent, they have selected their originals and continued to breed solely with reference to symmetry, size, and the propensity to early maturity. As therefore not only good qualities but the lack of them descend, it can not be surprising that many Short Horns give but little milk. 2d. From the emulation of breeders to show the finest animal at the earliest age, a system of pampering is begun at birth and carried on until the animal is either sold or slaughtered, which from the premature development of fat which it produces, tends to depress every other vital function. This system, unfavorable as it is for allowing the milk-producing powers to develop themselves in any individual subjected to it, is fatal when pursued for generation after generation. After a time, "function," to use the words of Dr. Playfair, "begins to react on organization," and a tribe of bad milkers is formed, among which individuals may even occur which will give no milk. Most sincerely do I wish that the forcing system were utterly exploded, injurious as it is alike to the Short Horns themselves and their reputation. If they will not thrive on the ordinary keep of other breeding stock, the sooner they are abandoned the better. But it is their pre eminent merit that they are the best thrivers in existence. As milkers, when well selected and rationally treated, it is not easy to find cows which will excel

them. Sometimes even they will at one and the same time give the same quantities of milk, and carry a great deal of flesh, although this is not in general desirable.

When I think of the number of good milkers I have known among the Short Horns, and remember that it was an original characteristic of the tribe, it appears to me of great consequence, considering the national importance of dairy produce, to use every exertion to render so valuable a quality permanent. Good milkers are not over abundant among any variety of the vaccine species, and are most scarce among ill-bred mongrels. Mr. Atten, of Longcroft, had two or three years a white cow of the name of Penguin, descended from the stock of Mr. Robertson, of Ladykirk, which was an extraordinary milker. Colonel Kingscote's cow Honeysuckle is remarkable even in his herd, where this point is so successfully cultivated, for the same quality. Mr. Sainsbury is strenuous in attaining high excellence here as in every other point. Among my own cows, which are milking better this year than I ever knew them before, I may be allowed to name one which at nine years is a most extraordinary milker, viz., Jessy, bred by Mr. R. Bell. She is by Napoleon (10,552) dam by Cleveland Lad (3,407), &c., and has bred a prize heifer. She may therefore be cited as a proof that it is possible to combine the quality for which I am contending with the best Short Horn blood. In conclusion I may add that I am preparing for publication an article on the breeding of Short Horns, and shall therefore feel obliged for any communications from breeders containing facts in reference to this or other points worthy of notice. I shall also be glad to show my small herd to any breeder who may happen to be visiting this neighborhood. They are as hardly kept as those of any neighboring farmer, and as my object is to make cheese, the calves are weaned from new milk at an earlier age than is usual among the breeders of Short Horns.—*Willoughby Wood, Holly Bank, Burton-on-Trent. —Agricultural Gazette.*

HAY CAPS AGAIN.

These are found very useful, both for hay and grain, in the wet and changable weather now prevailing. The N. Y. Times copied our recent article on this subject, which called out the following testimony to their utility from a correspondent of that paper:

I was very glad to see in your paper of yesterday, a short article on the subject of hay caps, which I have used for the last five years with great advantage. They should be made in the following manner, namely: Stout, unbleached sheeting should be purchased, (such as is made by the Lyman Mills Company at Holyoke,) from 36 to 42 inches wide; the latter is the best—which should be cut into lengths of 40 to 45 inches. The latter is the most useful. A much larger size would be objectionable as they would exclude the air from the hay cocks. To make 40 of them, (and no extensive farmer should have less than 100,) would require a gallon of linseed oil, which should be simmered with four pounds of beeswax, and a quart of Japan added after it is taken from the fire. When cold, the mixture should be about the thickness of lard in summer, if not, more oil or more wax may be added.

The cloths should then be payed over, to use a sea expression, with the hand or a small piece of shingle, on one side only, and then dried in the sun; when dry, the females of the family will cheerfully, and in a very short time, sew into each corner a stone of the weight of about seven or eight ounces, which completes the affair.

No hemming is required, as the wax and oil will keep the edges sufficiently firm.

I don't think I am extravagant in saying they will pay the cost in one season, and will last ten years if taken good care of. Within a few days we have had one entire rainy day when my neighbor's hay was thoroughly soaked, while mine was as safely covered as if it had been packed away in the barn. My manager thinks that one-third of the cost of some new covers, just made, were paid for on that day.

Large covers, made in the same manner, to cover the whole of a load of hay, with heavier weights of course, would be an admirable protection against sudden showers, but as I have not often made hay at a distance from home, I have never required them.

EDWARD CLARKE.

SOWING THICK AND THIN.—Since turning our attention to the growth of corn, though but tyros in this branch of agriculture, careful investigations have proved to us that from an extravagant full seeding of 2 bushels per acre of wheat, or 3 bushels per acre of barley and oats, some of the seeds do, and must by reason of its extreme thickness, and as a necessary consequence, fail to produce any ears or ear at all, and only one, two, and three diminutive ears are or can be possibly obtained from each grain, averaging only about two abortive or puny ears, and containing in both not 30 perfect grains. This need not cause great astonishment nor disbelief, and we speak it without fear of contradiction; for if it were so, 60 bushels per acre produce of wheat and 90 bushels per acre of barley and oats, would of course consequently be often realized, viz., 30 times as much as was sown, which at first sight appears but little; but where is even this insignificant produce obtained from such proceedings? A correspondent on whom we can rely upon for truth, writes us from Inverness, "The practice of thin sowing has not come this way yet, grain being generally sown about 6 bushels to the acre!" How is this inadvertence to be accounted for—can it be in the difference of a Scotch acre, or the Scotch bushel? We contend that our growing crops from only 6 or 8 pints per statute acre, with some 20 to 80 fine ears protruding from each grain or stub, hang dangling and wafting majestically in the summer's breeze as noble examples for larger establishments, can not be beaten by anybody's else, or anywhere, except from a smaller quantity of seed even than this.—HARDY & SON, in *Agricultural Gazette*.

GRASSES FOR RECLAIMING SAND DRIFTS ON THE SEA SHORES.—There has been received in the Patent Office, from Holland, the seeds of the sea reed, (*arundo arenaria*), and the upright sea lyme grass, (*elymus arenarius*), which have long been used in that country for reclaiming the sand drifts on the sea coast. These seeds have been imported for experiment all along the Atlantic coast, from Maine to Florida. The nutritive matter of these grasses is not sufficient to make them worthy of cultivation out of the influence of the salt spray. The *elymus arenarius* rather exceeds the sea reed in nutritive qualities; but from the habit of the latter in its natural place of growth, it is of greater utility, particularly when combined with the former, as it binds the loose sands of the sea shore, and thereby raises a durable natural barrier against the encroachments of the ocean upon the land. Indeed, the effect of the two grasses combined in protecting coasts from the wasting influences of storms and currents is such, that Holland owes her very existence, in a considerable degree, to their preserving influences.

In the reign of George I., the acts passed for the planting and preserving the same from

injury were extended to the coasts of England. In passing further penalties for its inviolability, it was rendered penal not only for an individual—not even excepting the lord of the manor—to cut the bent, but for any one to be in possession of any within eight miles of the coast. This plant is also applied to many economical purposes—hats, ropes, mats, &c., being manufactured from it.—*Scientific American*.

RAISING WOOD.—I have tried a good many years to raise oaks, chestnuts and other kinds of trees, but met with no success, planting them as I did in drills, in common soil. Not one would sprout. In the summer of 1853, I noticed several sprouts as I was working under a chestnut tree, and in digging down through the leaves I came to the nuts from which the sprouts came. I took the hint, and the next fall I procured a quantity of nuts, thinking I would imitate nature; I prepared a rich bed, strewing the nuts thickly on top of the soil, covering them with leaves. All the nuts came up and are now doing finely. This manner of planting is only to be observed for those trees that are designed for transplanting. For wood lots I would recommend the following mode of planting. Select a still day. Let one man drop the seed eight feet apart each way, covering them with a small handful of leaves. Let another man follow with a barrow of heavy soil, sprinkling on just enough to keep the leaves from blowing away. Two men in this manner can plant one acre in one day with ease.—*Boston Cultivator*.

THE TAMARIND IN VIRGINIA.—Wm. M. Singleton, Esq., of Winchester, communicates the following to the Commissioner of Patents:

"Of all the ornamental trees propagated among us, either foreign or native, there is none, in my judgment, more desirable than the tamarind. Its growth is rapid, its form symmetrical, its foliage beautifully delicate, and it is altogether highly ornamental; besides, it is perfectly free from blight, as well as from the depredations of insects. If cultivated on our Western prairies, it would doubtless form a valuable acquisition.

"From the growth of some tamarind seeds, which I obtained at a confectioner's shop some eight years since, I have a tree standing in my yard, eighteen inches in circumference. The past season it perfected its fruit, which, in quality, was equally as good as that imported. The seed may be sown in drills, about four inches apart, and covered from two to three inches deep, with light, rich soil. They may be sown either in the fall or spring. If in the latter, they should be exposed to the weather during the winter previous, in order that their hull or coverings may be acted on by the frost. When grown to a height of three or four feet, the young trees may be transplanted in the sites where they are permanently to remain."

MOWING MACHINES, though saving much labor, seem to do much personal damage. A man in Burlington County, one in Morris, and one in Monmouth, while engaged with them last week, had each some of their limbs cut off, maiming them for life.—*Exchange*.

This is another evidence of the truth of Scriptures, that "all flesh is as grass."—*New Brunswick Fredonia*.

And it also proves that because locomotives do sometimes mercilessly crush sheep who get on the track, the locomotives ought to be abolished. Eh? But there are some machines made with the gearing completely covered, which obviates all danger in riding.

CUTTING GRAIN.

MR. EDITOR: In harvesting grain of all kinds I am convinced from my own observation and experience, that we do not commence early enough. Grain that stands until it is dead ripe—especially wheat—makes darker flour than that which is cut in the milk, or about the time the kernels begin to glaze. Last year, in order satisfactorily to test the correctness of this position, I cut one half of a piece of wheat, just at the time the grain was beginning to harden, and allowed the remainder of the piece to stand till it had matured. The grain cut in the milk was bound in small bundles, and shocked on grass land, where it remained for a fortnight, being protected from rain and heavy dews, by caps, but exposed to the sun by removing them during the day time when the weather was clear and fair. Both parcels were threshed separately, and weighed, and the first cut was found to be in every respect superior to the last; the kernels were finer in the sample, more plump and farinaceous, the skin thinner, and whiter, and the general appearance so different that, when placed beside the other, it did not look like the same variety of wheat.

A like experiment on oats resulted in a similar way, and I am confidently persuaded that early cutting will be found in every respect preferable to late cutting. Another and by no means unimportant consideration, is the superiority of the straw for fodder. Grain staw that stands until it is perfectly 'dead ripe,' contains but little nutriment; all the saccharine juices are abstracted, and little except the fibrous substance of the plant remains, but when it is cut early, and properly cured, there is nearly as much alimentary matter in it, as in hay. Oat straw is generally regarded—and with justice—as of much greater value for feeding purposes, than straw of wheat, barley or rye. Early cutting, with reference to this grain, is therefore of much more consequence, so far as the straw is concerned, than it is in the case of either of the varieties. But in all cases, the practice possesses a decided advantage over the old method.

Any person who is at all skeptical on this point, can with a very little difficulty satisfy himself of its correctness; he has but to make the experiment. The straw of my wheat, that which was first cut, was all consumed by my cows, while that which was left till ripe, was rejected.—A FRANCONIA FARMER.—*Farmer and Visitor*.

WHEAT AND CHESS.—Wheat and chess sometimes become so entangled and united as to lead people to suppose that both grow on one stalk. A case in point. On Monday last, Geo. Wright, Esq., of Irondequoit, brought us a head of wheat, (carefully inclosed in a paste-board box for preservation,) having on one side a small branch of genuine chess. The chess protruded from the stalk between the wheat kernels, and certainly had the appearance of having grown there. Mr. W. stated that the apparent anomaly had been shown to several farmers and others, (including one or two city editors,) who admitted that the wheat and chess must have grown on the same stalk. At first sight, we confess that we were a little surprised, the whole thing looked so natural—as though the wheat and chess actually grew together. But in less than two minutes we "disclosed the disclosure." On slightly separating the kernels of wheat on the opposite side of the stem, we discovered the end of the chess stem, protruding from the head of the wheat (in an opposite direction from the chess kernels,) but not united with the wheat stalk! The chess stem was held between the stem and kernel of the wheat—and it

was at once apparent that, instead of growing on the wheat stalk, the branch of ches had either been caught in the wheat head and its stem broken by the waving of the grain, or become entangled in some other manner. We presume many people have been deceived by similar apparent unions of wheat and ches, and therefore chronicle this instance of the utter unreliability of appearances.—*Rural New-Yorker.*

FARM-YARD POULTRY.

From time to time the columns of the "Poultry Chronicle" have urged the necessity of increased care and attention to farm-yard stock. It must be apparent to any person conversant with the amount of poultry and eggs annually required in the United Kingdom, and the large quantity of breeding poultry kept on farms, that the produce is not equal to the demand, nor does it reach the amount which it ought to do; this arises chiefly from farmers keeping bad small stock, breeding in, and retaining old and useless birds. It is difficult, indeed impossible, to obtain any correct amount of the enormous importation of poultry and eggs from abroad. A recent article in the "Quarterly Review" gives some useful information on this point, but the writer confines his observation to London alone.

There can be no doubt that the trade is a most valuable one, and it is much to be regretted that our own farmers (who by keeping poultry admit the necessity of such stock on a farm) should throw away so great a source of profit. The following figures will show that the trade is very considerable, they refer only to the quantities brought into two of the principal London markets, and are as follows:

Eggs.....	75,000,000
Fowls.....	2,000,000
Pigeons.....	400,000
Turkeys.....	100,000
Geese.....	100,000
Ducks.....	300,000

In addition to these quantities, the vast amount sent to poulterers and private houses must be considered. It is difficult to say what proportion of this comes from abroad, but the fact that sixty million eggs are imported annually from France, and that the Brighton Railway alone carries yearly about 2,600 tons of eggs brought from Belgium and France, are fair indications as to the rest.

If this very large trade is so valuable to foreigners, it must be apparent to any poultry keeper that the British producers should take steps to secure it for themselves.

It is notorious that this year there has been a great want of poultry, not only in London, but in every poulterer's shop throughout the kingdom, and it is equally well known that, except in London or some of the largest towns, a good plump well-fed fowl is never found. This is the result of the present farm-yard system, if such carelessness can be called a system. The little fowls produce little chickens, and *after having given as much trouble and eaten as much food as a good bird would have*, they are sent to the local market, and bring such small prices as to be quite unremunerative. Had these birds been the produce of really good stock, and received a little extra care to make them plump, they would, without increase of trouble or expense, have realized such a sum as would have perceptibly increased the year's receipts. These observations are not made to those who are prejudiced against, and do not keep fowls, but to those who at present keep bad ones with a view to encouraging them to get good ones. Nothing is more easy, thanks to the

numerous exhibitions; there is scarcely a neighborhood that has not one or more breeders of good stock, generally willing to part with some of their surplus birds at moderate prices.

It can scarcely be doubted that the best stock for table purposes is the Dorking; the varieties have been mentioned before in these pages. Those who wish to breed a very large bird should procure the light grey or speckled kinds; those who wish to have a moderate plump bird may get the *Silver Grey* variety, sometimes known as "Lord Hill's breed." These birds are to their larger brethren what the Southdown sheep is to the Leicester, and other larger varieties, and they have one advantage to the fancier, viz., that they breed true to color, which the larger birds do not, and there are few things more agreeable in poultry keeping than a yard filled with evenly-marked birds, all alike; but whatever breeding stock may be decided upon, no poultry keeper who wants eggs should be without Cochins or Brahma pullets: as winter layers they are invaluable, and produce a constant supply when fresh eggs command a high price. If Ducks are kept, the Rouen or Aylesbury will answer best; and if Turkeys are required, the Norfolk or Cambridge birds will make as fine meat as need be wished.

THE COMIC POULTRY-GUIDE.

In many situations of life we require guides, and no class is exempt from this want. The imperial purple cannot dispense with them—nay, it wants more than ordinary people. Witness the band of Napoleon's regiment of them, that created such a sensation at the Crystal Palace. They are also necessary when aspiring individuals determine to ascend Mont Blanc, and many a little screamer is familiar with the name in connection with a bathing machine at Margate or Brighton. A person about to commence poultry-keeping may be compared to one just landed in a foreign city. Ignorant of every thing, he asks for a trustworthy guide. We will recommend a cheap and infallible one. It is nature. Choose then your stock well formed, healthy and young; but as in most well-assorted unions, the male should be older than his partners. Seeing there are no laws against polygamy, we will mention the number of wives, which should be six. Following our guide, we say, let them take their own course. Let your hens enjoy all the honors of maternity, let them be blessed with those "sweet cares, all other joys so far above," that attend a mother's life. As you can not eat your pudding and have it too, so you can not compel a hen to do more than she is naturally fitted to accomplish; and she must rest. Strange to say, the period of sitting, and the infancy of her progeny, are the rest of the hen, and cause her no sleepless nights. But if in defiance of this sound provision, you prevent her from sitting, while it is true you will cause her to lay again, you will only be a temporary gainer, as the strain on the system will wear it out prematurely. She would have fulfilled her duties punctually, and to the last have been useful in her vocation; but being forced to unhealthy exertion when young, her old age will be sterile and premature. Thus thoughtless orphans, heedless of their trustees, devour before they are of age, the property that should keep them through life.

The cure for the gout is said to be to live on half-a-crown per day, and to earn it. Exercise produces or sharpens appetite, and imparts a relish to the plainest food. We never know whether to laugh or to be angry, when we see an obese dog, slowly moving at the most snail-like pace, following, or ra-

ther hindering, the progress of a good old gentleman or lady. They like to see the dear thing fat, and even cookery is taxed to please the poor thing's palate. How often have we seen the walking-stick of the one, or the parasol of the other, brought into requisition to defend the poor useless being from the approach of some other dog, whose only advantage was, that he was sparingly and properly fed; consequently it was cheerful, and full of health and spirits. We have seen an old lady almost as fat as her pet, perform marvels of agility in preventing another from playing with it, and at last fairly take up the poor wheezing creature.

Now fowls improperly fed, are in the same predicament. They become over fat, indifferent to exercise, and useless. Their food should be simple and regular, and keeping our guide in view, it should be so given as to approach as near as possible to a state of nature. Let it be scattered about, so that they shall be unable to fill their crops in a few minutes. A meal to be healthy should be moderate in quantity, and eaten slowly. Follow this out with your fowls, and do not by unnatural temptations and indulgences make them "dear fat lazy things." Let them leave off with an appetite.—*Poultry Chronicle.*

ENGLISH LARKS ON LONG-ISLAND.

We have received a very welcome note from a friend, informing us that the English sky-lark had become domesticated upon our Long-Island shores. We think it will be of interest to many to learn the facts, and we therefore take the liberty of publishing the letter, though not meant for publication:

"DEAR SIR: I have just read in your new book entitled 'Star Papers,' of your high-wrought enthusiasm at hearing the English sky-lark, as he rose from the dewy grass singing up to heaven. I think, sir, that I can sympathize with you in your admiration for this world-renowned songster, for I have often greeted the sun at his rising, that I might have a morning song before resuming my daily studies. But I heard him on *Long-Island*. The veritable English sky-lark is now acclimated, civilized, and naturalized as an adopted American citizen, and is to be found in the neighborhood where they were first placed in quite large numbers. About ten years ago a wealthy Englishman, living at East New-York, L. I., set a pair of valuable larks free, for the very purpose of introducing them into this country. He has succeeded admirably, and deserves the commendation of all lovers of birds and song. Though I have spent my life in the same neighborhood, I regret to say that I can not now recall the name of this public benefactor. If, sir, you should ever wish to hear the cause of one burst of your eloquence in your 'Star Papers,' take an early ride to East New-York, inquire for *Mr. Simmons*, who will direct you where you may often go to hear your favorite bird."

We mean to take an early opportunity of hearing these foreign singers. We have heard, for the first time this year, in Brooklyn, a singing bird, among the trees between Hicks and Willow-sts., that is unlike any of our native songsters, and so much resembles the sky-lark that we remarked the fact to friends before receiving this letter. It was between 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning that we heard it, on several successive days. If these gracious warblers have taken a fancy to Brooklyn trees, we give them a cordial welcome, and pledge ourselves to stand between them and any native American prejudices on the part of home birds. We have perceived some tokens of jealousy on the part of one fellow, to the manor born—a

Shanghai—in a neighboring yard, who has for several mornings redoubled his exertions with most asthmatic results. This is a jealousy entirely unnecessary. We do not think an English sky-lark will ever be able to surpass Sir Shanghai in his own peculiarly melodious song. Let there be peace between the top and bottom of the tree!

Attempts have been made to domesticate the nightingale, without success hitherto. We know not the causes of failure. We know not why all the European songsters may not be imported and bred in our woods and fields. Already foreign fish have been domesticated in our waters, and we know not why the process should not go on.—H. W. BEECHER, in *Independent*.

DON'T SHOOT THE BIRDS.

Oh, it is not the deed of a noble heart, which can ruthlessly slaughter the little feathered songsters of our forest—those brightest Psalmists of Nature, who are ever reiterating their jubilant songs of praise, and thanksgiving, and love—whose sweet, melodious voices come wafted like incense to us upon the Summer zephyrs, and floating onward and upward through the grand old woods, are caught, and echoed with new power, and new beauty, and varying tones, by a myriad tuneful chorists, until the very air seems filled with the essence of harmony, and the embowered branches of the o'er-spreading trees are converted into a grand orchestral temple.

We love little birds. We delight, when suffering, and care, and sorrow, have left their impress upon our mind, or some dark shadow of Evil, or spirit of Gloom, or Genii of Despair, have crossed the brighter path of life, dimming our faculties, destroying our preception of enjoyment, and filling our very soul with the impress of Melancholy, to stroll into the woods, leaving the artificial world behind us, forsaking the hum and din, and turmoil of the city, turning our back, as it were, upon our fellow man, and shutting ourselves up in a close communion with the mysteries, and wonders, and beauties of Nature. We love to cast ourselves upon the velvety, emerald carpeting with which the bounteous hand of Providence, has so lavishly o'erspread the bosom of our common mother Earth, beneath the shadow of some giant oak, whose branches mantle, and struggle, and entwine about each other, covered with bright leaflets, that wave and flutter, to and fro, like some enchained spirits of light, and forming a mystic tracery against the clear blue vault of Heaven—through which the beams of the bright King of Day struggle, and reflect with mellow softness upon all beneath—gilding the trunk of the giant forest monarch, until it seems no vagary of fancy to think it some weird warrior of a by-gone age, standing erect in all the pride of armor, and shield, and vizer, and helmet, who in the lone woods, like a true knight-errant, is awaiting the approach of the fair lady-love, falling upon yon violet, which hangs its head in modest confusion at being thus honored, and looks so like a pearl, just sprung up from amid the grand bright sea of emerald.

Look up into that branch, whose beautiful curtain sweeps to and fro, responsive to every breathing of the wind. See you that merry little robin, hopping about its airy castle in all the ecstasy of joyous freedom—now pecking pertly at the dun-colored cuticle of the tree; now seizing coyly in its beak some fluttering leaf, and pulling and tugging, in sheer desperation, until it is severed from the parent twig; and then, like a busy, frugal housewife, flying down to that niche where the two giant arms of the oak separate. This is the home of the robin. This

is the palace of nature's songster. There is a slight ehrruping in the fair castle, a faint, melodious scream of the young robins, who are vainly endeavoring to compass the harmonic notes of their parent, and the dame flies forth again from her nest. She has covered the floor of her mansion with a tapestry with whose brilliancy of color, and elasticity of material no hand of man can vie. It was designed by nature, and penciled and corrugated by the zephyrs of Spring.

Hark! There is a sweet bird-song of wondrous melody swelling from some distant nook of the wood, like the far-off pealing of the vespers of St. Peter's. Soft, thrilling, wondrously sympathetic are the tones, as they fall upon the ear. Now, they are feeble and wavering, like the distant war-song of the Celtic knight upon the brink of Donnybrook lake. Anon, they become more full, deep, and powerful. There is a rustle amid the leaves of the oak—a slight, bustling greeting of welcome from the dame robin, and her beautiful mate stands beside her upon the branch—and twain, together, pour forth such joyous strains of heart-felt melody, that we pause to wonder whether they can ever be less merry—whether sorrow can ever find a home-seat in their little feathered breasts.

There is music in the very nature of the dark old woods. The rustling of the tiny leaves; the surging to and fro of the cloud-capped bows, as they seem each bowing to his neighbor; the dull heavy creaking of the trunk, as it is strained to more than its wonted tension by the wind; the shrill whistling of the breeze over the spear-like tufts of grass—all combine in a grand anthem of harmony, which art may imitate, but never even remotely rival. And when to these we have superadded the ten thousand choral songs of the feathered warblers, in every varying tone of harmony and power, from the shrill treble chirp of the little wren, to the deep alto of the bob-o-link, or the sonorous basso of the flicker, it seems as if all about, above, around—the very atmosphere itself—were alive with music in its sweetest form.

And we are thankful for the birds. We feel that the woods, without them would be like

"Some banquet hall deserted,
Whose lamps are fled, whose glorious dead,
And all but Hope departed."

We should miss them in our morning walk. We should miss their matin songs at eventide. We should miss their sweet consolation for sorrow and despair in our rambles through the woods. We should miss them everywhere.

Then let us feel thankful for the

"Ten thousand choral birds—
Some blue and some sun-dyed—
Some white as the farm-wife's curds—
Some tipped with the moonlight hue—
Some red as the flame of war;
And on the crest of some,
Seemeth a fallen star."

Don't kill the birds. Let them live to continue their songs of goodness. Let them live to brighten our world of materiality and care, with their ideal poetry. Let them live to peal their morning, noon, and evening anthems to the Giver of all Good. Let them live to implant in the minds of innocent children the first happy lessons of the true and beautiful in Nature. Let them live to keep company with their copartners of poetic beauty, the flowers. As you would manifest the refinement of your mind, the uprightness of your heart, the sensibility of your nature—don't kill the birds.—*Troy Daily Times*.

The best mode of revenge, is not to imitate the injury.

ON WRITING INKS.

Dr. J. Stark, in a paper recently read in the Society of Arts, Edinburgh, stated that in 1842 he commenced a series of experiments on writing inks, and up to this date had manufactured 229 different inks, and tested the durability of writings made with these on all kinds of paper. As the result of his experiments, he showed that the browning and fading of inks resulted from many causes, but in ordinary inks chiefly from the iron becoming peroxygenated and separating as a heavy precipitate. Many inks, therefore, when fresh made, yielded durable writings; but when the ink became old, the tannogallate of iron separated, and the durability of the ink was destroyed. From a numerous set of experiments, the author showed that no salt of iron and no preparation of iron equaled the common sulphate of iron—that is, the commercial copperas—for the purpose of ink-making; and that even the addition of any persalt, such as the nitrate or chloride of iron, though it improved the present color of the ink, deteriorated its durability. The author failed to procure a persistent black ink from manganese, or other metal or metallic salt. The author exhibited a series of eighteen inks which had either been made with metallic iron or with which metallic iron had been immersed, and directed attention to the fact that though the depth and body of color seemed to be deepened, yet in every case the durability of writings made with such inks was so impaired that they became brown and faded in a few months. The most permanent ordinary inks were shown to be composed of the best blue gall nuts with copperas and gum, and the proportions found on experiment to yield the most persistent black, were six parts of best blue galls to four parts of copperas. Writings made with such an ink stood exposure to sun and air for twelve months without exhibiting any change of color; while those made with ink of every other proportion or composition had more or less of their color discharged when similarly tested. This ink, therefore, if kept from molding and from depositing its tannogallate of iron, would afford writings perfectly durable. It was shown that no gall and logwood ink was equal to the pure gall ink in so far as durability in the writings was concerned. All such inks lost their color and faded sooner than pure gall inks, and several inks were exhibited which, though durable before the addition of logwood, faded rapidly after logwood was added to them. Sugar was shown to have an especially hurtful action on the durability of inks containing logwood—indeed, on all inks. Many other plain inks were exhibited, and their properties described—as gallo-sumach ink, myrobalans ink, Ranges ink—inks in which the tannogallate of iron was kept in solution by nitric, muriatic, sulphuric and other acids, or by oxalate of potash, chloride of lime, &c. The myrobalans ink was recommended as an ink of some promise for durability, and as the cheapest ink it was possible to manufacture. All ordinary inks, however, were shown to have certain drawbacks, and the author endeavored to ascertain by experiment whether other dark substances could be added to inks to impart greater durability to writings made with them, and at the same time prevent those chemical changes which were the cause of ordinary inks fading. After experimenting with various substances, and among others, with Prussian blue and indigo dissolved in various ways, he found the sulphate of indigo to fulfill all the required conditions, and, when added in the proper portion to a tannogallate ink, it yielded an ink which is agreeable to write with, which flows freely from the pen, and does

not clog it; which never molds, which, when it dries on the paper, becomes of an intense pure black, and which does not fade or change its color, however long kept. The author pointed out the proper proportions for securing these properties, and showed that the smallest quantity of the sulphate of indigo which could be used for this purpose was eight ounces for every gallon of ink. The author stated that the ink he preferred for his own use was composed of twelve ounces of gall, eight ounces of the sulphate of indigo, eight ounces of copperas, a few cloves, and four or six ounces of gum arabic, for a gallon of ink. It was shown that immersing iron wire or filings in these inks destroyed their durability as much as similar treatment destroyed ordinary inks. He therefore recommended that all legal deeds or documents should be written with quill pens, as the contact of steel invariably destroys more or less the durability of every ink. The author concluded his paper with a few remarks on copying inks and indelible inks, showing that a good copying ink has yet to be sought for, and that indelible inks, which will resist the pencillings and washings of the chemist and the forger, need never be looked for.—*London Artizan.*

THE LENGTH OF HUMAN LIFE.

An article in the last number of Blackwood's Magazine, on the above subject, holds out the idea that the age of man should be one hundred years instead of three-score and ten. The author says, "We do not simply die; we usually kill ourselves. Our habits, our passions, our anxieties of body and mind, these shorten our lives, and prevent us from reaching the natural limit of human existence." Gluttony, he asserts, destroys more lives than intemperate drinking, and yet, "it is the fashion to restrict the term *sobriety* to the moderate use of liquors." A sober life no doubt implies moderation in all things—in eating, drinking, and in the enjoyment of all the pleasures of life. But although we have read and heard much of moderation in eating and in drinking, the difficulty has always arisen in our minds respecting the true standard of moderation. What is it? who will define it? The standard suitable for one is not for another. No man can doubt for a moment the benefits of moderation—temperance in all things. But no man can or should set up his own standard for his neighbor. And yet it may truly be said, that general rules for temperance may be set down, which, if followed, would be of immense benefit; such as "not to eat so much as will unfit the mind for its usual exertions; or so much as will make the body heavy and torpid. Nor to pass hastily from one extreme of living to another, but to change slowly and cautiously, to eat plain and wholesome food, and to proportion its quantity to the temperament, the age, and strength of the eater. Not to allow the appetite for food or drink to regulate the quantity to be taken, but experience, void of sensual desire." These rules, if followed, will tend to promote health, and thus lead to a greater length of days and years in man's existence; still there is a natural period for man to exist, and neither food, drink, nor sobriety can place him beyond that. We find that each species of animal has its boundary of life, and so has man. He has his infancy, youth, middle age, old age, and then comes the winding sheet and the narrow house. But how long does his existence last? These are important questions. We find that thirty years is considered to be a generation; that is, the whole world is re-peopled every thirty years with a new race, and a like number departs from it in that period. But no person considers thirty years as the natural

term of man's life—seventy years being generally set down as that limit. A book, however, recently published in Paris, by M. Flourens, which has created no small sensation in that city, places old age at eighty-five years, and the complete natural life of man about a century. He places first manhood between forty-five and fifty-five, and second manhood from that to seventy, instead of old age at that period. We are inclined to accept his view of the question as the most correct one. Buffon, the naturalist, entertained such an opinion. The rule of life laid down by him is, that animals live from six to seven times the number of years required to complete their growth, such as the horse, which completes its growth at four years, lives from twenty to twenty-four years, and a man who takes eighteen years to reach his full growth may live more than a hundred years. There are but few men who live to a hundred years, and just as few horses that live to twenty-four, but that affords no reason why many men, and almost all men of a sound constitution, may not live for a century. The table of M. Flourens relating to life is as follows:

Man grows for 20 years, and lives 90 or 100		
The camel..... 8	"	" 40
The horse..... 5	"	" 25
The ox..... 4	"	" 15 or 20
The dog..... 2	"	" 10 or 12

This is somewhat different from Buffon, but he sets it down as a fixed rule that all the larger animals live about five times longer than the time required for their full growth. This question is one of deep importance to the whole human family. It is one to which the ingenious Frenchman has brought a great amount of knowledge in investigation, and he holds up science, as presenting to all men by a life of sobriety, a very extended fund of existence.—*Scientific American.*

STATE AGRICULTURAL SHOWS FOR 1855.

Name.	Where Held.	Date.
Georgia,	Atlanta.....	Sept. 10—
Vermont,	Rutland.....	" 11—13
Canada East,	Sherbrook.....	" 11—14
Rhode Island,	Providence.....	" 11—15
" " Horse and Cattle, do.		" 11—15
New-Hampshire,		" 12—14
New-Jersey,	Camden.....	" 18—21
Ohio,	Columbus.....	" 18—21
Pennsylvania,	Harrisburg.....	" 25—28
West Virginia,	Wheeling.....	" 26—28
Kentucky,	Paris.....	" 25—28
Tennessee,	Nashville.....	Oct. 1—6
New-York,	Elmira.....	" 2—5
Michigan,	Detroit.....	" 2—5
Connecticut,	Hartford.....	" 9—11
Illinois,	Chicago.....	" 9—12
Canada West,	Coburg.....	" 9—12
Iowa,	Fairfield.....	" 10—
North-Carolina,	Raleigh.....	" 16—19
Indiana,	Indianapolis.....	" 17—19
East Tennessee,	London.....	" 23—25
Alabama,	Montgomery.....	" 23—26
Maryland,	Baltimore.....	" 29—
Virginia,	Richmond.....	" 30—2

NEW-YORK COUNTY SHOWS.

Otsego,	Cooperstown.....	Sept. 10—11
Franklin,	Malone.....	" 10—12
Saratoga,		" 11—13
Chatauque,	Westfield.....	" 12—13
Fulton and Hamilton,	Fonda's Bush.....	" 18—
Putnam,	Carmel.....	" 18—19
Rensselaer,	Lansingburg.....	" 18—20
Jefferson,	Watertown.....	" 19—20
Delaware,	Hobart.....	" 19—20
Onondaga,	Syracuse.....	" 19—21
Queens,	Flushing.....	" 20—
Monroe,	Spencerport.....	" 20—21
Dutchess,	Washington Hollow...	" 25—26.
Oneida,	Rome.....	" 25—27
Albany,		" 25—27
Cayuga,	Auburn.....	" 25—27
Ontario,	Canandaigua.....	" 26—27
St. Lawrence	Canton.....	" 26—28
Steuben,	Bath.....	" 26—28
Tompkins,	Ithaca.....	" 27—28
Herkimer,	Herkimer.....	" 28—28
Seneca,	Farmersville.....	Oct. 10—13
Niagara,	Lockport.....	" 19—20

OHIO COUNTY SHOWS.

Belmont,	St. Clairsville.....	Sept. 3—5
Champagne,	Urbana.....	" 4—6
Fayette,	Washington.....	" 4—6
Hamilton,	Carthage.....	" 4—7
Pickaway,	Circleville.....	" 5—7
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland.....	" 11—13
Delaware,	Delaware.....	" 11—13
Clermont,	Bantam.....	" 11—14
Butler,	Hamilton.....	" 12—14
Franklin,	Columbus.....	" 12—14
Warren,	Lebanon.....	" 25—27
Trumbull,	Warren.....	" 25—27
Huron,	Olena.....	" 25—27
Licking,	Newark.....	" 25—27
Richland,	Mansfield.....	" 25—27
Columbiana,	New Lisbon.....	" 25—28
Portage,	Ravenna.....	" 26—
Meigs,	Pomeroy.....	" 26—27
Geauga,	Burlin.....	" 26—28
Miami,	Troy.....	" 26—28
Harrison,	Cadiz.....	" 26—28
Clinton,	Wilmington.....	" 27—28
Athens,	Athens.....	" 27—28
Drake,	Greenville.....	" 27—29
Guersy,	Cambridge.....	" 27—29
Conneaut,	Independent.....	" 29—
Ashtabula,	Jefferson.....	Oct. 2—4
Sandusky,	Fremont.....	" 2—4
Ashland,	Ashland.....	" 2—4
Morgan,	McConnellsville.....	" 2—4
Montgomery,	Dayton.....	" 2—4
Mahoning,	Canfield.....	" 2—3
Clark,	Springfield.....	" 2—5
Preble,	Preble.....	" 2—5
Monroe,	Woodsfield.....	" 3—4
Putnam,	Kalida.....	" 3—4
Medina,	Medina.....	" 3—5
Richland,	Mansfield.....	" 3—5
Logan,	Ballefontaine.....	" 3—5
Loraine,	Elyria.....	" 3—5
Greene,	Xenia.....	" 3—5
Stark,	Canton.....	" 3—5
Summit,	Akron.....	" 3—5
Shelby,	Sidney.....	" 4—5
Muskingum,	Zanesville.....	" 4—5
Shelby,	Sydney.....	" 4—5
Lake,	Painesville.....	" 10—12
Adams,	West Union.....	" 10—12
Mercer,	Celina.....	" 11—
Hancock,	Findlay.....	" 11—12
Crawford,	Bucyrus.....	" 11—12
Erie,	Sandusky.....	" 11—12
Coshocton,	Coshocton.....	" 11—13
Wayne,	Wooster.....	" 11—14
Ottawa,	Port Clinton.....	" 16—17

PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY SHOWS.

Philadelphia, Pa.,	XXIVth Ward.....	Sept. 12—14
Delaware,	Media.....	Sept. 20—22
Montgomery,	Morristown.....	Oct. 3—4
Alleghany,	Pittsburgh.....	" 2—5

NEW-JERSEY COUNTY SHOWS.

Jamesburg (Town)	Jamesburg.....	Sept. 18—
Mercer	Hightstown.....	" 25—
Cumberland,	Bridgeton.....	" 26—
Monmouth,	Freehold.....	" 27—
Salem,	Salem.....	" 27—
Somerset,	Raritan.....	Oct. 3—4

COUNTY SHOWS—MISCELLANEOUS.

Bouhon, Ky.,	Paris.....	Sept. 11—14
Windham, Conn.,	Brooklyn.....	" 19—20
Lake, Ill.,	Waukegan.....	" 26—27
Waldo, Me.,	Belfast.....	Oct. 3—4
Litchfield, Conn.,	Litchfield.....	" 2—3
Kane, Ill.,	Elgin.....	" 3—4
Brooke, Va.,	Wellsburgh.....	" 9—11
Ag. Association, Ky.,	Louisville.....	" 9—14
Oakland, Mich.,	Pontiac.....	" 17—18

RARIFIED MEN.—The closing paragraph of an article from the pen of H. W. Beecher, is as follows:

"Alas! that we should have so many rarified men among us, who are so holy that they can not quite touch the ground, and yet they are not ethereal enough to rise entirely up, and therefore hang in an unpleasant oscillation between earth and heaven, quite uncertain in their own minds to which their duty belongs."

THE UNHAPPY REPLY.

"I do not think it a selfish act if I occupy this whole seat myself, as I am to travel all this long day!" said I to a lady nearest to me, one sultry morning, as I took the out-of-the-way end seat, in the cars at Buffalo for Albany.

"Certainly not," was the reply, as I put my shawl, books, papers, fan, bouquet, &c., in the one end, and nestled myself down in the other. I soon wearied of conversation and reading, and had sunk into a fitful slumber, when a gentle tap on my shoulder, and a low "please Miss," made me wake with a sudden start.

The car was filled to overflowing, and a newly arrived party had entered, and a pale little woman with fretful baby in her arms, stood asking permission to sit beside me. With more of pity than of pleasure, I shared my seat with her, yet I spoke few words, and sulkily forebore taking the restless little creature, to ease her poor, wearied arms; but merely smoothed its yellow hair, and patted its pale, baby cheeks, and said Mary was a good and sweet name.

For my own comfort, I had opened the window that I might more distinctly catch those picturesque views, that flitted by so quickly that they seemed glowing pictures, without one imperfection to mar, when my attention was drawn to my companion who was incessantly coughing.

"I wish you would let down that window," said she, "the coal smoke makes my cough so much worse."

I am ashamed to confess it now, but I felt the angry blood burn in my cheek, and a flashing of the eyes, as I replied, "I am quite sick, and wearied, and hungry, and thirsty, and crowded, and here you come as an intruder, and keep me from the mite of cool, fresh air, that I am trying to get. Do you think you are doing as you would be done by?" said I, tartly, and without waiting for a reply, I rose, and was letting down the window with an angry crash, as a naughty child would slam a door shut, when she laid her poor wasted little hand, on my arm, and said, "Oh, don't do it, then," and burst into tears, and leaned her head down on her baby, and cried bitterly. The woman in my heart was touched, but putting on the injured air of a martyr, I compressed my lips, and took up a paper pretending to read. Pretty soon my eyes grew dimmed. I could not see without crushing the tears often, and I resolved to ask her pardon for my unkindness; but minute after minute glided away, and we soon reached her place of destination, and she rose to leave. I rose, too, and the words were on my lips, when a gentleman came to assist her out.

She turned her gentle and tearful eyes upon me, with a sad expression, and bowed so sweetly, that my hand was almost upraised to appeal for the forgiveness, the words were just dropping from my lips, but she was gone, it was too late, and I, a woman, with a woman's heart, was left with that stinging little barb sticking in it, and the sweet words and wasted little hand, that alone could remove it, were gone from me forever. I sank back in my seat and wept bitterly.

The gentleman returned from assisting her, and as the car was full he took her vacant seat. I inquired who the lady was, and he replied, "Her home is in Wisconsin, and she has returned to the home of her childhood to die. The whole family of brothers and sisters died of consumption, and she, the last one left, is going too."

Oh! I turned away, sick at heart, and tried to shut out from remembrance that pallid, appealing face, as I resolved, and resolved, never again in this poor life of mine, to speak an unkind word.—*Ohio Farm,*

Horticultural Department.

For the American Agriculturist.

HINTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST.

Calceolarias should now be sown, in pans half filled with drainage, and then filled up with equal parts of light loam, peat, and leaf mold, finely sifted. A good sprinkling of silver sand, which should also be sifted, may be added. Water the pans, and allow them sufficient time to drain. Sow the seed thinly, and cover with a little finely-sifted soil. Place the pans in a shady place, in a frame close to the glass, if convenient, keeping them moist and the frame closed till the plants make their appearance.

Cinerarias—Increase named kinds by cuttings in light sandy soil. Seedlings may be potted off and kept in a shady place. Dust them over with dry sulphur on the appearance of mildew.

Dahlias.—Tie out the shoots to give them all the air possible, thinning them to produce fine flowers. This must be done with caution, according to the variety, or many kinds will be made coarse and open in the petal. White flowers must be shaded by pots, and dark ones by tins open at the bottom. Dress the flowers as they expand.

Pinks.—Cuttings may still be put in of choice or scarce kinds.

Pelargoniums.—All plants broken, enough may be shook out of the old soil, the roots cut back and repotted in a pot a size smaller, and placed in a frame near the glass. Keep them close, and shaded, for the first week or two; after which abundance of air may be admitted. As they advance in growth, top and tie out the shoots close to the edge of the pot.

Holyhocks.—Cuttings may now be taken. One bud or eye is sufficient. Each one should be placed in a small pot filled with sandy soil, and placed in a cold frame close to the glass, shaded from the sun. Great care must be exercised in watering or many will die from dampness.

Pansies.—Cuttings should now be taken from the best pansies, and as soon as struck planted in beds. Under ordinary circumstances the cuttings will be ready to transplant in ten days from the time of putting in. Seed may also be sown.

W. SUMMERSBEY.

FRUIT—WILL IT PAY?—The following are the prices, *per pound*, for fruit in San Francisco markets:

Cherries, \$4; strawberries, \$2 to \$2 50; raspberries, \$3 to \$3 50; currants, \$2 50 to \$3; apricots, \$1 to \$1 50; gooseberries, \$1 to \$1 50; blackberries, plenty, 50a75c.; pears, new crop, 75c. a \$1 50; apples, new crop, \$2 a \$2 50; do., old crop, \$1 a \$1 50.

Foreign Fruits.—*Per dozen*.—Oranges, \$1 a \$2; lemons, \$1 a \$6; limes, scarce, \$3; bananas, \$1 50 a \$2.

In this connection the California Farmer very appropriately remarks:

"When our public journals bear constant reports of distress in mercantile and commercial affairs; when reports of failures and ruin press upon these interests—if they are so disastrous—where does the money come from to pay such prices? *There is money,*

Would not some of our young men and merchants who are now doing nothing, earning nothing, and finding themselves, do better to find a piece of land and cultivate fruit? They will secure to themselves, at least, health, and prevent the blues. Besides they can do well. There is a large field open, and now is the time."

PROFITS OF FRUIT.

Examples almost without number may be given, where single trees have yielded from five to ten dollars a year in fruit, and many instances in which twenty or thirty dollars have been obtained. If one tree of the Rhode-Island Greening will afford forty bushels of fruit, at a quarter of a dollar per bushel, which has often occurred, forty such trees on an acre would yield a crop worth four hundred dollars. But taking one quarter of this amount as a low average for all seasons, and with imperfect cultivation, one hundred dollars would still be equal to the interest on fifteen hundred per acre. Now, this estimate is based upon the price of good winter apples for the past thirty years, in one of our most productive districts; let a similar calculation be made with fruits rarer and of a more delicate character. Apricots, and the finer varieties of the plum, are often sold for three to six dollars per bushel; the best early peaches from one to three dollars; and pears, from hardy and productive trees, two to five bushels per tree, with good management, is a frequent crop; and on large pear trees five times this quantity. An acquaintance received eight dollars for a crop grown on two fine young cherry trees, and twenty-four dollars from four young peach trees, of only six years' growth, from the bud. In Western New-York, single trees of the Doyenne or Virgalia pear have often afforded a return of twenty dollars or more, after being sent hundreds of miles to market. An acre of such trees, well managed, would far exceed in profit a five hundred acre farm.

But the anxious inquiry is suggested, "Will not our market be surfeited with fruit?" This will depend on the judgment and discretion of cultivators. With the exception of the peaches of Philadelphia and the strawberries of Cincinnati, a great deficiency is still felt in all our large cities. Of these two fruits, large plantations are brought rapidly into full bearing. The fruit, when ripe, quickly perishes, and can not be kept a week; yet thousands of acres in peach trees, bending under their heavy crops, are needed for the consumption of the one city, and broad, fifty acre fields, redden with enormous products, send many hundred bushels of strawberries daily into the other. If, instead of keeping but three days, sorts were now added three months, many times the amount would be needed. But the market would not be confined to large cities. Railroads and steamboats would open new channels of distribution throughout the country, for increased supplies. Nor would the business stop here. Large portions of the eastern continent would gladly become purchasers, as soon as sufficient quantities should create facilities for a reasonable supply. Our best apples are eagerly bought in London and Liverpool, where nine dollars per barrel is not an unusual price for the best Newton Pippins. And by being packed in ice, Doyenne pears, gathered early in autumn, have been safely sent to Jamaica, and strawberries for Barbadoes. The Baldwin apple has been furnished in good condition in the East Indies, two months after it is entirely gone in Boston.—*Saturday Evening Mail.*

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, August 2.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

THE WEATHER.

The weather in this vicinity has been so extraordinary for nearly three weeks, and its effect upon the harvest is so great, we think it a subject worthy of particular comment. The wind has ruled mostly from south-west, to south and south-east, deluging us with copious showers in five to six days out of the seven, followed generally by clear fiery rays of the sun, or a close, muggy, hazy atmosphere. The consequence is, that much of the grain that has been cut and shocked for the past fortnight has commenced growing; and that which has remained standing has been more or less injured by rust, and beaten down and destroyed. Grass has rotted or turned dark and molded in the cock or swath.

Now, cold wet weather, equally injurious to the grain and hay crops, is not at all uncommon in Europe; and if our farmers understood scouring their crops here in a wet season as well as they do there, the loss would ensue, even if the weather of the past fortnight continued till the end of the harvest.

By putting up our hay carefully into cocks of about 300 lbs. to 400 lbs. each, they have stood in the open fields exposed to copious rains for a whole fortnight, with little injury. If we had placed hay caps of cheap waterproof cotton cloth over them, there would have been no damage of any consequence. We have guarded our rye, wheat, barley, and oats from material injury, by carefully shocking them.

Such things demand a little study and painstaking on the part of the farmers, in times like these, when grain and hay are so precious and command such high prices.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—We see, by a notice in our advertising columns, that Messrs. Geo. Seymour & Co., of South Norwalk, invite those interested to visit their grounds and see for themselves how the above fruit grows, how it bears, &c. We shall endeavor to be among the respondents to this general invitation at some time during the early part of the month.

THE NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY hold their next regular meeting on Monday evening, August 6th, at Clinton Hall, when the subject of a Fall Exhibition will be taken into consideration. A full attendance of the members is desired.

WESTWARD HO!

There is a country where men are not an incumbrance, but where humanity is even at a premium. In many parts of the western regions good hands are now commanding rates of wages for harvest-work as high as two and a half dollars per day. Farmers say that it is easier to borrow a thousand dollars than to hire a good hand. Is there not some way that the men loitering about our eastern cities, loafing about the streets, and lounging about the grog-shops, can be induced to go and work for these wages? The "two dollars a day and roast beef" of which we heard so much in '40, was not as good pay as this.

If another inducement were needed to call to the west the surplus population that are living from hand to mouth here in city filth, and sweltering in pollution, it is the blooming families that spring up, as if by magic, around prairie farms. Napoleon told Madam De Staël that she was the greatest woman that had raised most children. By the ancient Roman law, the father of three children was exempt from taxation. But notwithstanding the inferences that may be drawn from Mr. Barnum's baby-show, we still remain of the old faith, that it is impossible to raise a fine family in the city. The oldest French families run out in two or three generations, when transplanted to Paris.

There are many men in this city that commenced business years ago, with prospects of early independence, who now toil for their daily bread. At every turn of life they have found, that as the habits changed, their necessities became greater; so that, somehow, they were as far as ever from competency. Others have seen their children fall around them, "like leaves in wintry weather." Others look around them in vain for the children that should have sprung up "like olive plants around their board," to cheer their declining years and honor their gray hairs. All of them feel that the penalty of city life has been visited on them, and that their name and generation must, at no distant day perish from the earth.

In the words of the plantation melody—

They wish that they were young again,
They'd lead a different life;
They'd save their money and buy a farm;
Take Dinah for a wife.

With inducements like these, why should Young America remain sucking his thumbs, in cities and villages? Let him shoulder his rifle, and put Mary and the baby, and the ax and the hoe, into the cart, and turn his face towards the setting sun; and, twenty years hence, if we should chance that way, we will call on him, and find him a jolly prairie farmer; the proprietor of a small village of barns and outhouses. The baby that *was*, will be a stout, broad-shouldered man.

BLACKBERRY WINE.—The following is said to be an excellent recipe for the manufacture of a superior wine from blackberries: Measure your berries and bruise them; to every gallon add one quart of boiling water; let the mixture stand 24 hours, stirring occa-

sionally; then strain off the liquor into a cask; to every gallon adding two pounds of sugar; cork tight, and let stand till the following October.

THE OHIO STATE FAIR.

We have received from Dr. Sprague, Secretary, a list of the premiums and regulations, with the names of the awarding committees of the Sixth Annual Fair of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture, to be held at the City of Columbus, on the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st days of September. The ground selected is the same as that upon which the State Fair was held in 1851, upon the farm of M. L. Sullivant, Esq., in the town of Franklinton, about one mile from High-st., Columbus. The pamphlet is accompanied by a large lithographic engraving, giving us a representation of what the fair is to be. Painters have been for a long time in the habit of illustrating history by pictures, and of using such liberties in these embellishments as rendered them quite apocryphal. Whatever objections may be urged against that kind of amusement, none of them certainly can apply to illustrations by anticipation; and we hail their advent as an era in the fine arts. By a glance at the exhibition before us, we notice that the attendance seems to be unusually good this fall, which we suppose is due to the fact that the railroads leading to the City of Columbus *did* put down their fare to half price, as we see that the most of them promise to do in the accompanying pamphlet; and that they *did* carry stock and articles for exhibition free, as they say they will in this announcement. We see some very fine cattle on parade in the rings, but we are unable from an inspection of the print to say who took the premiums.

Verily this is a fast age. Our Ohio friends are not satisfied with simply being up with the times, but with true western spirit, go ahead of them.

RED (ITALIAN) CHERRY-CURRENTS.—We have just been shown a specimen of these magnificent currants, grown by A. G. Caywood, of Modena, Ulster Co. On a small cutting of main stalk, a little over a foot long (one year and a half old), we weighed nearly 2 lbs. of fruit, the berries all from $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch diameter, and of fine flavor. Mr. C. says his bushes grow 5 to 6 feet, and the fruit hangs very uniform and dense all along. He has not given any extra cultivation, indeed his currants have been rather neglected this season, from want of time. They grow, for the most part, under peach trees.

Mr. C. is a successful cultivator of seedlings, and exhibits a praiseworthy desire to introduce the best varieties of various fruit, by careful experiment and unvaried attention. He has produced the "Great Bigarean cherry 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter—(see Horticulturist, Feb. 1852); also the New Rochelle blackberry and the *White* blackberry in great perfection. We understand his Concord grapes, 2 lbs. to the bunch, (which ripen about the 8th of September,) are very superior. He also grows the Diana grapes,

rather later, and the Delaware grape, still earlier (1st September.) We have need of more Mr. Caywoods.

TURNIPS.

We have obtained a very good growth of turnips, sown as late as the first of September, and fair crops may be expected from seed sown by the 15th or 20th of this month. Next to ruta baga's one of the best varieties is the *yellow Aberdeen*, growing almost as large and nearly equalling it in nutritious qualities, and also the time to which it may be kept. To preserve the young plants from the fly it has been proposed to smear the seed with fish oil, but the best protection after all is rapid growth. This is to be secured by a thorough preparation of the ground and by a subsequent liberal application of stimulating manure, such as Peruvian guano, superphosphate of lime, or well-rotted compost or liquid manure. The late sowing, that the *yellow Aberdeen* will bear, makes it less liable to injury from the fly.

Next to these varieties we rank the strap leaf red top, which may be sown eight or ten days later, while the purple top ranks fourth, and may be sown as late as the first week in September.

All varieties of turnips are benefitted by frequently stirring the soil between the rows, until the leaves become too large to allow of it with safety.

BASKETS.

A correspondent wishes to know the quantity of fruit necessary to "make" a basket—as, for instance, blackberries, raspberries, whortleberries, apples, peaches, &c.

This is certainly a proper question; but as far as answering is concerned, we might as well undertake to give the quantity of flour necessary to make a loaf of bread. We believe there is some definite rule among bakers; though having noticed recently that one lady has ordered her baker to thrust the loaves through the key-hole, we suppose the quantity must vary.

Now a basket, in New-York, is one of the most indefinite things in the world. The most we can say of it is, it is a basket. If we could determine the size of the basket, we might give our idea as to the quantity necessary to "make" it; but as a New-York basket has no particular size, so it can hold no particular quantity. We may state, however, in general terms, that it will hold more or less—especially less—according to circumstances.

Strawberries, common raspberries, &c., come to market in small baskets, which may hold from a gill to a pint. Therefore we suppose it would take a gill or a pint to "make" them—with this proviso, however; that a basket is "made" when it is full. But if, as often happens in New-York, a basket is "made" when only half full, then it would require from two gills to a half gill. Any quantity, however, above or below this, may suffice, in New-York parlance.

Fancy raspberries, so-called—that is, Antwerps—usually come to market in pint baskets, with little variation either in the size of

basket or quantity of fruit. Whortleberries and blackberries are usually sold by the bushel, which bushel contains 32 quarts, when there is no scrimping in the measure.

There is another very indefinite kind of basket in our markets, sometimes called "bushel-baskets," in which are sold apples, pears, peaches, potatoes, &c. Now this "bushel" is a mere figure of speech, which signifies a half bushel, 20 quarts, 3 pecks, or whatever you please; and the buyer must be guided in each particular case by the quality and quantity of fruit which "makes" them.

THE BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY hold their next regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, August 7th, at their rooms, corner of Atlantic and Clinton-sts.

RHODE-ISLAND WIDE AWAKE.—We direct especial attention to the official announcement of the R. I. Society for Encouragement of Domestic Industry, on page 334. It will be seen that arrangements are already made to facilitate the attendance of visitors and Exhibitors from this and even from the States farther west.

BURYING GROUNDS.

Our Saxon ancestors called the grave-yard "God's acre." The idea is beautiful, and the same sentiment should lead us to adorn our ultimate resting places. Almost the first recognition that we detect of the idea of another life, is with the ancient Egyptians; and it was by them associated with embalming and sepulture—arts of preserving the dead. The soul is represented in their pictures and sculptures, in the form of a dove leaving the dying body, and the individual is subsequently depicted undergoing the labors of an intermediate condition—a kind of purgatory—from which he eventually passes into the presence of the gods, to be again clothed in his natural body. It was that the soul might, on its return, find its tenement fit for occupation, that such pains were taken for preservation of the body. We, believing in the doctrine of a resurrection of the body, as brought to light through revelation, may well be shamed in our niggardly tribute to the memory of the dead, by these primitive people. They spent considerable portions of their lives in building their tombs, while we scarcely bestow a thought on our final resting places. These heathen kept alive and green the memories of the departed, by costly structures; while we, Christians, often designate their graves by two pieces of board, and leave their memories to perish with the decay of these wooden monuments. They protected their burial places with the most pious care, while we leave them to be trodden by the feet of strangers.

This comes partly of our migratory habits. It is one of the evils incident to our peculiar national circumstances—a part of the price that Young America must pay for greatness in reversion. A whole continent lies yet between us and the setting sun, and as we are the children of our fathers, we must even do as they did—journey out into the

wilderness and claim our allotment, and like them, build up families of our own, if we do leave the graves of our ancestors behind us. But from the new home of the emigrant, where his ax echoes in the forest, or his plow cleaves the prairie, his heart makes daily journeys back to the graves of his fathers, and worships there, as he brushes a tear from his eye with his big, rough hand. To him, the assurance that those graves are respected, is certainly worth something. It is a comfort even to know that they are not overgrown with brambles.

On many of the farms in the eastern portion of the Union, are old family burying grounds, which have been inclosed with massive stone walls and iron gates, while in almost every grave-yard are small inclosures made by palings. These, if neglected, in a little time become tangles of wild shrubbery; the same result occurring, sooner or later, in every inclosure that is not mowed—so that some have even advocated leaving burying grounds to pasture, that the bushes may be kept grazed down. But why not mow them? There are generally men enough in every town who would mow them two or three times a year for the grass, and some may be found among these who would be careful not to cut down plants.

There is no direction in which rural taste can be employed to better advantage, than in embellishing our country burying grounds. Let them be inclosed with suitable fences, and where flagging-stone can be obtained, let walks be laid. A gravel-walk, unless dug down to the *hard-pan* and the trench filled in with pounded stone, is soon overgrown by the sod; and it is difficult, too, to obtain gravel that will pack without allowing vegetation.

The planting of shrubbery on graves, is not to be commended, unless sufficient attention can afterwards be bestowed upon it to restrain its too luxuriant growth. When it has been browsed off, it is left equally unsightly. Let the ground be well supplied with our native trees, such as the sensitive poplar, with its trembling leaves; the maple, with its rustling foliage; the elm, with its pensile boughs; and the willow, with its drooping branches of light green.

In many places, cemeteries may yet be made of our primitive forest; and there is something grand in the idea of "sleeping" where such brave old sentinels keep watch over us; of having such arms as theirs stretched out for our protection, and such roots as theirs twine lovingly around us.

Evergreens have always been regarded as appropriate to cemeteries; and among these there is none more funeral in aspect, or more appropriate to associate with mourning weeds than the disheveled young hemlock; while there is none that better intimates aspirations after immortality than the heaven-pointing spruce. The dark green of the foliage of these trees contrasts beautifully, too, with the light green of the willow and the aspen and the white of monumental stones. Lodges for martins may be constructed in the trees, and ground birds soon

learn to nest where they are undisturbed. This done, the hand of female affection will be ever ready to add the embellishments of flowers.

Tombstones need not, necessarily, be of marble, or even of quartz. There is a material now found, in a number of different localities in the United States, called steatite or soap-stone, of a light color, and so soft that it may be shaped with such tools as are used for carving wood, and yet it is durable as granite; so that it is peculiarly adapted to cheap monumental purposes. We have noticed that slabs of common stone, after all, endure best of any in use, and preserve their inscriptions the most legibly. There is surely enough of this material for grave-stones, scattered broadcast over the country; and we hope for such an one, with an uncouth inscription, rather than to have our last resting place unmarked and forgotten. The pious motive of such remembrancers excuses the imperfections in their execution.

There is one of these stones in our old country burying ground, that once marked a mound; but time has, years ago, leveled down the earth. The stone has rough edges, and bears simply the initials P. B., cut or rather scratched upon its surface, and yet tradition has preserved the name, and residence, and avocation of the deceased, while the surrounding dead are forgotten.

WEATHER AND CROPS IN WESTERN NEW-YORK.—Mr. A. E. Raymond writes us, under date of Lockport, N. Y., July 27th: "The oldest inhabitants in this county say they never saw so wet a time. It has been raining for the last six days, every day, with the weather very warm and somewhat foggy. The wheat in this county, not only that which has been cut but that which remains standing, is all damaged. Some of the best of it is so badly sprouted as to be nearly destroyed. I saw, on heads standing, sprouts more than half an inch in length. I had cut a few dozen shocks of wheat before the rain, and to-day have opened them, and find that the wheat has sprouted as much as an inch, which I suppose has quite spoiled it. I got in my hay in good order before the rain, but there are many tuns badly damaged by the wet weather.

"I get, every week, much useful information from the *American Agriculturist*, and I hope to be so situated after a while, as to try some of the experiments it speaks of, in raising different kinds of produce."

CROPS IN VIRGINIA.—Mr. W. Summersbey writes us, under date of Falls Plantation, Va., July 27th: "Our oats and wheat are all gathered in fine condition. The grain in both is said to be the finest ever seen in this section. Corn is a regular and first rate crop; some of the stalks now measure 11½ feet in height, and in many instances have four and frequently five ears to a stalk.

"Apples and peaches are abundant. Our markets are now well supplied with egg-plants, tomatoes, melons, green corn, beans, and other vegetables, and with various fruits, all at reasonable prices,

CROPS IN MONROE Co., MICH.—Mr. J. Wheaton writes us, under date of Bedford, Monroe County, Mich., July 18th:

"There has been very heavy rains here for the last three days. I have never seen so much water standing on the ground before. Corn is quite small, and the crop very unpromising yet; but potatoes look well, and there is a great breadth planted in this section. Oats are very good. The wheat harvest promises only a middling crop."

CROPS IN WASHINGTON Co., N. Y.—Mr. L. Palmer writes, under date of Cambridge, July 16th:

"Corn is very backward; spring wheat and oats look very promising; rye is good potatoes look better than I ever saw them a this season, though we can not yet prophesy as to the yield. Flax, I think, is very promising."

QUICK GROWTH.—The Winchester (Va.) Republican states as follows:

"One of our worthy farmers who cultivates his lands near the Round Hill, to some purpose, measured a stalk of corn one morning lately, at nine o'clock, and upon measuring it the next morning at the same hour, he was surprised to find that it had grown ten and a half inches in the 24 hours."

Does that farmer use Shanghai guano?

ANECDOTE OF SHELLEY.—Shelley took great pleasure in making paper boats and floating them on the water. So long as his paper lasted he remained riveted to the spot, fascinated by this peculiar amusement. All waste paper was rapidly consumed; then the covers of letters; next, letters of little value. The most precious contributions of the most esteemed correspondents, although eyed wistfully many times and often returned to his pocket, were sure to be sent in pursuit of the former squadrons. Of the portable volumes which were companies of his rambles—and he seldom went without a book—the fly leaves were commonly wanting. He had applied them as our ancestor Noah applied gopher wood. But learning was so sacred in his eyes that he never trespassed further upon the integrity of the copy. The work itself was always respected. It has been said that he once found himself on the north bank of Serpentine River without the materials for indulging those inclinations, which the sight of the water invariably inspired, for he had exhausted his supplies on the round pond in Kensington Gardens. Not a single scrap of paper could be found, save only a bank-note for £50. He hesitated long, but yielded at last. He twisted it into a boat with the extreme fineness of his skill and committed it with the utmost dexterity to fortune, watching its progress, if possible, with a still more intense anxiety than usual. Fortune often favors those who fully and frankly trust her. The north-east wind gently wafted the costly skiff to the south bank, where during the latter part of the voyage the venturesome owner waited its arrival with patient solicitude.

The late Dr. Chapman, of Philadelphia, was walking in the streets, and a baker's cart, driven furiously, was about to run him down. The baker reined up suddenly, and just in time to spare the Doctor, who instantly took off his hat, and bowing politely, exclaimed—"You are the best bred man in town!"

A man in Maine who had stolen a watch, gave as an excuse that he was unwell and his physician advised him to take something.

WHERE A MAN'S PROPERTY GOES TO IF HE DIES WITHOUT A WILL.

The following article answers questions frequently asked. It is from the Coopers-town (N. Y.) Freeman's Journal, and refers especially to the laws of New-York State, though not differing materially from those of most other States in its principal provisions:

A person who dies without making a Will, is said to die *intestate*. Those to whom his *real estate* goes are said to take by *descent*; those who inherit the personal property take it by *distribution*. The real estate *descends*, the personal is *distributed*.

If the intestate leave a widow, she is entitled to the use, during her life, of the third part of all the lands owned by her husband during the marriage. This is the wife's *dower*; and such "dower" may be barred by jointure; or by a pecuniary or other provision, if she assent to it, in lieu of dower. If her husband have exchanged lands, she can not have dower in both, but may elect; and if the lands have been sold on a mortgage given for purchase-money, she can only have dower in surplus. After the widow's dower is set off, the residue of the real estate is liable for the debts of the intestate, in case they could not be paid out of the personal property; and such residue, together with the widow's third after her death, then descends thus:

1. To the children in equal parts; but if any such children shall have died leaving issue, then such issue are to take the share which the parent would have received if living.

2. But if the intestate die without lawful descendants, the inheritance goes to his father if living, unless it came to the intestate from his mother and she be living; but if she be dead the inheritance derived from her goes to the father for life and then to the brothers and sisters; but if there be no brothers or sisters or their descendants living, then to the father in fee.

3. If the intestate die without descendants and his father be not living or be not entitled to take under the last provision, then the inheritance goes to the mother during her life, and after her death to the brothers and sisters; but if there be no brothers or sisters or their descendants, then the inheritance goes to the mother in fee.

4. If there be no descendants and no father or mother, the inheritance goes to the brothers and sisters in equal parts.

It should be mentioned here that, in all cases, the descendants of a parent who is dead, take the share which would have belonged to the parent if living.

5. If there be no brothers or sisters, or descendants of brothers or sisters, the uncles and aunts on both sides take the inheritance; unless it have come to the intestate on the part of the father, in which case his brothers and sisters and their descendants, are to be preferred; but if it have come from the mother, her brother and sisters and their descendants are to be preferred to those of the father.

6. If an intestate who is illegitimate die without descendants, the inheritance goes to the mother and her relatives.

7. Children and relatives who are illegitimate are not entitled to inherit.

8. Relatives of the half blood inherit equally with those of the whole blood; unless the inheritance were derived from an ancestor, in which case those not of the blood of the ancestor are excluded.

The personal property of an intestate is to be first applied to pay his debts, and the residue is to be distributed as follows:

1. One-third to the widow, and the residue

in equal parts to the children if living, and the children of such as may be dead take the portion which would have belonged to the parent.

2. If there be no children nor any legal representatives of them the widow takes half, and the other half is distributed among the next of kin as mentioned below.

3. If there be no descendant, parent, brother or sister, nephew or niece, the widow takes the whole; but if there be a brother or sister, nephew or niece, the widow takes one-half and takes out of the other half to the amount of two thousand dollars, and the residue (if any) is then distributed to the brothers and sisters and their representatives.

4. If there be no widow the whole goes to the children and their legal representatives.

5. If there be no widow and no children, and no representatives of a child, then the whole is distributed to the next of kin in equal degree to the deceased and their legal representatives.

6. If there be a widow, but no children or representatives of them, and no father, the widow takes one-half, the mother one-quarter, and the brothers and sisters, or their representatives, one-quarter.

7. If there be a widow, and a father, but no child or descendant, the widow takes half, and the father half; but if there be no widow, the father takes the whole.

8. If the intestate leave a mother, and no descendant, father, brother, sister, or representative of a brother or sister, the widow takes half and the mother half, but if there be no widow the mother takes the whole.

9. The property of an intestate who is illegitimate, if he have no descendant, or widow, goes to the mother and her relatives.

10. Advancements of real or personal property made to a child before the death of the intestate, are to be taken into the account so as to make the portions of the children equal.

The foregoing are the provisions of our laws in the main, omitting some minutiae which are not of general interest. Most of our readers can now see how their property will be disposed of if they neglect to dispose of it themselves. If they do not like the provisions, they should lose no time in making their wills; there are plenty of legal gentlemen who, for a fee of five or ten dollars, will help them to dispose of their estates precisely as they would wish.

[Any person can draw up their own Will, and sign it in the presence of three persons, who must subscribe as witnesses. There are blank forms for sale at most bookstores at a cost of three to six cents, and as far as making out these documents is concerned "every man can be his own lawyer."]

HOW TO CHOOSE A HUSBAND.—Never marry a man till you have seen him eat. Let the candidate for your hand pass through the ordeal of eating soft boiled eggs. If he can do it and leave the table-spread, the napkin, and his shirt unspotted—take him. Try him next with a spare-rib. If he accomplishes this feat without putting out one of his own eyes, or pitching the bones into your lap, name the wedding-day at once; he will do to tie to.

PRETTY CONCEIT.—The Portland Transcript relates the following: "One of our correspondents has a bright little girl just learning to talk, who is destined to be a poetess. Some of her pretty sayings we have already chronicled. Here is the last. A bob-o-link came and sang on a tree near the window. She was much delighted, and asked—'What makes he sing so sweet, mother? Do he eat flowers?'"

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

S'CAT AGAIN.

We stated a long time ago, that there would be trouble some moonlight night among the cats that congregate on the long shed in the rear of our dwelling. We gave notice that we had wasted more wood on them than we could spare—that we had used up all the briekbats that we could lay our hands on—that we had thrown away something less than a tun of coal—and had smashed a window on the opposite block. All this proving of no avail, we said we had got a double-barreled gun, and percussion caps, and powder and shot; and some morning after a moonlight night, somebody's cat wouldn't come home to breakfast, or if it did it would be troubled with the dumps. We gave fair notice of our grievance, and what we intended to do about them.

Well, the moon came up on Monday night, with her great, round face, and went walking up the sky with a queenly step, throwing her light, like a mantle of brightness, over the whole earth! We love the ealm of a moonlight night, in the still Spring time, and the cats of our part of the town love it too; for they come from every quarter—from the sheds around the National Garden—from the kitchens and the stables—creeping stealthily and softly along the tops of the fences, and along the sheds, and clambering up the boards that lean up against the out-buildings they set themselves down, more or less of them in their old trysting place—right opposite our chamber window. To all this we had, in the abstract, no objection. If a cat wishes to take a quiet walk by moonlight—if he chooses to go out for his pleasure or his profit, it is no particular business of ours, and we haven't a word to say. Cats have rights, and we have no disposition to interfere with them. But they must keep the peace. They must get up no disorderly meetings, no unlawful assemblies. If they choose to hold a convention, they can do it for all us—but they must go about it decently and in order. They must talk matters over calmly; there must be no rioting, no fighting. They must refrain from the use of profane language—they musn't swear.—There's law against all this, and we warned them long ago that we would stand no such nonsense. We said we'd let drive among them with a double-barreled gun loaded with powder and duck-shot, and we meant it. But those cats didn't believe a word we said. They didn't believe we had any powder or shot; they didn't believe we had any gun, or knew how to use it if we had. And one great Maltese (with eyes like tea plates and a tail like a Bologna sausage), grinned and sputtered, and spit in dérision and defiance at our threats. "Very well," said we, "very well, Mr. Tom Cat, very well indeed! On your head be it, Mr. Tom Cat. Try it on, Mr. Thomas Cat, and see who will get the worst of it."

We said the moon came up on Monday night with her great round face; and all the little stars hid themselves as if ashamed of their twinkle to the splendor of her superior brightness. We retired, after the baby had been put asleep in his crib, and the rumble of the carriages and earts had ceased in the streets, and the scream of the 10 o'clock train had died away into silence, with a quiet conscience, and in confidence that we should find that repose to which one who has wronged no man during the day is justly entitled.

It may have been 11 o'clock, possibly

midnight, when we were awakened from a pleasant slumber by a babel of unearthly sounds in the rear of our chamber. We knew what those sounds meant—they had cost us fuel enough to have lasted us a week. We raised the window, and there, as of old, right opposite us, on the north end of that long shed, was an assemblage of all the cats in our part of the town.

We won't be precise as to numbers, but it is our honest belief that there were less than 300 of them; and one among them all was silent, we didn't succeed in discovering which it was. There was that same old Maltese, with his great saucer eyes and sausage tail; and over against him sat a monstrous brindle; and off at his right was an old spotted ratter; and on his left was one, black as a wolf's mouth, all but his eyes which glared with a sulphurous and lurid brightness; and dotted all around, over a space of thirty feet square, were dozens of all sizes and colors—and such growling and spitting, and shrieking and swearing, never before broke, with hideous discord, the silence of midnight!

We loaded our double-barreled gun, by candle-light, we put plenty of powder and a handful of shot into each barrel. We adjusted the caps carefully, and stepped out of the window upon the narrow roof upon which it opens. We were then just eighty rods from the eat convention, and we addressed ourself to the chairman, (the old Maltese) in a distinct and audible voice, and cried "S'eat?" He didn't recognize our right to the floor, but went right on with the business of the meeting. "S'eat!" cried we again, more emphatically than before, but were answered by an extra shriek from the chairman, and a fiercer scream from the whole assembly. "S'eat once!" cried we again, as we brought our gun to a present. "S'eat twice?" and we aimed straight at the chairman, and covering half a dozen others in the range. "S'eat three times?" and we let drive. Bang! went the right hand barrel—and bang! went the left hand barrel. Such scampering, such leaping off of the shed, such running away over the eaves of the out-buildings, over the tops of wood sheds, was never seen before. The echoes of the firing had hardly died away when the whole assemblage was broken up and dispersed.

"Thomas," said we the next morning, to the boy who does chores for us, "There seems to be a cat asleep out on that shed—go up and scare it away." Thomas clambered up on the shed and went up to where the cat lay, and lifting it up by the tail, halloed back to us, "This cat can't be waked up; it can't be scared away—it's dead!" After examining it a moment, "somebody has been a shootin' of it!" said he, as he tossed it down into the yard. "You don't say so," said we. That cat was the old Maltese, the chairman of that convention—but he won't preside over another very soon. We don't know where he boarded, or who claimed title to him. What we *do* know is, that it cost a quarter to have him buried or thrown into the river; and if any body owned him, all we ask is, that he should pay us back our quarter, and the difference between his value and that of the powder and shot expended on him. We'll throw in the vexation of being broke of our rest, and the wickedness of using certain expletives—under the excitement of the occasion—which are not to be found in any of the good books of the day.—*Albany Register.*

"You ask and you receive not, because you ask *a-miss*," said a young lady to an old gentleman who had popped the question to her.

CONSOLING TO FAT MEN.

There is something cordial about a fat man. Everybody likes him and he likes everybody. Your Ishmaelites are in truth a hareboned race—a lank tribe they are, skeleton and bile. Food does a fat man good; it elings to him—it fructifies on him; he swells nobly out, and fills a generous space in life. He is a living, walking minister of gratitude to the earth and the fullness thereof; an incarnate testimony against the vanities of eare—a radiant manifestation of good humor. A fat man, therefore, almost in virtue of being a fat man, is *per se* a popular man, and commonly he deserves his popularity. In a crowded vehicle, the fattest man will ever be found the most ready to make room. Indeed, he seems to be half-sorry for his size, lest it be in the way of others—but others would not have him less than he is, for his humanity is usually commensurate with his bulk. A fat man has abundance of rich juices; the hinges of his system are well oiled—the springs of his being are noiseless; and so he goes on his way rejoicing, in full contentment and placidity. A fat man feels his position solid in the world; he knows that his being is eognizable; he knows that he has a market place in the universe, and that he need take no extra pains to advertise mankind that he is among them; he knows that he is in no danger of being overlooked. It does really take a great deal of wrong to make one really hate a fat man; and if we are not always as cordial to a thin man as we should be, Christian charity should take into account the force of prejudice which we have to overcome against his thinness. A fat man is nearest to that most perfect of figures, a mathematical sphere: a thin man to that most limited of conceivable dimensions, a simple line. A fat man is a being of harmonious volume, and holds relations to the material universe in every direction; a thin man has nothing but length; a thin man in fact, is but the continuation of a point.

POETIC.—The light of the lamp was dying away in the socket; the midnight clock swung heavily aloft, and its brazen tones sounded loudly on the frozen air; it was the hour when disembodied spirits walk, and when murderers, like the stealthy wolf, prowl for their prey; the lonely watch shuddered as he heard a slight noise at the door; big drops stood on his pale brow—the door gently opened—and, horrible to relate, in came a—*cat!*

“What are you?” asked a railway passenger of an obtuse official.

“The conductor.”

“What’s your name?”

“Wood.”

“Pooh!” exclaimed the querist, “that can not be. Wood is a non-conductor.”

“Ma, I want a sled. I do want a sled. Can’t I have a sled, ma?”

“Certainly, my son; I suppose so. Ask your father.”

“I don’t like to ask him, ma.”

“Why, what nonsense. Ask him.”

“No ma—you ask him—you’ve known him the longest!”

A blundering compositor, in setting up the toast, “Woman, without her, man would be a savage,” got the punctuation in the wrong place, which made it read, “Woman, without her man, would be a savage.” The mistake was not discovered until the editor’s wife undertook to read the proof.

Few things are impossible to industry and skill.

The editor of the Jersey City Sentinel has been to church! and probably thinking it quite an event in his history, indulges his readers with an account of his visit. Speaking of the preacher, he says: “His portrayal of David in the lions’ den, with the thrilling events appertaining thereto, and his miraculous escape from destruction, was pathetic, graphic and sublime. His allusion to King Darius, in his majesty, his humiliation, his untold sorrow, and his subsequent joy, conduct, decrees, &c., we listened to with profound admiration and reverential awe.”

David in the lions’ den! That’s nearly up to Mrs. Partington’s “parody on the probable son.”

AN ARGUMENT.—A young lady being addressed by a gentleman much older than herself, observed to him, the only objection she had to a union with him, was the probability of his dying before her, and leaving her to the sorrows of widowhood. To which he made the following ingenious and delicate complementary reply, “Blessed is the man who hath a virtuous wife, for the number of his days shall be doubled.”

A POWERFUL PREACHER.

In the Life of Bishop Hedding the following incident is related:

In one of the societies in which the Bishop presided, two brothers-in-law, members of the church, and connected in family relation with nearly all the other members, had a bitter feud respecting some property, and the church was on the eve of being rent in twain by the dispute. Mr. Hedding called a church meeting, that the difficulty might be settled.

Mr. Hedding sat between the two men, and the wife of each sat beside her husband. They began to talk over the subject of dispute, when one of them suddenly warmed up and called the other a liar. Instantly both started to their feet and rushed at each other; the females scrambled, and a general alarm ensued. Mr. Hedding proved himself equal to the awakened emergency. He rushed between them; seized each by the collar of his coat; and with his herculean frame and strength, held them at arms’ length, face to face, but unable to strike each other. They struggled for a moment, but found themselves as though clutched in the jaws of a vice. Holding them at arms’ length, he commenced to lecture them in round terms. * * * From the hearing of this entire lecture there was no escape, and they writhed under its withering power. When they were somewhat calmed, Mr. Hedding suddenly exclaimed, “Let us pray,” and kneeled down, bringing the two men with him to their knees upon the floor. Still retaining his grasp, he prayed for them in a most fervent and powerful manner. When he had closed, he shook the one he held by his right hand, saying, “Pray, brother, pray.” Soon he commenced praying and weeping, confessing his sins, and beseeching God and his brother to forgive him. When the first had concluded, Mr. Hedding shook the other, and called upon him to pray. He was the most pugnacious of the two, and it was hard work for him to clear his throat so as to give utterance to words. “A thousand frogs seemed elogging his speech;” but he at length broke through his difficulty, and prayed God and his brother to forgive him. When he said “Amen,” Mr. Hedding relinquished his grasp, and they all rose to their feet. “Now shake hands, brethren,” said he, “and live as brethren, and love each other as long as you live.” They immediately embraced each other, and almost as quickly settled their dispute. * * * The two men ever lived on the best of terms of fraternal and Christian fellowship.

ARE YOU KIND TO YOUR MOTHER?—Come my little boy, and you, my little girl, what answer can you give to this question? Who was it that watched over you when you were a helpless baby? Who nursed you and fondled you, and never grew weary in her love? Who kept you from the cold by night, and the heat by day? Who guarded you in health, and comforted you when you were ill? Who was it that wept when the fever made your skin feel hot, and your pulse beat quick and hard? Who hung over your little bed when you were fretful, and put your cool drink to your parched lips? Who sang the pretty hymn to please you as you lay, or knelt down by the side of the bed in prayer? Who was glad when you begun to get well? and who carried you into the fresh air to help your recovery? Who taught you how to pray, and gently helped you to learn to read? Who has borne with your faults, and been kind and patient in your childish ways?—Who loves you still, and who contrives, and works, and prays for you every day you live? Is it not your mother—your own dear mother? Now, then, let me ask you, *Are you kind to your mother?*

There are many ways in which children show whether they are kind or not. Do you always obey her, and try to please? When she speaks are you ready to attend to her voice? or do you neglect what she wishes you to do? Do you love to make her heart feel glad?

POLITENESS, REAL AND CONVENTIONAL.

It is a common occurrence, in social circles, to hear discussions as to whether a certain mode of behavior was impolite or not. Somebody does something, which one spectator pronounces ill-bred, while another decides that it is quite courteous, and thereupon arises a debate, which is often protracted for hours. We suppose there are but few of our readers who have been present at such controversies.

Generally a good deal of the difference of opinion arises from neglecting to draw the distinction between conventional and real politeness; for conventional politeness not only changes with every century, but with every nation, and even with almost every sect; while real politeness remains the same constantly, and in all places. The one is artificial, the other the reverse. The one is an attempt to stimulate a courtesy which is not felt, the other is the natural prompting of a good heart. He who is only conventionally polite is often the most selfish of men, while he who is really polite can not be. Etiquette guides the first, honest feelings control the last. Conventional politeness is hollow, treacherous, hypocritical. Real politeness is sincere, earnest, sympathizing. To determine whether an act is polite, we must first decide what standard to try it by, the conventional or real.

A century ago, it would have been considered vulgar for a gentleman to tuck a lady’s arm under his own when he led her to dinner, for etiquette required that he should conduct her reverently, by the tips of her fingers. Yet, in spite of this fastidious treatment, men in that day were more brutal towards women than now. It was also regarded as impolite for a gentleman, at an evening party, to distribute his attentions indiscriminately among the ladies present, for he was expected to devote his almost entire time to the partner he had chosen; while now, such behavior would elicit general remark. To have taken a lady about the waist, and gone spinning in a waltz around the room, would have banished a gentleman from fashionable society. Not to have the hair powdered when in full dress; not to

wear silk stockings, and display the calf of the leg; not to sport ruffles at the wrist as well as on the bosom; not to have a coat of velvet or silk—all these omissions would have been considered, in the days of our great grandfathers, ill-bred. So, what is etiquette in Persia, would be the reverse here. It is regarded as indispensable at the Court of St. James, that ladies should wear low-necked dresses. At Delhi, not to cover the face as well as the bosom, is pronounced ill-bred.

But real politeness is the same in all countries, as it has been the same in every generation. It is, in truth, the doing unto others as we would be done unto; and it springs, not from mere considerations of policy, but from positive kindness of heart. It does not consist in knowing when to wear a frock coat, and when not; when to take champagne at dinner, and when to take hock; but in being always cautious to spare the feelings of others and to do them whatever good we can. It is not a thing of empty compliments, but of substantial services. It does not make room for the fine lady in the omnibus, while gruffly bidding the driver proceed when a poor woman with her baby beckons him to stop; but it treats every condition of life alike, or, if any discrimination is made, discriminates in favor of the needy and humble. The untutored African woman, who pitied and fed Mungo Park, was more truly polite than many a so-called civilized lady, who is rude to her servants, or supercilious to her seamstress.

A true man can never be really impolite. He may violate a thousand conventionalisms but his heart will always be right, and his conduct kind. Puppies and fools may tremble, in grand society abroad, if they eat an egg wrong, or fold up their napkins instead of throwing them under the table; but men of solid merit, fear selfish behavior far more which is real impoliteness.

A NOVEL THEFT.—As a drove of cattle were going down Lydius-street, yesterday, at the corner of Green, some of them turned up at that street, when an Irish woman who keeps a porter house near the corner, seeing an opportunity, unobserved by the owner, ran out, and seizing one of the calves in her arms, carried it into the house. The owner not missing it, passed on with his cattle to the south ferry, when he was apprised of his loss by a person who had been watching the movements of the beast. The owner returned and found the animal safely stowed away under a bed, and a delicate female in the act of sharpening a large butcher knife, as she said to cut her *toe nails* with. The man being in a great hurry, did not wait to see the operation performed, took his property and left.—*Albany Transcript.*

NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS.—The Geneseo Republican says, "We visited the garden of Mrs. Wadsworth one night last week, for the purpose of seeing a rare and singular plant, the Night Blooming Cereus. It is only in bloom at night, the flower closing up with the rising of the sun. This plant is a native of South America, the stem being a cylindrical woody tube having the appearance of a large vice."

Lightning rods will not protect buildings at a radius of four times the height of the rod above the building—a radius of twice the height is safe. If the rod is ten feet high above the building, it will, if properly constructed, protect all parts of the house at a distance of twenty feet from the rod. These facts are important to be kept in mind.

Four lines more beautiful than these are rarely written. The figure which they involve is exquisite:

"A solemn murmur in the soul,
Tells of the world to be,
As travelers hear the billows roll
Before they reach the sea."

FOLLY.—It is estimated that the single article of incense burnt in the Chinese Empire, in the worship of their idols, costs annually about \$450,000,000!

"Come, tell us how much you cleared by your wild land speculation?"
"Cleared? oh, ah, cleared my pockets!"

The music-master who beat time, is going to run his shadow.

No men are so deep but that shallow places can be found in them.

Brave actions are the substance of life, and good sayings the ornament of it.

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, August 1.

Flour has declined a little on some grades, but not to the extent anticipated a week since. During the past week rain has fallen nearly every day, and reports of rust, rotting and growing of the grain, have come in pretty freely from those parts of the country where the wheat crop has not been gathered. The vagueness of these reports, has caused almost a suspension of sales; those having stocks on hand having thought best to hold on, in hopes of a rise in prices. Flour is now enough lower than in Europe to pay a small profit for shipping it, especially as freights are just now very low. This export demand, in the absence of the large stocks soon to be expected from the country, has also had a tendency to nearly sustain the prices of last week; but we have no well-grounded assurance that these prices will continue after the western supplies once commence coming in freely. As before stated, we hear of much damage from the rain both to the cut and uncut grain. We are inclined to think these reports exaggerated—they almost always are—and there are a number of wheat dealers interested in magnifying them as much as possible. We can not, however, decide certainly as to the extent of the damage; and as we still have lowering skies, it will be safe to wait one week more before forming an opinion, on this point. Next week we hope to be able to present a fuller report from different parts of the country, and also to hear of the grain prospects in Europe, as the amount of breadstuffs required abroad will materially affect the prices here. We still think, however, that prices here will be lower than now, and that it will be safest for farmers to part with all wheat they can at *present* prices.

Corn has never in our recollection promised so well on the 1st of August as now, but it is not yet proper to speak of it as safe. Cold, rain, and frost may blight it. The market has declined a little during the week,

though on most kinds it has almost held its own.

Cotton is firmer, and an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ c. to $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. has been established on some grades.

The Weather has been decidedly wet throughout the week. Sunday and Tuesday were the only days we recollect, in which considerable quantities of rain have not fallen the past week. To-day it is very cloudy, and threatening rain. These rains are warm, and of just the character to spoil the grass and grain. It is now certain that large quantities have been injured. The prevailing winds here have been south-east and south, which almost invariably bring rain, or make what is termed close, muggy weather.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, July 31, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The market is lively to-day, with a full supply and a strong tendency downward in price. Potatoes are abundant, and of excellent quality, with prices from 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 25c. $\text{\$}$ basket less for Long Island, and 50 to 75c. $\text{\$}$ bbl. less for Jerseys. All kinds of vegetables are now plentiful, and sold at a large decline from last week. Tomatoes, which brought \$1 50 last week, are now sold at 75c. Peaches are coming in from Jersey quite plentifully, but the fruit is mostly premature, and prices range low.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island.....	$\text{\$}$ basket	\$—62@	—
New-Jersey.....	$\text{\$}$ bbl.	1 75@	—
Onions—Yellow.....	$\text{\$}$ bbl.	2 50@	—
Connecticut, Red.....	do	—@2 50	—
Cabbages.....	$\text{\$}$ 100	2 —@3	—
Cucumbers.....	do	25@	37
Squashes.....	do.	— 25@	44
Blackberries.....	$\text{\$}$ bush.	1 50@	—
Whortleberries.....	do.	3 —@	—
Tomatoes.....	"	75@	—
Apples.....	$\text{\$}$ bbl.	\$1 50@2	—
Peaches.....	$\text{\$}$ bask.	75@1	—
Butter—new.....	$\text{\$}$ lb.	18@19c.	—
Orange County.....	do.	21@24c.	—
Cheese.....	do	8@10c.	—
Eggs.....	$\text{\$}$ doz.	—@16c.	—

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY August 1, 1855.

The supply of cattle to-day does not differ much from what it was last week. We think the quality will average full as good. There is little or no variation in prices, though sales were slow in the morning and tendencies in favor of the buyer.

The highest price realized was 11c., and sales at this figure were effected only on very small lots of picked quality. We believe a few fancy steers, sold by Barney Bartram, did realize this price, but generally when it was nominally agreed upon, the owners complained of short weights. The fattest cattle did not bring over 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

A fine drove from Fayette Co., Indiana, fed by David Baker, and sold by W. H. Gurney, mostly grade Durhams, we quote at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. This drove was fifteen days on the way, and came by Dayton, Sandusky, and the New-York Central Railroad.

A drove that we set down as "common," from Piatt Co., Illinois, fed by Jack Gatewood, one week from Indianapolis, were bringing only about 9c., and the owner complaining of light weight at that. The freight expense on this drove through was a little over \$8 per head, the whole expense of transportation was not over \$9.

The Butchers are a little more backward on account of the sultry weather.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality.....	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ @11c.
Good retailing quality.....	10@10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Inferior do. do.....	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ @9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Veals.....	4@5c.
Swine, alive.....	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ @7c.
Cows and Calves—Extra.....	\$65@\$75.
Common.....	\$35@45.
Inferior.....	\$20@30.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.
A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

Table with columns: RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK, IN MARKET TO-DAY. Rows include: Beeves, Cows, Veals, Sheep and lambs, Swine, and various regional sources like Erie Railroad, Harlem Railroad, Hudson River Railroad, etc.

Table with columns: The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows: Sheep and Lambs, Beeves, Veals, Cows and Calves. Also: The following sales were made at Chamberlain's: 309 Beef Cattle, 98 Cows and Calves, 4,861 Sheep and Lambs, 265 Veals.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Large table of prices for various commodities including Ashes, Bristles, Beeswax, Coal, Cotton, Flax, Flour and Meal, Grain, Molasses, and Provisions. Each item has a price listed in dollars and cents.

Table listing prices for various types of lard, hams, pickled items, rice, salt, sugar, and tallow. Includes items like Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels; Hams, Pickled; Rice - Ordinary to fair; Sugar - St. Croix; Tallow - American, Prime.

Advertisements.

TERMS-(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

RHODE-ISLAND HORSE AND CATTLE EXHIBITION. THE RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY, Will hold an Exhibition of HORSES AND CATTLE, AT THE WASHINGTON TROTTING PARK, PROVIDENCE.

To commence on TUESDAY, September 11th, and to continue through the week.

The premium list amounts to FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS. Competition is open to all States and the British Provinces. Judges will be appointed from other States as far as practicable. The Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, and the Plowing and Drawing Matches, will take place on Tuesday, and an Auction Sale will be held. EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums. An Address will be delivered before the Society in the evening.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the several classes of Horses will be exhibited, and on the afternoon of each day there will be a grand trial of speed of Trotting Horses. On Saturday the Premium Horses will be exhibited, and an Auction Sale will be held. THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums on Horses.

In order to prevent the confusion which must necessarily arise from the entrance of too large a number of Trotting Horses, an entrance-fee of \$20 will be charged on those competing for \$200 premiums, and of \$30 to those competing for \$300 premiums, to be paid at the time of entering, which must be done on or before the 1st of September, at the office of the Society, Railroad Halls, Providence. The other entrance-fee, \$5 for single Horses, and \$7 for matched Horses.

Arrangements have already been made with the New-York and Erie Railroad, and with the New-York Railroad and Steamboat line via Stonington, for the issue of Excursion tickets and for the transportation of stock at reduced rates. Such arrangements will be extended to other lines as far as may be practicable.

For further particulars reference is made to handbills, which will in all cases be forwarded on application to the Secretary. JOSEPH J. COOKE, President. C. T. KEITH, Secretary. 99-104n1217

NOTICE. WE SHOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE ALL THOSE who are desirous of examining the large size and great bearing habits of the New-Rochelle or Lawton BLACKBERRY, at our Nursery, about the 1st of August, when the fruit will be ripe July 25, 1855. GEO. SEYMOUR & CO., n1818 South Norwalk, Conn.

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS. Single Horse Power \$85 00, Double do. do. 116 00, Do. do. do. with Thresher and Separator, 160 00, Single do. do. do. 128 00. Belts \$5 and \$10 each. R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York. 189 and 191 Water-street.

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called TAFEU.

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal. From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price \$35 per ton, or 1 1/2 cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York. For further particulars address THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, No. 60 Courtland-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDERETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price \$1.50 per bbl for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99-121n152

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES. (AUTUMN 1855.)

Our new wholesale Catalogue or Trade List, for the Autumn of 1855, is ready, and will be sent gratis to all who inclose a stamp. The stock now on the ground is of the finest description, and by far the largest that has ever been offered in this country. Nurserymen, Dealers and Planters can be supplied on very advantageous terms, and they will find it to their interest to consult our list and examine stock before purchasing. Our arrangements for packing and shipping are so complete that we can forward packages to the most remote parts of the United States and Canada with safety. Any of the following Catalogues will be sent to all who apply and inclose a stamp. No. 1. A Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits. No. 2. A Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c. No. 3. A Catalogue of a large variety of Verbenas, Petunias, and select new Green-house and Bedding Plants, published every spring. No. 4. A Wholesale Priced Catalogue for Nurserymen and Dealers. No. 5. A Supplemental Catalogue of Fruits—containing prices of Fruit Trees for 1854 and 1855, and lists of New Varieties. ELLWANGER & BARRY, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY. This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing. Special attention will be paid to the Elements of Agricultural Science. The FALL TERM will commence Thursday, August 30th, and continue eleven weeks. REFERENCES—Henry C. Bowen, Esq., New-York City; Hon. A. N. Skinner, and Benjamin Silliman, L.L.D., New-Haven, Conn. For further particulars, address E. CONANT, Principal. 94-101n1209

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Searsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Searsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86-tfn1193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rans, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86-tfn1194

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, for sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT, 95-120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT.)

The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Copper-smiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c. Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c. Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping. Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application. FREDERICK P. FLAGLER, Solo Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York. 85-136n1190eow

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.--Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do. do.
- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
- TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
- WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
- TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES:

- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine.
- ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do.
- KETCHUM'S Mowing Machine.
- HUSSEY'S Reaping do.
- MCCORMICK'S do. do.
- ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

THRESHERS--

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
- do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
- EMERY'S overshot.
- EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES--For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles--and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS--A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power--a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$10.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES--Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS--For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS--Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS--A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS--A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Soft, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coupler, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS and WAGONS--With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGERS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

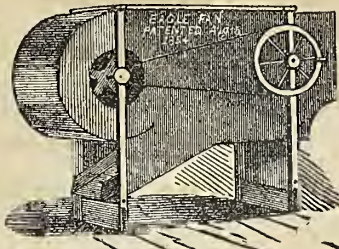
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AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

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Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
ALLEN & CO., 189 Water-st., New-York

VOL. XIV.—NO. 22.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 100

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

MASSACHUSETTS FARMERS AND FARMING.

We had the pleasure of spending a few days of last month among the farmers of Norfolk County, Mass. A part of our jaunt was through towns not before familiar to us, and of course comparison with what they were years ago, could not be made. In others, however, which we had formerly visited, the general improvement in agriculture since our last visit, was so decided, as to challenge our unqualified admiration. Indeed we know of no section of the country where greater progress has been made in this department of human industry, within the last few years, than in this fine County. The formation of the County Agricultural Society is an evidence of this; which, dating among the youngest in the State, already numbers many of the most intelligent, influential and conspicuous of the agriculturists of the United States. Several of the leading men of the National Agricultural Society reside in this County; and we think we are quite safe in the assertion, that but for the enterprise and perseverance of gentlemen residents of this County, that national enterprise would not hitherto have been successfully undertaken.

We were present at a social gathering, at the farm of Aaron D. Weld, Esq., in Roxbury, of a numerous company of the leading agriculturists in the County, including the President, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, the Secretary, Ed. L. Keyes, Esq., and most of the other officers of the Norfolk County Society. To those who know them, it would be superfluous to say, that the country affords no more intelligent body of men, in all that pertains to their local interests and agriculture, than we met there and on that occasion.

The farm of Mr. Weld, consisting of 200 acres of fine land, was duly examined by the

invited company, under the lead of their hospitable host. The large orchards of thrifty apples, pears, peaches, and the smaller fruits, raspberries and currants; the luxuriant uplands and the lowlands; the beautiful grove, equally a shelter from the summer heat and wintry storm; the fine crops of grass, corn and roots; all were passed under review by the visitors and greatly admired. So, too, were some excellent breeding mares and their Trustee and other fine foals; some choice Alderney and other cows; excellent working cattle, &c.; not omitting a capacious piggery, 100 rods away from all other buildings, where 250 porkers were grunting their satisfaction with their commodious quarters and ample supplies of food.

But what especially challenged the admiration, was the large number of well arranged, capacious farm buildings, erected in the best taste, without regard to expense, and combining every summer and winter convenience for all the animals, grain and other crops, and implements required on the farm. We can not give dimensions, but there are several hundred feet in length of barns, carriage, tool and store houses, and sheds, all of which are new and of the best materials, and many of them with slate roofs, and two or more stories in height.

The interior of the barn is adapted for the most economical feeding and attention to the animals. The old-fashioned stantials are used, as preferable on the whole, to ropes or chains. The feeding-box is discarded, and the hay, roots, &c., are pushed from the main floor within reach of the animal. A single board prevents the food from being drawn under their feet, and a low partition separates each animal's portion from its neighbor's. Water is led from an elevated spring by pipes to every animal, and the snug buildings effectually prevent freezing, even through a Massachusetts winter. All the manure is thrown into the basement through side scuttles, made between the manure box or trough in the rear of the animals, and the elevated walk between this and the outside of the barn.

The horse stables, adapted to about 30 horses, which Mr. W. boards through the winter, for the double purpose of securing manure and a market for his hay, are thoroughly complete. Ample stalls, well secured by side partitions and chain in the rear of each; a close box to conduct the hay or cut feed from the floor above to within a few inches of the bottom of the feeding box, so as always to keep the food clean yet pre-

vent waste; a shelf under the feed box, for the blanket and trappings of each horse, and numerous other improvements, make this quite a model stable.

The amply provided table was not the least inviting part of the entertainment, and this was the more so, as the luxuriant viands beneath which it groaned, were mostly the product of the farm we had just looked over with so much gratification. Toasts, speeches and general conversation completed the enjoyments of the day. Such is one of the many festal days annually enjoyed by the farmers of old Norfolk; and the more enjoyed from their unostentation and rural simplicity, and the mutual benefit they confer, by bringing so many intelligent minds together, with the various incidents and topics for discussion which the occasion both furnishes and suggests.

We had the pleasure of meeting a similar assemblage the following week, at the residence of Cheever Newhall, Esq., in the adjoining town of Dorchester. We were unfortunately too late for examining the farm, and its appurtenances and management, which we can readily understand must be highly meritorious, to have received the premium on farms, accorded by the County Society, within a year or two past. The view afforded from the elevated position occupied by the house, is quite unique and hardly to be surpassed. This embraces Boston harbor and its numerous islands, Nantasket beach, the wide Atlantic, a distant range of mountains, Milton Hill, Dorchester Heights and their tasteful residences and surroundings, as well as those of the adjoining country all under the highest state of cultivation, and in the full luxuriance of their summer foliage—this magnificent coup d'œil scarcely lacks an object to complete its fascinating attractiveness.

A social yet ample dinner followed, with its appropriate food for body and mind, which closed the festivities of the day.

There is an excellent arrangement with a club of the Norfolk County farmers. They have a frequent meeting and dinner in Boston, (where they almost daily resort for their customary business,) in their own convenient rooms, where all questions are propounded and answered, notes are compared, information is communicated, experiments are detailed or suggested, which do much for the furtherance of the great agricultural cause.

We have more to say on Massachusetts agriculture, as shown by Messrs. Wilder's and French's admirable farming and horti-

culture, which, for want of room, is unavoidably postponed till our next.

SOME CHEAP METHODS OF MOVING HAY.

There are a number of methods in which hay that is to be stacked or housed on the meadow may be gathered with less trouble than loading it on a wagon. For rough side hill meadows, a sled with wooden shoes is best, since it may be driven to places quite inaccessible to a wagon. If it is desirable to use more teams on such meadows than we have sleds for, a substitute may be made out of a bush, or top of a tree cut just below the forks. Selecting the side on which there are the most limbs, for the bottom, the small limbs that project each way may be cut with an ax sufficiently to allow them to sink in between the main forks, without completely severing their attachment. Such a bush is a sled already rigged, the limbs and small twigs completely supporting the hay, and if care is taken to cut the end with an upward slant, like the nose of a sled-runner, it will run easily.

Another method, when the hay is to be drawn but a short distance over smooth ground, is with a rope, both ends of which may be fastened to the traces of a horse, and the middle being brought over a hay cock and held in its place near the bottom by the weight of a man, who lays the handle of a fork across the hay, and leans on it to keep the hay in place. The horse ridden by a boy, or driven by the man, draws the rope, man, and hay, along the ground. This is a very speedy method of moving hay in the field, but is liable to the objections of leaving scatterings, and also of soiling the hay. The latter is so serious an objection as to almost supersede the process, since, aside from fermentation, there is nothing that renders hay so unpalatable to stock as filth.

We give a modification of this process of roping hay, from the correspondence of an exchange:

In the first place, procure a rope—sea weed is best—seventy or eighty feet long and an inch and a half in diameter; also two old forks, very crooked, rather short tines, and long handles. Care should be taken to have the winrows straight, and well closed. It is common here to rake up all or nearly all the hay before beginning to draw. Two horses and three hands—one man and two boys—are required. Some men after considerable practice can do it with only a driver.

Place one horse each side of the winrow, tie one end of the rope to one whiffletree, and the other end to the other whiffletree. The inside lines must be lengthened two or three feet in order that the driver may keep them apart and make them go one on one side, and the other on the opposite side of the winrow. Then let the man and one boy, armed with these forks, go to the middle of the loop formed by the rope and place it on the further end of the winrow, close to the end, with but little hay under it. Let the farmer then place both feet upon it, and laying the handle of the forks crosswise of the pile lean upon it with his hands. Then the team is to start, and the hay will go along in an increasing heap before them. After proceeding a rod or two they may stop, and see whether the rope is drawing under or over, and raise or lower it as is necessary, being careful always to keep some hay under it.

Now the man takes one side, the boy on the other; both standing on the rope, as far forward as they can with one knee against the load for support, picking up the hay with their forks lest it run under. If any escape, it can be thrown on to or forward of the load. When the winrow is too long to be taken at once, divide it. To unload, untie the rope from the near horse, and hang the whiffletree on the hames. The team being driven on, the other horse draws out the rope. The process can then be repeated till all is drawn to the desired spot. Oxen may be used by making a yoke eight or nine feet long, without increase of size in the middle or crook. In the forward side between the heads of the cattle insert two pins, one to each, and far enough from them, so that the rope may not gall their sides—the rope to pass under the yoke and tie to the pin, the end of which points up that it may not slip off. Process as before.

With either, when the load is gathered, put the forks into the forward part, and still keeping on the rope, hold it that it may not run under. The horse rake will take all the scatterings where the work is well done. In pitching, commence at the hind end of the load. Two or three forks full will come hard; after that, with little practice, it can be pitched much easier and faster than from a wagon with most loaders.

Its recommendations are, first, cheapness, it costs but little, and will never get out of gear, till worn out. Second, dispatch; one and with favoring circumstances two men can be kept pitching constantly. Third, ease of working; it can be managed entirely by boys, or the lighter hands, whereas, in the common way, the best hands must go with the teams. Last season on this farm, two boys, fourteen and seventeen years of age, used it, both with and without a third boy to assist.

But some one will say it needs a great many hands to do all this. It is indeed fitted for a large business, but it can be used to advantage in a small one. Last year, a neighbor, having two boys did the whole without other help. He would draw several loads to the barn, and then stop and take care of it.

One more advantage should not be forgotten. With it hay can be secured from an approaching storm, when no other means with which we are acquainted will save it.

In commencing to use it, do not be discouraged if it draws under or over and leaves a pile occasionally. "Try, try again." The writer had that trouble; but "practice makes perfect," and having seen the truth of the maxim verified in others, he followed in their footsteps.—C., in *Ohio Farmer*.

STEAM PLOWS AND CULTIVATORS.—The English farmers, chagrined that the Yankees stepped in, and, as they say, stole the idea of a grain reaper from them, and now reap all the honors, are determined not to be caught napping a second time. The leading English agricultural journals are discussing the matter, with a good deal of spirit, and liberal prizes are offered for the most successful steam cultivator. One, of a thousand dollars, is to be awarded at the next meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society. What are American mechanics doing towards applying steam to the soil tilling? Here is a fine field for some one. Steam, and not animal muscles, is speedily to become the moving power before clod breakers, and the man who first successfully yokes the steamchest to the plow will reap a rich harvest. Notwithstanding the present interest awakened abroad, we predict that that man now lives on this side of the Atlantic.—*New-York Times*.

For the American Agriculturist

MEDITERRANEAN VS. SOULE'S WHEAT.

In this part of the country, since the wheat crop has been so much affected by the weevil, the Mediterranean, of all other kinds sown, is the most profitable, on account of its extraordinary exemption from injury by this destroyer.

Numerous accounts might be given of instances that have fallen under the writer's notice, which proves that this, of all varieties is least liable to injury from this source.

A neighbor of mine last year sowed a field containing twenty acres, part to Mediterranean, and part to Soule's wheat. At harvest the former was found to be uninjured, while the latter was so weevil-eaten as to be hardly worth threshing. In an adjacent field, I had a piece of Mediterranean wheat, which was also uninjured by weevils, excepting one or two spots where it had been partly winter-killed and come on late.

I notice the same striking contrasts this year, and so apparent has this become, that but little of any other than the Mediterranean is sown hereabouts.

The probable reason of this exemption, is the fact that this variety ripens rather earlier than the Soule's and other varieties, since late ripening Mediterranean is found to be as badly injured by weevil as other kinds.

In regard to the insects, I perceive that Mediterranean wheat, and other kinds, in this section, have been much injured this year. Some pieces of Mediterranean that I have seen, present the appearance of hens having worked in them. The injury from this source is greater this year than last.

Weedsport, N. Y.

F. I. B.

SAFFRON.

This article comes to us from the East. It is highly prized in Europe. I remember that, in my youth, saffron was very dear in Poland, a pound costing ninety francs, or sixteen dollars. But industrious France engaged in this trade, and commenced the cultivation of this plant; and throughout the environs of Pithiver, in the department of Loirret, whence it was sent into Poland and was sold for that of the East, although it had less strength, on account of the cheapness of the price for which it was sold.

In 1834, in France, I examined the mode in which this was cultivated, and here note the results which I then obtained.

Saffron is that portion of the corolla termed the ray, and is cultivated by transplanting the tuber. It requires an argillaceous, marly soil, and should be cultivated without being manured. The tubers are planted at a distance of ten fingers, and three fingers in depth. They produce a stem which after two months produces a flower, and of the ray petals of this flower the saffron consists. The petals are plucked and are collected in a sieve, and then dried in the shade, as the sun dissipates their strength. After the saffron is gathered, the stems are dug up without breaking them. The vines are then cleaned and preserved for the next year. They should be kept in a dry and warm place where there is no odor.

After the saffron is gathered, the flower and stems are cut off near the ground, and the plant is left to vegetate until the next year, without any other care than that of keeping it free from weeds, and it will produce a crop in the second year, and even in the third, as good as in the first.

Saffron should be planted in April, and the harvesting is in September. The land used for this plant, after three years, should be cultivated with other crops for six years.

The petals of the flower should be dried

by being spread upon a table covered with a white cloth.

The saffron of France was sold in 1828 at forty francs, or eight dollars, a pound. In 1850, when the product was very much increased, it was not worth more than twenty-five francs, or five dollars, a pound. It is inferior to that from the East, but has the same properties.

I have seen and examined the saffron produced in the State of New-York. It is deficient in sweetness and in odor, compared with the French. This difference is probably the result of a different kind of cultivation.—SANIEWSKI FELIX, in *Plow, Loom and Anvil*.

MR. AND MRS. SPARROWGRASS CHOOSING GARDEN SEEDS.

"When Mrs. Sparrowgrass returned from giving directions about the fruit and cider, she brought with her a square paper box full of garden seed. To get good garden seed is an important thing in the country. If you depend upon an agricultural warehouse you may be disappointed. The way to do is, to select the best specimens from your own raising: then you are sure they are fresh, at least. Mrs. Sparrowgrass opened the box. First she took out a package of seeds, wrapped up in a newspaper—then she took out another package tied up in brown paper—then she drew forth a bundle that was pinned up—then another that was taped up—then another twisted up—then out came a bursted package of water-melon seeds—then a withered ear of corn—then another package of water-melon seeds from another melon—then a handful of split okra pods—then handfuls of beans, peas, squash seeds, melon seeds, cucumber seed, sweet corn, evergreen corn, and other germs. Then another bursted paper of water-melon seeds. There were water-melon seeds enough to keep half the country supplied with this refreshing article of luxury. As the treasures were spread out on the table, there came over me a feeling that reminded me of Christmas times, when the young ones used to pant down stairs, before dawn, lamp in hand, to see the kindly toy-gifts of Santa Claus. Then the Mental Gardener, taking Anticipation by the hand, went forth into the future garden; the peas sprouted out in the round leaves, tomato put forth his aromatic spread; sweet corn thrust his green blades out of many a hillock; lettuce threw up his slender spoons; beans shouldered their way into the world, like Æneases, with the old beans on their backs; and water-melon and cucumber, in voluptuous play, sported over their beds like truant school-boys

"Here are sweet peas, on tiptoe for a flight:
With wings of gentle flush o'er delicate white,
And taper fingers catching at all things,
To bind them all about with tiny rings."

"Now," said I, "Mrs. Sparrowgrass, let us arrange these in proper order; I will make a chart of the garden on paper, and put everything down with a date, to be planted in its proper time." Mrs. Sparrowgrass said she thought that was an excellent plan. "Yes," I replied, tasting the cider, "we will make a garden to-night on paper, a ground plan, as it were, and plant from that; now, Mrs. Sparrowgrass, read off the different packages." Mrs. Sparrowgrass took up a paper and laid it aside. "I think," said she, as the third paper was placed on the table, "I did not write any names on the seeds, but I believe I can tell them apart; these," said she, "are water-melons." "Very well, what next?" "The next," said Mrs. S., "is either musk-melon or cucumber seed." "My dear," said I, "we want plenty of melons, for the summer, but I do not wish to plant half an acre of pickles by mistake; can't you be

sure about the matter?" Mrs. Sparrowgrass said she could not. "Well, then, lay the paper down, and call off the next." "The next are not radishes, I know," said Mrs. S.; "they must be summer cabbages." "Are you sure, now, Mrs. Sparrowgrass?" said I, getting a little out of temper. Mrs. Sparrowgrass said she was sure of it, because cabbage seed looked exactly like turnip seed. "Did you save turnip seed also?" said I. Mrs. Sparrowgrass replied that she had provided some, but they must be in another paper. "Then call off the next: we will plant them for cabbages, whether or no." "Here is a name," said Mrs. Sparrowgrass, brightening up. "Read it," said I, pen in hand. "Water-melons—not so good," said Mrs. S. "Lay that paper with the rest and proceed." "Corn," said Mrs. Sparrowgrass, with a smile. "Variety?" "Pop, I am sure." "Good, now we begin to see daylight." "Squash," said Mrs. Sparrowgrass. "Winter or summer?" "Both." "Lay that paper aside, my dear." "Tomato." "Red or yellow?" Mrs. Sparrowgrass said she had pinned up the one and tied up the other, to distinguish them, but it was so long ago, she had forgotten which was which. "Never mind," said I, "there is one comfort, they can not bear without showing their colors. Now for the next." Mrs. Sparrowgrass said upon tasting the tomato seed, she was sure they were bell-peppers. "Very well, so much is gained: we are sure of the capsicum. The next." "Beans," said Mrs. Sparrowgrass.

"There is one kind of bean, in regard to which I have a prejudice. I allude to the asparagus bean, a sort of long-winded esculent, inclined to be prolific in strings. It does not climb very high on the pole, but crops out in an abundance of pods, usually not shorter than a bill of extras, after a contract; and although interesting as a curious vegetable, still not exactly the bean likely to be highly commended by your city guests, when served up to them at table. When Mrs. Sparrowgrass, in answer to my question, as to the particular species of bean referred to, answered, 'Limas,' I felt relief at once. 'Put the Limas to the right with the sheep, Mrs. S. and as for the rest of the seeds, sweep them into the refuse basket. I will add another stick to the fire, pare an apple for you, and an apple for me, light a cigar, and be comfortable. What is the use of fretting about a few seeds more or less? But, next year, we will mark all the packages, with names, to prevent mistakes, won't we Mrs. Sparrowgrass?'"—*Putnam's Magazine*.

SANITARY SUBSTANCES.—Copperas, or sulphate of iron, is a very excellent substance for slashing drains and sinks. By dissolving half a pound of it in a pail of hot water, and throwing it into a sink once a week, it will keep down all offensive odors. The chloride of lime, or the chloride of zinc, will answer just as well, but these are expensive substances in comparison with copperas (sulphate of iron.) But there is another substance which is far superior to either copperas, the chloride of lime, or zinc, as a deodorizer, both as it respects its qualities and economy; we mean charcoal powder, made of ground wood charcoal. Charcoal powder possesses the quality of absorbing ammoniacal, sulphuretted hydrogen, and carbonic acid gases in a superior degree to any other substance. Placed in the vicinity, or spread among decaying animal or vegetable matters, it absorbs all the offensive and hurtful gases, and keeps the air sweet and wholesome.—*Granite Farmer*.

Experience is a pocket-compass that a fool never thinks of consulting until he has lost his way.

THE NUTMEG AND ITS CULTURE.

We find in the Rochester Union an interesting letter from Singapore, in the Indian Archipelago, from a correspondent signing himself "B. F. A.," which we suppose to be the late Commissioner of the United States to the Sandwich Islands, from which we extract the following account of a nutmeg plantation, and the culture of a fruit so generally used, and of which comparatively so little is generally known:

The nutmeg plantation I visited, belongs to a Chinaman by the name of Wampo, and is situated some four miles from the city. It is one of the most beautiful and thoroughly tropical places I have ever seen. The place is surrounded by huge rows of bamboo, neatly cut, and within are large fields in which are planted cocoa-nut, beetle-nut, mango-teen, and nutmeg. The latter field embraces nearly fifty acres, and like the others, the trees are in regular rows, crossing each other at right angles, and about thirty feet apart. Some are of very large size, and not less than thirty feet in height. Like coffee, the trees require great attention, and thorough manuring and irrigation, and the ground must be kept free from grass or weeds. They are removed from the nursery the second year, and for two years after must be kept covered from the burning sun by mats which are spread over them by means of four supports set in the ground. The roots are also mulched with coarse litter. They commence bearing four to five years from the planting; but the tree does not produce its full crop until it is eighteen years old. The produce of a tree is then worth five or six dollars a year. One nutmeg per day from each tree, is regarded as a profitable yield.

Upon the tree before the husk opens, the fruit does not look unlike the hickory nut before the shell drops. They are fit to pick when the outer shell opens, so as to disclose the mace which covers the inner shell that incloses the fruit; and the trees are examined every morning throughout the year, to see if any of the fruit is fit to pick. When it is ready to gather, the mace is a most brilliant crimson, and exceedingly pretty. After it is picked, the outer shell is thrown away then the mace is carefully taken off, flattened with the hand, and spread on wooden trays to dry. It is occasionally turned over, and the rain kept from it until thoroughly dry, when it is put in bags for market. The nut is also placed on wooden or metal pans, and kept in the sun until the nut within will rattle about in the shell, when the shell is broken off and the nut is ready to be sacked and sent to market. If the shell which covers the nutmeg is broken before the fruit is dry, it is ruined; and great care is exercised, therefore, in this process of drying.

IMPORTANT TO OWNERS OF CATTLE.—The general impression is that, when cattle are run down by a railroad train, the company can be made to pay the damages. But a decision of a contrary character was made in Connecticut awhile since. In a case of this kind, a railroad company, without waiting to be sued, commenced a suit themselves against the owner of the cow for allowing her to stroll along the roads and thereby cause the accident.

The judge charged the jury that if they were satisfied that the accident resulted from a want of proper care on the part of the owner of the cow to keep her from straying in the highway, they must return a verdict against him for the damages and costs. The jury accordingly gave a verdict against the owner for the amount.

This is undoubtedly contrary to previous usage. But the fact that the lives of pass-

engers are at stake must have its influence, and as cows can be kept from the track by proper precautions, it is probable that their owners will in future risk not only their value, but such damages as may take place in consequence of their getting on the railway track.

Our farming friends will therefore do well to have a care of their live stock in this respect, now that we have a railroad through our midst.—*Rhode Island Telegraph.*

THE BENE PLANT.

We make the following extract of a letter from a correspondent of the Patent Office, dated Monroe, Washita parish, Louisiana, which is held in the publication in the forthcoming agricultural report. It treats of the "bene" plant, from which oil of a pure quality is produced in great abundance:

In 1843 I sent sixteen bushels of seeds of the bene plant (*sesamum orientale*) to a mill in Cincinnati to be manufactured into oil. It yielded thirty-nine gallons of clear oil, and about five quarts of refuse oil, or about two and a half gallons to the bushel.

In consequence of the mill imparting the flavor of flax-seed, I could not use it as a salad oil, for which purpose I am confident it would be superior, when pure, to the adulterated imported olive oil. I used it, however, as a substitute for castor oil, and gave a considerable quantity of it away for that purpose. All who used it praised it highly, both for its gently purgative effect and from being free from the nauseous taste peculiar to castor oil.

I cannot state with certainty how much seed this plant will produce to the acre, but believe that twenty bushels is a moderate estimate.

The leaf of the plant is an excellent remedy for bowel complaints in children, and also in adults. For this purpose, two or three leaves are put in a tumbler of water, which they immediately render mucilaginous, but impart no disagreeable taste. The negroes cultivate it for food, using the parched seeds with their meats.

I consider it so useful that a few stalks at least should be raised in every garden. And I believe it will soon be extensively cultivated for manufacturing oil, yielding, as it does, about a gallon to a bushel more than flax-seed.

I doubt whether it will mature well north of latitude 36 degrees. It should be planted as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Poor land is best suited to its production, as it branches too much in rich soil, because the pods are more likely to shatter from the branches than from a single upright stem. The seeds should be planted in drills three feet apart, and six inches distant along the drills.

PROGRESS OF MORMONISM.—Twenty-five years ago "Prophet" Joseph Smith organized the Mormon Church with six members. At the present time the Church in Utah Territory contains three Presidents, seven apostles, two thousand and twenty-six "seventies," seven hundred and fifteen high-priests, nine hundred and ninety-four elders, five hundred and fourteen priests, four hundred and seventy-one teachers, two hundred and twenty-seven deacons, besides the usual ratio of persons in training for the ministry but not yet ordained, and four hundred and eighty-nine missionaries abroad. During the six months ending with the beginning of April last, nine hundred and sixty-five children were born in the territory of Utah, two hundred and seventy-eight persons died, four hundred and seventy-nine were baptized in Mormon faith, and eighty-six were excommunicated from the church.

THE FRUIT TRADE.

Some thirty vessels are engaged in the fruit trade between New-York and the West Indies. A much larger trade is carried on with ports in the Mediterranean, which supply annually something like seventy or eighty cargoes—principally oranges. The West Indian importations of last year are estimated as follows: 75,000 bunches of bananas from Baracoa, sold here at from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bunch—\$93,750 to \$112,500; 2,000,000 Baracoa coconuts, sold at from \$25 to \$50 per 1,000—\$500,000 to \$600,000, twenty cargoes of pine apples, from Matanzas and Havana, averaging 80,000 dozen per cargo, and sold at from \$8 to \$12 per 100—\$128,000 to \$192,000; 20,000 dozen St. Barts pines, sold at from \$7.50 to \$8 per 100—\$18,000 to \$19,200; 200,000 dozen from the Bahama Islands—\$15,000 to \$16,000; ten cargoes of Havana oranges, averaging 350,000 at 3 cents each—\$10,500; have been received, thus far, the present season, the crop being more abundant than at any time during the last fifteen years. West Indian oranges arrive in October, and are most abundant in January and February. Bananas and pine apples begin to arrive about the first of April, and are most plentiful during the succeeding three months. Cocoa nuts arrive all the year round. Mediterranean oranges, which come in boxes, and are most extensively shipped to different parts of the United States, begin to be received in January, but not extensively until April or May.

The above list comprises but few of the foreign fruits imported—and these only from the West Indies. A few minutes' calculation will show the sum paid for the articles enumerated in the list amount to not less than \$850,000. The total amount paid for foreign fruit last year was not less than twenty millions of dollars.

Our exports are comparatively trifling. With the very best soil and climate in the world for growing fruit, embracing *twenty-three* degrees of latitude, we pay out annually, to foreign countries, cash enough to stock a Territory with the choicest variety of fruit trees.

Besides, fruit grown in our own soil and climate is better adapted to our people, and far more healthful than that which is imported from other climates.

Let us grow our own fruits, and thus save the millions paid to foreign countries, now almost lost to our nation.

MEN AND MACHINES.

The Albany Knickerbocker thus reasons: "Let us compare a little the two modes of cutting grass. Day laborers, hired at one dollar per day, will probably mow in medium grass one-and-a-half acres to the hand; that is, it will cost five dollars or six dollars to mow eight acres, and twenty-five cents each hand for boarding, will be one dollar and fifty cents more—which added to five dollars and fifty cents, makes seven dollars for mowing eight acres. Now, hire a man with a span of horses and a machine to cut the eight acres, at fifty cents per acre, and he will cut it in a day—four dollars—and one dollar more will pay their boarding, making in all five dollars, and the grass will be spread better for curing than a man will spread it after the five hands, which, in the estimate, will make three dollars advantage to the mower. At that rate, the machine will pay for itself in forty days' mowing, besides saving so much hard labor. But just here steps in Mr. Foggy, of the firm of Foggy, Doubt & Co., and says if the Mowing Machines do as much as eight men it will throw eight men out of work. No such thing. Mowing Machines

increase the demand for labor by quadrupling the size of our farms. A few years ago a twenty acre meadow was considered "some grass." We have meadows now of a hundred acres, while in Illinois there are meadows of five hundred acres. But there is another proof that these machines have not lessened the demand for labor, and that is shown by the fact that during the present harvest farm hands have received from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per day. Did Mr. Foggy ever know such wages to be paid to such workmen before the introduction of "these cursed machines?" We think not. Still we should like to hear from Foggy and find out for certain.

BLACKBERRIES—PRESERVING, SYRUP, WINE.

During the next two weeks blackberries will be in the height of their season in this latitude; and while enjoying a present luxury it is well to have a care for the future. They may be preserved by drying, but do not retain their flavor as well as most other fruits kept in this way. Cooked with sugar to a somewhat tenacious mass, they may be kept for a long time.

A good syrup or cordial can be prepared in the following manner: Mash the selected ripe berries to a pomace, put them into a linen bag and strain out the juice. Add to every quart of the juice about half a pound of loaf sugar powdered, a heaped teaspoonful of ground cinnamon, and as much of powdered cloves, and boil all together in a glazed preserving kettle. When cold add one-fourth of its bulk of fourth proof brandy and bottle it for use.

To make blackberry wine, press out the juice, straining it through a linen cloth or bag; let it stand 24 to 36 hours, skim off what rises to the top, and add to each gallon a quart of water and three pounds of sugar (brown sugar may be used, though it is not as good). Let this stand 25 to 30 hours, then skim and strain it and barrel it until towards Spring, when it should be racked off and bottled.

We add another recipe, which has been extensively published, and is highly commended. It is as follows:

"To make a wine equal in value to port, take ripe blackberries, or dew-berries, and press them; let the juice stand thirty-six hours to ferment; skim off whatever rises to the top; then to every gallon of the juice add a quart of water and three pounds of sugar, (brown sugar will do;) let this stand in open vessels for twenty-four hours; skim and strain it; then barrel it until March, when it should be carefully racked off and bottled. Blackberry cordial is made by adding one pound of white sugar to three pounds of ripe blackberries, allowing them to stand twelve hours; then pressing out the juice, straining it, adding one-third spirit, and putting a teaspoonful of finely-powdered allspice in every quart of the cordial, it is at once fit for use. This wine and cordial are very valuable medicines in the treatment of weakness of the stomach and bowels, and are especially valuable in the Summer complaints of children."—*N. Y. Times.*

BLACKBERRIES.—Blackberries are in great demand in Nantucket, the heavy daily importations by steamer meeting with immediate sale, so that in less than an hour after their arrival, it is rare to find any on sale. At our principal stores names are handed in, and the quantity wanted specified, in the forenoon. Monday we noticed in front of a Main-street store, several boys with baskets and tin-kettles, patiently waiting for the arrival of the boat, so as to be sure to get their quota of berries. They had to wait over two hours. Such occurrences are not un-

common, for blackberry pudding is a favorite dish here.—*Nantucket Inquirer.*

CURRY.

The question is often asked, what is Curry? If one may judge from its frequency, it is worth answering in print. And the answer may be useful; for variety in the modes of preparing food is conducive to economy.

Curry is a pungent gravy, made to eat with bread or boiled rice. It is prepared in a great variety of ways—with fowl, meat, fish or vegetables. Sufficient butter to form the basis of the gravy is taken to begin with. Green ginger, coriander seeds, red pepper, turmeric, onions, mace, cinnamon, and any thing else that people fancy, and in proportions that they fancy or can afford, are ground all together fine, and browned in the butter. Then water is put in; and the fowl or meat, or fish, or green cucumber, or green beans, or whatever one likes or can get, is cut small and put in and fried and simmered till the water is nearly all dried away and the meat cooked thoroughly. The rice, when that is eaten with the curry, should be so boiled as to be light, and not a soft mass. Then take a plateful of it, and put two spoonsful of the curry on it, and eat it with a deseri spoon, making the curry a mere seasoning for the rice, and not the rice a mere mitigation of the curry. It may be eaten with Graham bread, and renders it very palatable. It is a nice dish for hot weather—the smell of it excites appetite in dog days, and the excitement of the power of the stomach is decided. It is easily digested. It will often save a joint of meat; and may well be made from the pickings that come of yesterday's mutton bone. A few mistakes will teach any housewife to make it exactly to her family's taste, by varying the seasoning.

Oil of mustard seed is often used in India instead of part of the butter—a very agreeable, and only slightly pungent article.

Hominy is becoming decidedly and deservedly popular in America. With the help of curry it might be made almost the whole dinner occasionally.

Curry in some form is always eaten with his rice by the Bengalee, and with his bread by the Hindustanee; and it generally forms part of English dinners in India.—REV. J. W. WARREN, Missionary in Agra, Northern India, in *Pittsburg Dispatch.*

HOW TO MEND A CHAIN PUMP.—Chain pumps are very much in use at present. They are very good pumps, especially in wells that are not protected much from the frost, as they seldom get frozen so as to prevent their operating, unless the water in the well itself freezes. Sometimes, however, the chain breaks or parts, and then it has been thought necessary to take up the whole pump in order to mend and replace it. A friend told us the other day, a method which he has adopted in such cases with perfect success. The chain with its plugs, you know, is an endless one, going over a pulley at the top, down outside the pump into the water in the well, then over the pulley under the water at the lower end of the pump tube, thence up the tube. Now if the chain parts, it is difficult getting one end over the lower pulley and up to the other side unless you take up the pump to do it.

Take a strong string of sufficient length to reach from the bottom of the lower pulley to the surface of the water in the well; tie a cork to one end of it and tie the other to the chain. Then winding the string round the cork, put it into the tube and let the chain follow it down. As soon as it gets down under the pulley, the cork will rise to the top of the water in the well, from which it may

be hooked up. The chain will be hauled up by the string, and the two ends may be fastened together in the usual way.—*Maine Farmer.*

GAS LIME.

In the spring of 1853, a lot in this vicinity was filled up some two feet or more, with earth from a hill side, and was covered with grass sods, without any soil or manure of any kind, being put beneath them—the grass was watered occasionally, during the dry, hot season, but presented a very sickly appearance.

In the autumn of that year, it was covered with refuse lime from the gas works, and during last summer, it produced a most luxuriant growth of green grass, [*Poa pratensis*] and now, without any other application, is as pretty a sod, as any one need wish to see.

In consequence of this experiment, I covered my own grounds last fall with it, and notwithstanding the cold, backward season, I had on the 14th inst., a stout sward taken from them, the grass being of a much deeper, and more healthy green than heretofore. I have also tried it in compost, with sufficient encouragement to repeat the trial, but it is more difficult to form a correct judgement of its effect when combined with other manures, than when it is applied *per se*.

I have seen no analysis of the refuse lime, produced by the gas works at this place, but that it does contain, as suggested by the *Agriculturist*, a large percentage of caustic lime, (hydrate) I think may be shown, by stating the process adopted at the works. I am told the custom is, to remove the lime many hours before it is saturated with the impurities it is intended to arrest. Is not the effect of this to leave a large percentage not saturated and consequently caustic. Again, according to Prof. Johnson's analysis, as quoted by Mr. Maxwell, more than one-half is carbonate of lime, about one-fifth is sulphate of lime, and three per cent. alumina and oxide of iron—here then we have about seventy-five per cent. of vegetable stimulants. I think it probable, that much of the caustic or kiln lime used as a manure by our farmers, does not contain much more of the essential stimulants than this simple.

The transition limestone, that abounds in this vicinity, contains in some localities, thirty-six per cent. of impurities, chiefly magnesia, which is obnoxious to vegetation. Now as I presume they use stone lime in the gas works at Toronto, may not the samples, used by the intelligent gentlemen of whom you speak, have been of this character, and not rendered worthless comparatively, by passing through the gas works.

The sample analysed by Prof. Johnson, as quoted by you, must necessarily have contained a large excess of water, as it is used by the gas manufacturers, in the form of hydrate, otherwise it would not have been one-half water.

The mode of managing the lime here, I believe, is, to put it under cover after it has been used in the purification, and allow any excess of water it may contain to pass off, and so great is the demand for it, that the orders from the farmers are sometimes many months in advance of the supply, and so fully are they convinced of its value, that they pay six and a fourth cents per bushel, and haul it five or six miles, when they can purchase the fresh or kiln lime for ten or twelve cents.

As an evidence, that they are not behind their neighbors in the proper management of their farms, their beef is much sought after, and commands the highest price in the metropolis of New-York, as their butter does in the cities of Baltimore and Washington, this I have heard them attribute to the

superior pasture afforded by the green grass the growth of which appears to be much promoted by this "vile refuse which should be buried many fathoms deep, in some barren region." Let us not, Mr. Editor, condemn it *volens volens* as Dr. Ure appears to have done, but give it a fair and impartial trial, and if it should then be found to be worthless, reject it, and "strike it from the list that promises well."—M., *Horticulturist.*

Horticultural Department.

For the American Agriculturist.

CULTURE OF ENDIVE OR CHICORY.

The first or second week in August is the best season for sowing a full crop of Endive, and for this the curled green is decidedly the best. It should be sown in light garden mold, rich as possible—in fact it is difficult to make it too rich.

When the plants are sufficiently large to plant out, a piece of rich ground may be got in readiness, and drills drawn a foot apart, and the plants placed the same distance in the rows. They must be trimmed the same as celery plants, before planting; that is, the roots cut a little, being careful to leave all the small fibrous roots, and the leaves cut back. If this is not done, the plants will be a long time in starting into growth.

The hoe must be well worked through them two or three times during their growth. When they have arrived at a size fit for market, they may be bleached by placing small pieces of board or tiles on the plants, being careful the plants are perfectly dry, for if they are the least damp they will rot. In four days from the time of putting the boards on, they will be fit for market, when the price will be found to range according to the degree of whiteness.

This when well grown, is one of the best of salads, and most hardy cultivated. For the two early crops, which should be sown the first week in June and July, respectively, the broad-leaved or Batavian Endive, I find to be the best. It grows very large, and if tied up, will cabbage well, and be very white. This rind is by no means so hardy as the green curled; for at the end of autumn, or beginning of winter, if the season is wet or frosty, it will soon rot, and sadly disappoint the grower. This rind requires to be planted two feet each way. The drills are easily drawn by stretching a line one side of the ground to be planted, and a frame that will draw seven drills at a time, I find to be easily drawn by one man. Shallow drills are all that is required. W. SUMMERSEY.

THE CHINESE PRIMROSE.

What more useful flower have we than this? My greenhouse at the present time is as gay as it well can be with well-grown plants of all the best varieties of it. Some of my sorts, all of which I raise from seeds every year, have flowers which measure upwards of an inch and a half across, and in color are of a deep glowing crimson. The beauty of a fine head of such blossoms may therefore be better imagined than described. Fine blooming plants of the Chinese Primrose, that will continue in flower through the whole of the winter months, may be produced

as follows: In order to obtain strong plants, the seed should be sown not later than the 1st of May, in a well drained store pan, in a light sandy soil, and put into a cool frame, as near the glass as possible. When large enough to be pricked off into store pans, the young seedlings should be allowed a square inch between each plant; when that space has been filled, let them be potted singly into three-inch pots, and as the pots become filled with roots, shift into a size larger pot, giving them their final shift into six-inch pots in the early part of September. The compost in which I have found these plants to thrive best has been equal parts turfy loam and leaf-mold, and a little sharp sand. While growing, a cool pit or frame suits them best; give plenty of air, and be careful not to over water them. Treated in this way the plants will be in flower by the middle of November, and will continue in blossom through the winter and spring.—A PRACTICAL GARDENER, in *Floricultural Cabinet*.

NOTES ON CINCINNATI.

BY P. BARRY.

Cincinnati is renowned for her strawberries and strawberry growers and for her fine Catawba vineyards, but these are not all her horticultural attractions. She has within her environs a large number of charming private residences—the country seats of her merchant princes—of which she may not unreasonably feel proud. This "Queen City" is surprising the world by her rapidity of growth, and the traveler who visits her can not fail to be surprised at the indications of wealth and refined taste which are scattered so profusely around her outskirts.

I spent two very pleasant days there, the last of May and first of June—not only pleasant days but profitable ones, for I had an opportunity of examining satisfactorily the numerous and extensive vineyards, which are not to be met with elsewhere. All appeared to be in a most flourishing condition; the vines had passed out of blossom, and an abundant crop of fruit was set, giving promise of a rich harvest. A light frost had left some traces of its blight, but the injury was not regarded as of any moment. Nothing can afford a better proof of the successful results of this culture than its rapid extension. The hills are all dotted over with vineyards, and I found them even beyond the hills, on the deep and fertile plains. The vine-growers are enthusiastic too in their business, and execute their work in the most thorough manner; they seem to love it, as well they may, for nothing in the way of cultivation can be more interesting or beautiful. It has a fascination about it that cannot fail of awakening enthusiasm.

I had an opportunity of inspecting the cellars of Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Longworth, the leaders and early promoters of vine culture. Mr. Longworth has recently built additions to his at a cost of some \$30,000, and the entire cost of his cellars is estimated at some \$60,000. Every part of this vast cavern is occupied with some branch of the business. I was told that at the present time it contains more than 150,000 bottles of wine, besides a great number of casks. In the absence of Mr. Longworth, his gardener, Mr. Pendleton, and Mr. Fournier, the head of the wine department, bestowed upon me the most polite attention. Mr. Longworth's specimen vineyard is very interesting. He has there assembled the most diversified collection from all parts of the continent, with a view of testing their fitness and value for the production of wine. If it be true, as some people honestly believe, that this native wine is to be one of the most powerful aids to the temperance reform, then Messrs.

Longworthy, Buchanan, and those other gentlemen of Cincinnati, who are prosecuting this business with such zeal, are genuine philanthropists. At any rate it is pleasant to see those fair hill tops and steep hill sides covered with luxuriant vines. It seems like converting an arid waste into a fruitful and delightful paradise, and with all our heart we wish it success.

Turning from grapes we pass to the strawberries. I had a great desire to see those famed Cincinnati sorts in full bearing on their own ground, and in their greatest excellence. *McAvoy's Superior* and *Longworth's Prolific* are the two of greatest note—the great prize takers—and I felt particularly anxious to see them. I was not so fortunate in finding good collections as I had hoped to be. The nurserymen have sold themselves so close that they have but few left to bear, and these afforded no just criterion. Among the private gardens I found but two where these sorts were well grown. In one of these, especially that of A. J. Wheeler, Esq., the beds were in fine order. The *Superior* was the principal crop, having a few rows of *Prolific* among them; the plants of the latter were young, and had not a full crop. I am satisfied that both these varieties are valuable, hardy, productive, and of fine flavor. The *Superior*, as to flavor, would rank second only to *Burr's New Pine* among our American varieties.

I took several occasions to examine the market. I found immense supplies, consisting in most part of the *Iowa*, generally called "*Washington*," by the marketmen; *Hudson*, the old favorite sort, and *Hovey's Seedling*. The last named were in all cases the best, and sold at twenty-five cents per quart, while the others were offered at fifteen cents: I state this fact with some hesitation, lest it may cause our friend Hovey to explode in a fit of joy. I hope, however, he will take it coolly. The first words I heard on the subject of strawberries were, "*Hovey's Seedling* has beaten us all this season;" and judging from the samples in market, informed us that the "*Superior*" would prove too tender for market, and would not be extensively grown. *Hovey's Seedling*, they all said, was not a great bearer, but looked well when gathered, and sold at a high price.

So much for strawberries. The market is abundantly supplied with vegetables, some good, and the great bulk of very indifferent quality. I observed a few heads of nice cauliflower. It is very probable that the best articles do not reach the market stalls, but go directly from the gardens to private houses. The markets are not always conclusive evidence of the state of gardening.

The Nurserymen and Florists of Cincinnati are all prosperous, and are extending their operations with more or less rapidity. I visited Messrs. Kelly, Heaver, Sayers, Jackson, and Williams, and found their grounds all in excellent order, with a fine stock coming forward. Mr. Kelley is branching out vigorously. He has built some excellent houses, and every department seems to be well sustained. Mr. Heaver is establishing a branch nursery at Hamilton, and Mr. Jackson is out of town some five or six miles in a fine healthy situation, where he has built himself a large and commodious dwelling house, greenhouses, and with abundance of excellent land, is getting up a fine nursery stock. The grounds of A. H. Ernst, Esq., I found particularly interesting, as they contain a large collection of bearing fruit trees. The ornamental trees and shrubs cover portions of the ground thickly, and make it a real wilderness of beauty. Mr. Ernst is one of the pioneers of Horticulture at Cincinnati, and has done much to lay the foundation of that taste which is now acquiring such development there.

Spring Grove Cemetery is another evidence of the wealth and taste of this young city. It is only second to Greenwood in beauty and good keeping, and is even fully equal in many respects. It is now under the direction of Mr. Strausch, one of the most accomplished landscape gardeners in this country.

I would gladly give you some particulars respecting the beautiful suburban residences of Messrs. R. B. Bowler, Wm. Resor, A. J. Wheeler, R. Buchanan, Mr. Hoffman, and others, which I examined with much satisfaction, and I would also say something of the fine scenery that abounds everywhere around the city, but my notes are already too long.

I was accompanied in my rambles by M. B. Batheham, Esq., of Columbus, (who by the way, is laying the foundation of a large nursery there,) and also by Messrs. Kelly and Heaver, of Cincinnati. I am indebted to these gentlemen for great kindness on this as on past visits of this kind, and hope to repay their courtesy when I find them in my neighborhood.—*Horticulturist*.

THE CURCULIO.

BY HENRY CROFT.

I notice in your June number, just received, a short letter from Mr. Bacon on the subject of the Curculio, and a proposition to employ sulphureted water, such as that of Avon for syringing the plum trees; and it may not perhaps be altogether uninteresting to you to know that a series of experiments are being made on this subject by a few amateurs of this city.

Some years ago in a paper published in the *Canadian Agriculturist*, I endeavored to account for the supposed efficacy of the lime and sulphur wash by the formation of a chemical compound—the sulphide of calcium—its gradual decomposition on exposure to the air, and slow evolution of sulphureted hydrogen gas, which is well known to be highly destructive to animal life. My experiments on this preservative were quite unsuccessful, and I was equally unfortunate in driving away the "Turk" by means of *assafoetida*, a substance which you will allow is nearly unsurpassed as to odor.

Last year a lady amateur of this town tried, at the suggestion of a chemical friend, the action of sulphureted hydrogen, as evolved from the proper mixture, and subsequently of a peculiar compound well known to chemists—the hydrosulphide of ammonium. The trees thus treated were loaded with fruit, those unprotected had none!

This year two or three persons are trying a quantity of the hydrosulphide, and as soon as the fruit is thoroughly out of danger, I will send you the results. In my garden I am trying it on several trees, leaving others unprotected. A few ounce phials are half filled with the liquid hydrosulphide, diluted with about two parts of water; every three or four days I add a little more of the liquid, or as often as its odor begins to diminish. It is scarcely necessary to remark, that the delicious scent of the garden is by no means improved by the process.

It is almost to soon too say any thing with regard to the result of my own experiments, but I may state that on several fine plum trees, on which last year I had to search for a quarter of an hour in order to find an un-bitten plum, I have now to look almost as long to find a bitten one. On a "*Lawrence*," the result has not been so favorable, about one-fifth or less being bitten; last year I had none on this tree.

At the end of the season I shall endeavor to obtain the experience of the different amateurs who are now trying the experiment

and should you think it desirable, will forward to you the results.

The substance employed could be made at a very small price, if there should arise any demand for it. At present chemists generally make it for themselves.—*Horticulturist*.

GARDEN WORK.

I haven't a garden of my own yet, I confess; but that proves nothing in respect to my *desire* for one. In fact, just as soon as I can get matters arranged a little more to my mind about me here, I mean to have such a domestic tract of land as will do one's eyes a great deal of good to look over.

Goethe said that he always took the solidest delight in the simplest pleasures: and he spoke the general feeling, without question.

For an enduring pleasure, clean and sweet all the time it lasts, I know nothing before a little garden. Not too large, by any means; that tries, and sweats, and breaks down the lively earnestness. Not over half an acre, if quite that; where every variety of vegetable may find room to grow, and every sort of useful and ornamental plant may root itself in rich domestic soil.

The before-breakfast work is worth, for down-right pleasure, all the rest of the day together. Seeing me in this soiled and shredded suit, a limp old hat dropping down over my eyes and neck while I ply the spade or hoe, you would hardly believe me the same person whom you may possibly meet on the town sidewalk later in the day, betraying no other signs of my early morning's work than a well browned face and a glistening eye. In truth, that is the time in the day when your garden is serviceable; unless, perhaps, I add the evening, after business is finally over, when you stroll with a very leisurely sort of delight over your little grounds, transplanting a few roots, or grubbing up some pestiferous weeds, or planning somewhat for the industry of the following morning.

Some people have such a religious horror of *dirt*!—when dirt is just what is good for them, that's all. They know nothing of the health and strength they snuff in with every spadeful of earth they turn over, nor how much better still it would be for them, if they would follow the track of a plowshare with their nose, from one end of a great wide field to the other.

Dirt! Well, what are we all *but* dirt, say the most for ourselves we can? What do we eat, that doesn't grow straight out of the dirt? What do we drink, but water that is filtered through heap after heap of this same dirt? What is all this beautiful world, but a ball of dirt? What are fine landscapes, but unmitigated dirt? What makes these rolling lawns, these swelling uplands, these smooth and level meadows but dirt? *Dirt!* How very ridiculous for one to cry out thus against his own constitution!

There is nothing in the world that will sooner spoil a nice garden, or more thoroughly spoil the amiable temper of its proprietor, than *hens*. Yes, *HENS!* Do you know anything about it yet, my dear reader! Hens have been *all over* your garden, do you say?—and still you do not lose the sweetness of that disposition of yours? Look here, Let me have a good gaze into your eyes. Pshaw! I can see a spirit there already, at even the *thought* of a hen, as red as the reddest cock's comb itself!

Hens are highly useful in their way, I concede; but be careful not to let their way lie through your garden. Of all horticultural pests, deliver me from hens. I like them, too. But never in the garden; unless in those pleasant and sunny days in mid-October, when they lie along so cozily under the walls and fences, stretching out their yellow

legs at full length, or wallowing by the hour in the soft dirt. Eggs are good things, too, more particularly in the early spring; when bacon begins to taste fresh again, and fried parsnips, or cowslips, or dandelions, add a new savor to the product of the sty. Not a word is to be said against *chickens*, that is, when they first break the shell, and waddle about like little feathered chubs no bigger than your thumb's-end—or again, when they come to the table sweltering in a rich gravy, flanked by vegetables such as one's palate already waters for. But chickens in your gardens, or old hens either—shoo 'em out! stone 'em out! drive 'em out at the peril of their limbs and lives!

In old-fashioned gardens is always to be found a row of currant-bushes. They form the ancient metes and bounds; and over them is to be seen a row of old ladies' caps bleaching, or lines of white lace dangling and swaying in the air. Somehow I still incline to the old custom. I think I would cultivate my currants, even if I went without my strawberries. They have rooted themselves in gardens too deeply to be easily rooted out. It would be like tearing a healthy sentiment out of my heart, to pull up the old currant-bushes.

And a summer-house at the end of the main walk, over against the wall at the farther side of the garden—I couldn't think of doing without that. Let a flourishing grapevine twist and coil its lengths about it, giving a diversity to the shade that will make the very sight of it afar off refreshing. A summer house is a garden temple. Here is the shrine of Pomona; and here you go to cut your early fruits in the autumn. Some have fountains playing; but not in such a simple little kitchen-garden as I have already mapped out in my heart. The dew of heaven will keep that fresh enough, and it descends far more gratefully. All real blessings come in silence. You can never tell them afar off by their splash and patter.

Last summer I wonder how many birds' nests I counted in this garden here; all robins' nests. They built in the angles of all the pens and fences, and on almost every variety of bush. The wild rose-bush was occupied by a very respectable and matronly cat-bird—Phebe took up their quarters in the cornice beneath the eaves of the porch. But robins outnumbered them all together; and being really the most domestic bird we have in our changeable climate, I confess I always studied their summer lives with a closer interest than I was in the habit of bestowing on the rest. As you dig over the ground, they follow up your hoe or spade industriously; and the worm must be a remarkably spry one, that pulls in his head before Mr. Redbreast comes along with his long pick of a bill. I could write a whole chapter on my robins here; perhaps at another time I will.

The time to begin work in the garden is in the morning. Go out as soon as the day dawns: though a smart old gentleman I happen to know carried his habits to such an unreasonable extreme, as to get to hoeing before he could see to tell weeds from his beans and peas; and the consequence was, he lifted the soft earth with great care about some miserable weeds, while his promising young vegetables lay wilting all day long in the hot sun! But there is a great glory in the daybreak in the summer; and it is a sore pity that as few know it as do.

If you have a little garden spot to hail the coming morning in, you have at least *one* inducement to get out of your bed at a fresh and dewy hour. Then to be among your own growing vegetables; to watch the bean-sprouts, bursting through the divided seed; to shave down whole ranks of red-stemmed weeds at a single sweep of your hoe; to

brush your peas, and pole your beans, and set frames about for your tomatoes and cucumbers; to trim up tastefully your young hedges, and lay out new walks that shall reach to your remotest grounds; this is to seize hold of a breathing pleasure, that will delight the heart of any man who has a heart to be delighted.

A garden, we judge, should not be so large as to require severe labor, or more than moderately close attention. One that occupies a couple of hours in the early morning, and another leisurely hour in the evening, is both large enough and small enough. There you turn the dark earth, and turn over the most genial thoughts. The free perspiration that moistens your forehead, seems at the same time to start to your brain dewy fancies such as make your little day's life both sweet and romantic. It isn't altogether in hoeing beans and corn, vegetables like potatoes and peas, that the satisfaction lies; it is rather in the delicious feelings that grow up in the heart at the same time your young vegetables are growing in the soil, and that come to acquire the strength and vigor of sentiments at last.

Gardening always inserts itself with a charm, from the very name alone. It carries your thoughts back from restless worldliness to the innermost heart of simplicity. You think you are standing in the very porch of peace. You smell savors as fresh as the morning dew, and as sweet as the breath of the rustling corn. There is such a cool, such a retired, such a far-off look from yourself in your garden to the outer world beyond, that you deplore the necessity that takes you away from so peaceful a pursuit, and wonder if there may not come a time when you may stay at home altogether in your rustic corner, and dress and keep your little garden to the end of your days. I would have a garden, it seems to me, if I were by the means obliged to shorten my investment in bank stock. I feel very sure I would, even if I had to go without bank stock altogether.—*Fireside Journal*.

GROWING BALSAMS TO GREAT PERFECTION.

BY AN ATTENTIVE PRACTITIONER.

Balsams being general favorites, and grown in almost every cottage window, I beg to submit to their admirers a system for very much improving their flowering. I sow the seed in March, pot singly into small sixty-pots, and when the plants begin to show bloom-buds I select the best, rejecting all the inferior, and with a pair of grape sissors clip off all the blooming flowers and far advanced buds, being careful to cut them off close to the flowers or buds, thereby leaving as much of the flower-stalk to the plant as possible. I then shift them into larger pots, and place them in their former situation. By these means the plants throw up their lower branches to great perfection. If the flowers are allowed to remain on the plants as they appear, they injure their growth, and still remain separate; and, being hid by the leaves, are prevented from being seen to advantage. If my method be adopted, the plants will require shifting again in a fortnight, only then clipping off the flowers, but leaving the buds, and in a short time they will be entirely covered with one complete mass of flowers, for where the flowers were clipped off they will throw out three for one; the plants also grow double the strength of those treated in the usual way. To prolong the flowering season, I take off both seed-vessels and flowers as soon as they begin to fade. Thus new flowers are produced in succession for a considerable time.—*Floricultural Cabinet*.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, August 9.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

OATS ON LONG ISLAND.—We have been shown a fine sample of oats grown this year upon the farm of the Brothers William and Frederick Bartlett, near Deer Park, in Suffolk County, Long Island. The stalks are about five feet high, as large as an ordinary lead pencil, and the heads are well filled out, having 100 to 120 kernels in each. The seed—the common western black oat—was sown early in the spring, without manure, though last year the land was treated with 20 bushels of lime and 100 pounds of guano per acre for a corn crop. The soil is a friable loam with a clay bottom, and has been cultivated for a number of years. These heads were like the average of the field, and no special care was taken in their culture. The chief points of interest in connection with them are, the favorable character of this season, and the fact that such oats can be raised on land only 33 miles from New-York City, but in so poor repute that it was sold to the present owners, about a year since, for \$14 per acre. We have abundant evidences, of which this is one, that there is on Long Island plenty of cheap farming lands, which, from their nearness to the great metropolitan market, can be cultivated at a far greater profit than many of the western prairies.

PERMANENT GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS FOR AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.—The Onondaga County Agricultural Society of this State are making arrangements for the purchase of a lot of ten acres of ground, at \$500 per acre, located near the city of Syracuse. The site is of easy access, and convenient for the erection of permanent fixtures. The amount needed was \$10,000, of which \$9,050 has been subscribed, besides promises for several hundred dollars more, if needed. To effect this, a joint stock company was formed among the members of the Society, and this company "retain possession of the land, and give the Society the privilege of buying it of them at the purchase price, with taxes and interest added, at any time before the expiration of five years"—the Society to pay the annual taxes and interest for the use of the land. They have resolved to raise \$3,000 for buildings, fences, and other necessary structures, which they are to be allowed to remove if they do not purchase. Members from the County pledged themselves to raise two-thirds of this sum in life-memberships,

at \$10 each, and the citizens of Syracuse are to raise the other thousand. The advantages of this arrangement, in giving the Society a local habitation, are quite apparent.

TWITCH GRASS FOR HATS.—This grass, which is beginning to be cultivated in some parts of this country, is highly commended for braiding. While it is in blossom, cut off the upper joint, and proceed with it in the same manner as with rye or other kinds of straw. It bleaches white, and will be found tougher than the straw of either wheat or oats.

THE ERIE RAILROAD FARM.—The Elmira Advertiser says that the New-York and Erie road is now being mowed, from the Hudson river to the lakes. The area of the mowing lot amounts to about 3,000 acres. The object is to destroy the mulleins and thistles, to prevent their seeding, complaints having been made of these nuisances by many farmers along the line.

CORN FROM AFRICA.—The Boston Traveler says, "We have before us a sample of corn, from a lot of 292 bags brought to this city a few days since, from Winnebah, coast of Africa. The importation of this useful article from that quarter, is a circumstance we had never before heard of. The corn resembles our white southern corn, but the kernels are somewhat smaller. It is said to weigh well."

THE PENNSYLVANIA POULTRY SOCIETY announce their second annual show, to be held in Philadelphia during the last week in November. We see that an incubatory machine is to be there, in the full exercise of its functions, and that it is to "occasion much delight to those who have never seen eggs hatched by steam." We presume that this will be of sufficient interest to the hens to call out a full attendance; but we are afraid that so commendable an attempt to lighten their domestic cares will not be duly appreciated by them. Hens are not progressive; the old way is good enough for them; and we predict that the "old fogies" will still prefer to do their own work in their own way.

THE AMERICAN HERD BOOK.—We learn that the second volume of this work is now in press, and will be ready for subscribers in a few weeks. The number of pedigrees contributed being so much greater than was anticipated, has caused a considerable delay in getting it out. There will be upwards of 2,500 pedigrees, and over fifty portraits of living animals, all well executed. This will be a valuable aid to the Short Horn breeders of the country, in having a standard of breeding to which they can refer, and thus keep their records pure and distinct. About fifty pages of introductory matter accompany the records, historical and otherwise, which will be of great benefit in their future progress.

YANKEE NOTIONS tells of a friend who says he has seen the Washington market, the Jefferson market, the Catherine market,

and the Fulton market, but who can't, for the life of him, find the Money market.

For the American Agriculturist.

OUR WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

BURNED BONES—GUANO—TA FEU—CROPS IN SENECA COUNTY, N. Y.

As you say you are "not defenseless," I should like to see your reasons for the opinion that bone earth, in the form of burned bones (Refiner's animal charcoal) is of little consequence to a soil that has been exhausted of its phosphoric acid; and that it is only valuable for the organic matter it contains, or that may be added to it by Peruvian guano or ammonia salts. True, I am a tyro in organic chemistry, and also I have never yet had a piece of land so poor as to need any special application of inorganic or mineral manures; but I have seen soils directly benefited by their application, in the shape of lime, plaster, leached ashes, &c., and as phosphoric acid is placed in the soil by bone earth, more abundantly than by any other substance of equal weight, I can not resist the opinion, that burned bones, if not treated with that powerful solvent, sulphuric acid, to make them immediately available to plants, will, in the process of time, be dissolved in the soil into "mineral plant food."

In putting in this plea for phosphate of lime, or bone earth, I fully agree with you that the organic matter of the superphosphate is generally of much more direct importance to the growing crops; and I can also say from experience that a soil well treated with manure containing a large percentage of nitrogen and carbonaceous matter, finds bone earth, potash, and other minerals enough in the *debris* of said manure for all the purposes of a maximum vegetable growth. Even Liebig, that great stickler for the direct application of minerals to a worn soil, as a nucleus for the collection of atmospheric plant food, had to wait four years to see the full effects of his minerals on his ten acre experimental plot. May we not then infer that if burned bones had "little or no effect on most kinds of crops" the first year, that a longer time would have given a more favorable result?

Our pattern farmer, John Johnson, has 67 acres of wheat now being harvested under the most difficulty, perhaps, that ever a poor farmer met with before in our sunny climate. Yesterday, Sunday, July 29th, was a fine drying day, the only one we have had in weeks without one or more showers; but at four o'clock this morning we were again greeted with the first of a series of light warm showers, thermometer at 74°.

Early planted corn on a well-drained soil is well-eared and very forward; late-planted on the same soil is slender and feeble; but such a growth of grass and vegetables generally, particularly cabbages and beets, my eyes never beheld; methinks California alone can beat us.

I call Mr. Johnson our pattern farmer, because he *tilles* even that which other farmers call sufficiently dry land; again, because he is the first hereabouts who has brought from New-York those elements of plant food,

which that great Babylon has done its full share in wasting. Mr. J. has distributed to a part of his wheat field three tuns of *Tafeu*, which he now considers to be worth to him \$20 a ton in New-York, freight to be added; *provided always*, that the article is free from street sweepings or other accidental refuse.

I hope the Agriculturist will continue to be favored with more *Deutscheland* rural correspondence. The Germans are more pains-taking farmers than the more intuitive Yankees. True, a German does not as rigidly catch the spirit of Downing when he builds himself a new house, but its surroundings are never disfigured by those unsightly weeds, which too often mar the beauty of the more ornamental grounds and fences of his would-be showy and more progressive neighbor. With the Germans, *mansleute* as well as *weibslute* comfort, goes before show and fashion. I doubt whether there is a *pensarosa* in New-York of *Deutsche blud*, who would say that \$1,000 a year was the smallest sum a lady moving in fashionable, good society, ought to expend for her wardrobe.

N'IMPORTE.

Waterloo, July 30th, 1855.

WE have not time just now to enter into the discussion of mineral manures; and, besides, our correspondent asks us to prove the negative of a question. We suggested that perhaps the substances added to burned bones in manufacturing superphosphate might be found equally effective with an equivalent amount of good charcoal in place of the bone earth or burned bones, since burned bones alone had not been found greatly beneficial as far as our information or observation extended. Some years since, before entering into a more thorough practical examination of the subject, we looked upon the popular mineral manure theory as a very beautiful one, and one eminently practical. But further study and observation has shown it to be surrounded with difficulties, well calculated to make the earnest seeker of the truth cautious in his teachings on this subject. We are waiting for time to make further investigation and research ere we publish our conclusions. We prefer patient waiting or silence rather than to inculcate error.

LEAD WILL BURN.—Prof. Faraday, in a recent lecture, stated that lead is nearly as inflammable as phosphorus, and he explained the reason of its not burning in ordinary circumstances to be, that the solid product of combustion forms a film which prevents contact with the oxygen, and the conducting power of the other parts of the metal draws off and dissipates the heat. He also pointed out the admirable arrangements by which these combustible properties of the metal are kept in proper control; and bodies that are really so inflammable are made to serve as strong resisters of combustion.

That is, the oxide or coating formed is not affected by ordinary exposures, so that lead used about gutters and roofing is more permanent than any other simple metal, altho' the brilliant surface left when it is cut instantly begins to tarnish.

EFFECTS OF TOBACCO.

In all that is said about saving the *rich* organic matters for manure, we wonder some plan has not been broached ere this, for saving and restoring to the soil the immense quantities of tobacco juice annually wasted; but, aside from lengthening the skirts of ladies' dresses, we know of no systematic attempt yet made for its absorption. We give the ladies credit for being first to attempt to save this liquid manure; but, really, the task is quite too heavy to be left entirely to their unaided efforts.

If the weather were cooler, and our stomach sufficiently strong for it, we would go into a computation of the amount of this fertilizing material annually produced from the *four billions* of pounds of tobacco, of which we wrote last December. We would imagine all the mouths of tobacco spitters made into a single mouth—as Hood rolled two single gentlemen into one—and then tell what a Mississippi of a stream is expectorated. We would imagine all the spittoons emptied into one vast chasm, and then tell how the yellow lake might float a navy; how drowsy tides would rock its Lethæan waters, and how no living thing could inhabit such a sea of death.

Or, we might tell how this liquid, so destructive to animal life, by the mysterious process of decay, might be converted into a rich and wholesome food for plants; and then we might go on to estimate the capacity of such hydraulic works as would save and distribute this drainage, after the manner of Edinburgh sewage; and finally wind up with an account of the amazing quantity of crops it would produce. But the Dog Star reigns, and we are subject to qualms; and however interesting such calculations might be, we must, for the sake of the family dependant on us, be excused.

In the absence of any better use for this liquid manure, we would suggest that it might be made serviceable for the production of human flesh; and we apprehend that it would be found, on extended experiment, to be worth even more for that purpose than for a manure. From an article in another column, which we have compiled from the Lectures of Dr. H. Bence Jones, of London, it will be seen that the use of the saliva is to transmute the starchy part of the food into sugar, and this sugar is again changed in the system into fat. It follows, then, that the loss of saliva is loss of the power to use a corresponding amount of the starchy part of the food; or, in other words, is a waste of fat.

It is in conformity with this announcement of Dr. Jones, that farmers in those parts of this country, where the "slobber weed" (*lobelia inflata*) grows, have noticed that horses that feed on it, and have the consequent salivation, fall away in flesh. It is impossible to keep a horse in good case and in good heart, that is subject during the summer to this exhaustive drain. So does the habitual use of tobacco with men, by wasting the saliva, lead to a kind of dyspepsia, with loss of weight. Physicians have understood this fact, in a practical way, for a

long time, although the reason of it was not known; and they have been in the habit of allowing the use of tobacco for the relief of excessive obesity. On the other hand, a friend of ours, who weighed about 150 lbs., and who had been in the habit of using tobacco freely for fifteen years, became convinced that it injured him, and gave it up. Before the end of a month he found his vest becoming too small, and on weighing himself discovered that he had gained to 175 lbs. He continued to increase up to 180 lbs., after which he declined to 175, where he has remained for more than a year. From such facts as these alone, we should be authorized to conclude that the use of this narcotic produces pernicious effects.

The spare habit and bilious complexion of the Anglo-American, when compared with the rubicund visage and rotundity of form of his English ancestors, is a subject of frequent remark. Many theories have been invented to account for it; but if we were to construct one, it should attribute it to the excessive use of tobacco. There is no other country in the world where this deleterious drug is so cheap, and consequently where the temptations to its use are so great. The different varieties of domestic animals—such as the various breeds of cattle—are known to be produced by peculiarities of food and habits, and these peculiarities are perpetuated through generations. So, to carry out the analogy, we do not believe that so poisonous a substance as tobacco can form so large a part of the consumption of any animals as it does of Americans, without producing some deteriorating effect on the breed. Every person is descended from four grand parents and eight great grand parents, so that it is next to impossible for any one to go far back into his genealogy, with any prospect of escaping the contamination of tobacco, to say nothing of any more vicious stimulant.

Young America stunts himself with penny cigars, which he enjoys on the sly at the risk of a flogging; grown of age, he spits away his fair proportions; married and the father of a family, he smokes himself to a mummy—and we can not conceive how the original pattern can be transmitted through such habits unaltered. It is no wonder that his children are deficient in constitution.

—But the use of tobacco does more injury than to the body merely—it blunts the sensibilities, and dulls those aspirations that are at the foundation of all success in life. It makes one sluggish; he moves more slowly and thinks more slowly, and brings less edge and point to the duties of life. We could mention two men of our acquaintance, who found themselves at over thirty years of age worth nothing in the way of property, and who, by a powerful effort liberated themselves from this degrading habit, and who each, within ten years, became wealthy, although remaining on the same farm. In our article on tobacco, last winter, we computed the enormous expense of this vile habit, and showed how it cost us more than our religion or our schools; but the mere money paid out is, after all, but a trifle com-

pared to the loss of time, the waste of energy, and the destruction of business-capacity produced by such indulgence.

If we were to urge another reason against this pernicious practice, it would be its filthy nature. We saw a woman once chewing tobacco, and though it was years ago, we still retain a vivid impression of her disgusting appearance. The practice is essentially as revolting in men, and the only reason why it does not appear so, is its greater frequency, by which we become somewhat habituated to it. The smoker carries an odor about his person so offensive that, were it not known to be the result of so prevalent a custom, he would not be tolerated in decent society, while that of his breath is intolerable, even to other smokers. The tobacco chewer is an outcast from the company of ladies and the regions of carpets. Compelled to pass an hour in civilized society, he is uneasy, and suffers from the lack of his accustomed stimulant; or, if he should venture into the parlor without throwing away his quid, wo betide him! When addressed, he wanders up and down seeking some corner into which he may eject the foul accumulations of his mouth, and remains dumb or answers in a gurgling voice, like a frog from the bottom of a well. Unable to find a spittoon, he coughs for an excuse, and ejects the contents of his mouth into his handkerchief, and perhaps wipes the perspiration from his forehead with the same article, and is horrified to feel the muddy liquid trickling down his temples. He mutters something about being unwell, and bolts for the door, vexed with the absence of spittoons from his friend's parlor, but most of all, with himself for being the slave of such an inconvenient and degrading habit. And yet he continues to use the vile stuff.

Some idea of the power of the habit that entralls him may be derived from the remark of an old physician, who had once been a tobacco chewer, and who informed us, after the lapse of twenty years, that he still dreamed of his quids.

We hope that none of the boys who read our paper will form a taste for this poisonous plant. Such an appetite once created, is like India-ink marks on their hands, and will always stay there to plague them, however badly they may wish to be rid of it. Many persons we know are old tobacco eaters, nervous and lean and bilious, with very watery stomachs, while some of them have worked so long at the end of a pipe that they are dried up, ready to blow away like a thistle seed. It would be strange indeed if, among our readers there were not such. But we have no apologies to make. Those who use tobacco most, know best the truth of what we say; and there is not one of them that does not wish himself free from this slavery, and that tobacco might taste as nauseous to him again as it did when he was a boy; and, excuse us if we add, there is not one of them but might be free, by a strong enough effort of the will. We know what we say.

Make yourself a sheep and wolves will eat you.

BOOK NOTICES.

A VISIT TO THE CAMP BEFORE SEVASTOPOL.
By Richard C. McCormick, Jr. D. Appleton & Co., New-York.

It would be pleasant and instructive to any one to sit down with a reliable friend who had passed six weeks in the camp at Sevastopol, mingling freely with the officers and soldiers in their tents and trenches, &c., and to hear him describe in a plain but lively manner his observations and experiences. Such a privilege we have just enjoyed, in perusing the book named above. Mr. McCormick is young in years, and comparatively unpracticed in the use of the pen, but he has made an admirable selection of just such incidents as almost every one will delight to hear about. His style and descriptions are lively, and have all the freshness of a familiar conversation. The author has occasionally contributed to the pages of this journal, and knowing his candid and truthful character, we expected to be pleased with the book, and we are free to say that it more than meets our expectations. It is neatly got up by the Appletons, and has several very appropriate illustrations, including a bird's eye view of the seat of war, and a portrait of Miss Nightingale. No one who takes any interest in the progress of the Eastern war, can well dispense with this book.

From the N. Y. Tribune of Aug. 1.

ALLEN'S MOWING MACHINE.

SIR: I noticed in the Tribune of July 13, an extract from what purported to be "a Report" on Allen's Mowing Machine, at the trial in Dedham, Mass. As this alleged report was in the highest degree unfavorable to my machine, and as the comments with which the extract was prefaced and followed, were, if possible, more so, I wrote Col. M. P. Wilder, President of the Norfolk Co. Agricultural Society, under whose auspices the trial was held, as to the quoted report. As I expected, it turned out to be no report at all, but simply a newspaper article got up for the occasion by the editor or some one else, whether for a consideration or otherwise doth not appear.

In his reply to me, Col. Wilder expressed the opinion of the highly intelligent Committee appointed for the occasion, that the machine had not had a fair trial, from the fact that a person had the management of it who was wholly unused to any mowing machine, and who had never but once before seen one of any kind in operation; and he further expressed the wish, that another machine might be sent that should fairly exhibit its capabilities. This courteous suggestion was promptly responded to, and two of Allen's mowing machines were sent for another trial. This was had on the farm of Aaron D. Weld, Esq., of Roxbury, on the 20th inst., in presence of nearly all the Committee, and between thirty and forty of the most intelligent agriculturists of Norfolk County—and there are none more so in any other county, whether in or out of Massachusetts. From the unsolicited and spontaneous expression of their opinion, I shall

subjoin but a single brief extract from each of these articles on the subject. The first is from the Boston Journal of July 21, and the other two from the Dedham Gazette of July 28.

"The company witnessed an experiment in mowing with one of Allen's Patent Mowing Machines. The machine was tried in heavy and light grass, and mowed a smooth, clean swath, leaving no grass standing to be trimmed off by the scythe. The party were unanimous in their praise of the perfection and utility of the machine."

"Two of Allen's Mowing Machines were on the ground and operated very favorably, much to the credit of that patent, which had previously been unfortunate in its experience in this State, owing to lack of skill in its management, or to the reporters, who have looked at it with prejudiced eyes. The company at Mr. Weld's, composed of gentlemen of at least average judgement and discretion, seemed to regard the Allen machine, as there exhibited and operated, equal in merit to any others, no matter how extensively those others have been complimented."

"The machine was operated in heavy and light grass, and was subjected to a severe and rigid scrutiny. We heard but one opinion expressed as to the working of the machine, and that of decided satisfaction."

R. L. ALLEN, Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st.
New-York, July 31, 1855.

ROCHELLE BLACKBERRIES.—We have received a basket of these superb berries, from Mr. Nathaniel Hallock, of Milton, Ulster County, which, confined as we now are to the city, gives us a delicious foretaste of what we may expect when we get into the country. We are glad to hear that the cultivation of this fruit is rapidly on the increase in this neighborhood; and we shall hope to soon see the day when they will be as abundant in our market in August, as the larger kinds of strawberries are in June.

The Syracuse Chronicle says it is officially announced that three splendid prizes, the least of which is \$25 in gold, will be offered to the ladies of Seneca Co., Ohio, at the next annual fair, October, 1855, for the swiftest running at foot race. The fastest lady on foot to take the highest prize.

A NEW WAY TO RAISE BEANS.—A gentleman in Seneca Falls, N. Y., last spring planted some Lima beans. Not being provided with poles, he supplied their place by planting in each hill sunflowers, trimming up the stalk, so that it served the purpose of a pole. For a time all went on well, till at length the sunflowers, growing so much faster than the beans, the latter were absolutely drawn up by the roots.

A few days since three boys in Norfolk, Ct., discovered a swarm of bees settled upon a low bush. One of them immediately disrobed, and taking his shirt, tied up the neck and arms, and then slipped it over the swarm, and in this manner succeeded in securing and hiving it.

PRENTICE'S LAST.—Our turn will come next. Every dog has his day.—*Southern Democrat.*

If every dog has a day, such a great dog as you are ought to have a week or a month.
Louisville Jour.

RAINY DAYS IN JULY FOR SIXTY-SEVEN YEARS.

Mr. E Merriam, of Brooklyn, has furnished some of the daily papers with a tabular statement, showing the number and dates of the rainy days in July of each year from 1789 to 1855, both inclusive. The details are too voluminous for our columns. We however copy the total number of rainy days in July of each year, as follows:

Year.	No. of rainy days in July.	Year.	No. of rainy days in July.
1789	9	1822	10
1790	3	1823	9
1791	3	1824	9
1792	10	1825	4
1793	9	1826	9
1794	8	1827	10
1795	9	1828	14
1796	13	1829	11
1797	6	1830	8
1798	12	1831	9
1799	4	1832	9
1800	7	1833	9
1801	8	1834	7
1802	7	1835	12
1803	14	1836	15
1804	8	1837	11
1805	5	1838	8
1806	9	1839	8
1807	9	1840	9
1808	12	1841	10
1809	13	1842	14
1810	9	1843	10
1811	9	1844	11
1812	9	1845	8
1813	10	1846	12
1814	9	1847	7
1815	10	1848	7
1816	5	1849	5
1817	10	1850	10
1818	9	1851	13
1819	7	1852	9
1820	7	1853	15
1821	8	1854	10
		1855	19

Total, 67 years. In only six of them did the rain in July continue more than four days consecutively, viz:

In July, 1803, rain fell from 23 to 28—6 consecutive days	Do. 1807, do. do. 19 to 23—5 do. do.	Do. 1829, do. do. 2 to 6—5 do. do.	Do. 1836, do. do. 9 to 15—7 do. do.	Do. 1851, do. do. 19 to 30—12 do. do.
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The duration of the rainy term in July of this year has greatly exceeded that of any July for a period of two-thirds of a century.

The heat has been great, and the maximum has been at and above ninety degrees on ten days; at and above eighty and below ninety on fifteen days; between 70 and 79 on five days, and at 63 one day, viz: on the 21st. Lightning has been active on 21 days.

A REMARKABLE CAT.—A neighbor, residing near the sea shore, has a large tom-cat, which has frequently been found with fish in his possession, and which he was busily engaged in eating. It became the occasion of much remark, as it could not be ascertained how or where he obtained them. A few days since, he was discovered with a live eel in his mouth, which he was just proceeding to devour. As he has since been seen standing near the sea shore, with his gaze intent upon the water, there is no doubt that he is in the habit of catching fish and eels, and regaling himself on them. Cats have sometimes been known to catch fish from small brooks, or vessels of water wherein they were placed.—*New-Haven Register.*

THE GREYTOWN AFFAIR.—The New-York Herald says that the sufferers by the bombardment of Greytown have arrived at Washington to present their claims before the

Court of Claims, and that those claims amount to about five millions of dollars!

THE USE OF SALIVA.

We gather the following from the recent lectures of Dr. H. Bence Jones, of London:

“The action of the saliva upon the starch we take as food, is similar to that of a ferment, and causes it to undergo a change into sugar. If you take a portion of pure starch and hold it in the mouth for only two minutes, you can obtain distinct and decided traces of sugar. We have here a solution of starch not treated with saliva, and if we employ our test for sugar, which you well know (sulphate of copper and liquor potassæ), we have no reduction of the oxide of copper; but in this other mixture of starch and water, which has been held in the mouth for two minutes only, you may see distinctly a beautiful red line of reduced copper, the evidence of the presence of sugar. If the starch is left in the mouth for three minutes, a still more manifest action is apparent; and if it remains there five minutes, there is a distinct mass of reduced copper, which is proportioned to the quantity of sugar formed out of the starch.”

There are many sources of the sugar found in the body. It is found for the most part in vegetable food already formed, and it arises from the action of saliva on starch. It is present in considerable quantity in milk, and minute traces of it are contained in muscle; but, still further, it is always produced by the action of the liver. We have a large quantity of fat going into the liver by the *portal vein*, and a large quantity of sugar coming out by the *hepatic vein*. This sugar is always found in the liver, not only when vegetable food but even when animal food is taken.

THE GOOD TIME COMING—COME.—We took a stroll around the markets yesterday, to look at the heaps on heaps of eatables reported to be so cheap—and sure enough they were cheap. Potatoes, large, nice and fair, “at your own price.” We are told that a number of loads from Long Island were seen going homeward, for want of a buyer at any price. Let Paddy and Mickey and Morris improve the time now, for we hear distant groanings of the “rot” approaching. Peaches at five and six shilling a basket, stand in long files, or in solid platoons, waiting all day for a signal to be marched off. But they are rare-ripes, fallen from their high estate too soon, just as we learn that one-fourth or more of this crop has already fallen. Those who had dreamed of peaches, large and luscious, five for a penny, must lower their expectations by one-half, if reports from New-Jersey be true.

Tomatoes are upon us like an avalanche; those who paid four to eight dollars a basket not long since, can supply themselves with a better quality, at five to six shillings a bushel now.

Apples are scarce—sixteen to twenty shillings a barrel; but who cares? They are sour gr—apples, not fit to eat, and no mistake.—*N. Y. Times.*

BEEF COMING DOWN.—Beef is said to be “coming down” in New-York. The laugh comes in when it is understood that it is only coming down the Hudson river.—*Boston Bee.*

The Bee may laugh again, when it is assured that prices as well as “the beef” are coming down. Read the cattle market report. A month ago we were paying at the

rate of \$12a\$14 per hundred, at the Bull’s Head. Now, fair qualities can be had at \$3a\$4 less. That is coming down—isn’t it?—*Express.*

The Sea Serpent has been diving deep through subterranean passages, and made his appearance in a little pond of half a mile wide by three or four long, called Silver Lake, near Wyoming, in the State of New York. Two of a party of eight, who were out on a fishing excursion a week or ten days ago, swear most positively to the big snake pursuing them around the lake and finally compelling them, at a late hour to abandon their boat, and foot it home, a couple of miles, rather than continue on a sheet of water containing such a monster. They first took him for a log, till he dived down and came up on the other side. They swear he was eighty or a hundred feet long, and that eight or ten feet of his head and neck were clear out of water. He did not attempt to injure them, but at one time lashed the water with his tail—and when he brought his head down it created waves that “nearly capsized the boat, and suspended regular operations with the oars.” The story is a big one, and few will swallow it, although sworn to before Enos W. Frost, Justice of the Peace.

BLACK SEA FOWL.—Since the war with Russia a new kind of domestic fowl has been introduced into England from the Black Sea, and is likely to prove a formidable rival to the Shanghai and Cochinchina. It is quite as large as the barn-door fowl, is crested, has feathered legs. Its color is generally all white or black; when the latter, of a raven hue, and glossy. This bird is pugnacious, and its movements are very lively. The tail-feathers do not project as in other birds, but drop down close to the body. Several of these birds are to be seen at Southampton.

Dr. Marshall Hall, in his Journal of Health, says that it is owing, mainly, to their constant out-door exercise, that the elevated classes in England reach a patriarchal age, notwithstanding their habits of high living, of late hours, of wine-drinking, and many other health-destroying agencies. The deaths of their generals, their lords, their earls, and their dukes, are chronicled almost every week, at 70, 80, and 100 years. Their exercise, as well as their disposition to take the world easy, adds many years to their life.

Sixty three steamers and fifty-two flats barges, and keel boats, involving property to the amount of one million four hundred and two thousand six hundred dollars, have been lost, during the last six months, on the western rivers. Of the steamers, thirty-five were snagged, thirteen burned, nine were destroyed by collision.

A trout has lately died in Blockly which lived in a garden pool for eighteen years, and was twenty years of age. It was blind of one eye, supposed from old age, and it was so tame that it would come to the side of the pool, and eat out of any one’s hand, and allow persons to take it out of the water.

All men in their hearts covet esteem, yet are loth any one should discover their fondness to be esteemed; because men would pass for virtuous, that they may draw some other advantage from it, besides virtue itself; I would say esteem and praise—this should no longer be thought virtue, but a love for praise and esteem, or vanity. Men are very vain creatures, and of all things hate to be thought so.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

FUN AMONG EDITORS.

A BET OF HATS AND HORSES.

One of the most humorous, good natured fellows among our political editors—Prentice of the Louisville Journal always excepted—is Mr. Hammond, editor of the Albany Register. The frequent laughable extracts which we credit to the Albany Register are from his pen. Mr. H. is an out and out Know Nothing, as far as politics are concerned, which explains his objections to the hat alluded to below.

Well, a few days since he was so much delighted with a paragraph which appeared in an "opposition" paper, the Albany Atlas, that in the fulness of his heart he remarked through the columns of his paper, that "if the editor of the Atlas will accept a hat, and can find anybody that will charge one to us, he can order it right off."

The editor of the Atlas, being a sensible man, and not above receiving a favor from a respectable source, accepted the kind invitation of his cotemporary, and ordered the hat. The editor of the Register, in a later number, acknowledges with apparent surprise the receipt of the bill for the hat, but without hesitation assumed the debt, only grumbling a little about the style of the hat selected. He submits "that in common courtesy, and out of respect to our principles, the hat selected should have been a 'wide awake,' Know-Nothing, American hat, and not an out-and-out aristocratic beaver." He says that the luxuriant character of his verdancy upon this occasion, reminds him of the following adventure which he once had in the political betting line:

"We were a great Jackson man, we were, the last time that the old General ran for the Presidency, and whenever a General Jackson runs for that office shall be so again. We lived in the country then, and had a neighbor who was on the other side of the political fence, who was a great dealer in horses. Well, we got into an argument with him one day, and so sure was he of success that he offered to bet a horse against \$50 that the old Hero of New-Orleans would not be elected. We took the bet. The argument being one that had no end, was renewed from time to time with the same result, until five horses on the one side and \$250 on the other were staked on the issue of the election. We won. But he had forgotten to designate the animals, and such a lot of horses as was tendered in payment of the bet was a sight to see. If there was an ailment to which horse-flesh is subject that was not exhibited by one of those five horses we should like to be informed of its diagnosis. There was ring-bone, and spavin, and stringhalt, and blindness, and heaves, and one venerable old roadster had all these and in addition was deaf as a post. We kept them a week as a collection of curiosities in the animal line, and then sold them at auction. According to our recollection, four of them sold for \$40, in the aggregate, and we gave a tin-peddler \$10 for taking the other. We have not bet on elections since, and don't want to win any more horses."

Why was St. Paul like a horse? Because he loved Timothy.

HARVEST HYMN.

Sung at the recent Anniversary of the Newtown Theological Institution.

Far o'er the land the precious grain
Waves 'neath the sunny sky;
And ripening harvests offer sheaves
For immortality.

But who will reap the golden fruit,
And who at last will stand,
A faithful servant, crowned with joy,
O Lord, at thy right hand?

Be ours the work, be ours the joy,
To us the charge be given,
To gather souls to Christ, and find
Our garnered sheaves in Heaven.

Strength to the reapers, mighty God,
Strength to the reapers send,
To bear the burden of the day,
And labor till the end.

Then songs of triumph shall arise,
Then shall Thy Kingdom come,
And echoing anthems greet at last
The Heavenly Harvest Home.

THE FIRST BABY.—Just look at him. Do you see that individual with his hat high on the bump of self-esteem—his nose turned up at every thing—distinguished by a frantic disregard of the immaculacy of his shirt, or the tie of his neckhandkerchief? Mark with what superciliousness he views all mundane things. With what scorn does he gaze upon youths and grown people, and how contemptible appears every thing to his High Daintiness that was so attractive before. He is a father for the first time, and the little tiny, whining cherub, is at home in embroidered muslin; and the baby—yes, the baby—is as fat as butter, and weighs six and a quarter. An intellectual baby, too—well red. Think of that! Six pounds and a quarter and a boy at that! Bless his little chubby soul! What projects are running in that man's brain in regard to the new-comer. What a long way into future he is gazing after destiny, and he sees nothing less than a governor, and mayhap a president, in the little chubby boy at home, weighing six and a quarter pounds. And the wife—the first baby she ever had—she never thought she'd be a mother; and wild with joy, she is caressing the shapeless little lump, and goes mad with happiness at the contemplation of her dear little sugar plum of an offspring weighing six and quarter pounds. The first baby in a new link to bind the wedding pair together and cement it—the chain weighing exactly six and quarter pounds. We congratulate our friend upon the hurricane of happiness that has befallen him, and ardently hope he will fall down no cellar ways, or into any coal holes, in his up-gazing pride, at having assisted to add one to the numerical strength of the country.

CURIOSITY IN LITERATURE.—One of our exchanges remarks: It is singular that the name of God should be spelt with four letters in almost every known language. It is in Latin, Deus; French, Dieu; Greek, Theos; (the sound of the *th* is expressed by one letter in the Greek;) German, Gott; Scandinavian, Odin; Swedish, Codd; Hebrew, Adon; Syrian, Adad; Persian, Syra; Tartarian, Idga; Spanish, Dias; East Indian, Esgi or Zenl; Turkish, Addi; Egyptian, Aumn, or Zeut; Japanese, Zain; Peruvian, Lian; Wallachian, Zene; Etrurian, Chur; Tyrrhenian, Eher; Irish, Dieh; Croatian, Doga; Margarian, Oese; Arabian, Alla; Dalmatian, Rogt.

Why was Adam the swiftest runner that ever lived? Because he was the first in the human race.

MACKEREL STORY.—The venerable General B— was for several consecutive years returned to Congress; and as the hotels and boarding-houses in Washington City in those days, were all on a par, or rather below par, the members were in the habit of occupying, year after year, the same rooms. The table of General B.'s boarding-house (which was kept by a widow lady and her two daughters) was regularly furnished with stereotyped dinners, and at one end of the table always appeared a broiled mackerel. Gen. B., whose seat was near the fish, had gazed so frequently upon it, (for it never was touched except by the cook,) that he knew it all "by heart." Now, if the distinguished Representative had any one peculiar virtue, it was an affectionate desire to make every person and every creature around him happy. In the course of time, Congress adjourned, and General B. paid his bill to the widow, and got ready to start for home. The stage stood at the door; and the old gentleman, showing the goodness of his heart, took the widow by the hand and pressing it, bade her farewell; then kissing the daughters, said he would like to see them in Ohio, and furnish them with good husbands, &c.; but even this was not all. The black boys, who stood along the walls, were not forgotten, and grinned as he handed each a silver dollar. As he passed around the breakfast table, which was not yet "cleared off," he saw his old friend, the mackerel. The tears came into his eyes, and, raising it by the tail, with his thumb and finger, parted with it, saying: "well, good bye, good bye, my old boy; you and I have served a long campaign together; but (wiping his eyes) I suppose we shall meet again next winter. Good bye." The old gentleman rapidly left the house, and jumping into the stage, rattled off, and fortunately for his ears, the widow never saw him again.

ADVICE TO LOVERS.

In summer seek a sweetheart out,
In garden, field or fallow;
The days just now are long enough,
The nights are mild and mellow.

Ere winter the delicious knot
Must be fast tied together;—
No moonlight meetings in the snow
In cold and cutting weather.

The "heated term" yesterday reminded us of a brother editor last summer, who conjugated the increasing heat in somewhat the following style: "Hot, hotter, hottest—hottentot, hottentoter, hottentotest—hottentissimo, hottentissimus—hot as an oven—hot as two ovens—hot as seven ovens—hot!" His sanctum must have been exposed to an afternoon sun, without draft or ventilation.

SPONGING IT.—The last dodge we have heard in evading the State Liquor Law occurred yesterday at one of our fashionable drinking saloons. An individual walked up to the counter and demanded a dime bottle of brandy. Now, the rule is to charge fifteen cents, unless an empty bottle is furnished in return for the one received; and as the customer laid only a dime on the counter, the extra five cents was demanded.

"I don't want the bottle," said he, "draw the cork."

"The liquor can't be drank on the premises," replied the bar-keeper.

"I aint going to drink it on your premises," replied the other, and the bar-keeper, supposing that he had some vessel to pour it into, drew the cork, when the gentleman quietly pulled out a sponge from his pocket, and poured the liquor into it; then taking his seat, commenced leisurly sucking it.

"You see," he said nodding complacently

to the astonished bar-keeper, "I ain't going contrary to the rule, for the law says stuff shan't be drank on the premises."

The bystanders came to the conclusion that the stranger would make an appropriate Governor for Illinois, being decidedly the greatest sucker of them all.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

"BAD SIGNS."—In the Seventh-avenue, New-York the following signs were seen: "Tar For Sale Hear;" and over an entrance to a wood shed, painted in large capitals, "Beware of a Werry Savidge Dog." In a more rural locality was found the following, at a grocery where refreshments (?) were kept:

"Here Pize and Kakes and Bier I sell,
And Oysters stood and in the shell,
And Fride Wun tew for them that chews,
And with despatch blacks butes and shews."

At one of the ferries in Jersey City was found another *bad sign* of intelligence and of the schoolmaster's labors. Here it is:

"Cottage to let in North Bergen Containing six rooms with Three Pier Places and Foling Doors Brick Oven in Kitchen Large garden with Variety of Fruits quinces Peaches Plume Creapes &c &c The Whold for \$100."

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, August 6.

The majority of the reports from the wheat harvest the past week have been highly favorable; though there have been scattering showers of limited extent and duration all over the country, from Maine to Iowa. In some places west there have been heavy rains of from two to six hours duration, accompanied with violent wind, prostrating the oats and doing considerable other damage.

The general effects of the "wet term" ceased about the close of last month, but these rains have furnished "panic" material enough for the holders of old stocks of flour, to not only keep up the price to the figures of the past two weeks, but even to raise its price; and we to-day quote an advance upon last week of 25 to 50 cents per barrel on the different grades.

We have collated and examined, during the past week, over one thousand reports of the wheat crop, embracing almost every section of the northern States, and we are still of the opinion that taking in the whole United States and the Canadas, the yield of the present year is from one-fourth to one-third—perhaps one-half—greater than in 1854. Notwithstanding the exaggerated reports of "grown" or "sprouted," "beaten down," and "rotting" wheat, a careful sifting of all these reports indicates that not one-tenth, probably not one-twentieth, of the crops has been lost from the effects of the extended rain. Not one farmer in a thousand, with the exception of those in a few of the worst localities, will admit that he has lost ten bushels on the hundred more than in ordinary years.

Taking the census reports of 1850 as a guide, and allowing for Canada, and the increased growth in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa, more than three-fourths of the wheat crop is produced north of 40°, north latitude.

In 1850, Pennsylvania, New-York, Ohio and Illinois produced just one-half of the wheat raised in the United States. The long rains prior to Monday of last week suspended the harvest till nearly that date, so that at the beginning of this month two-thirds of all the wheat crop was still in the fields. Since that time the damage has been trifling, and before that period the loss was not to exceed one-twentieth of the whole.

The present price of wheat is no criterion to judge of the future. The interest of speculators in old stocks, the unwillingness of owners of wheat to part with it at a lower figure than they have been recently accustomed to receive, unless compelled thereto by necessity, and the uncertainty as to the real amount of damage, have all conspired to keep up the price. But all these circumstances will soon cease to operate. Corn now enters so largely into the general consumption of the country, a large yield of that staple will naturally influence the price of flour, and should no untoward event occur, there will be by far the largest yield ever produced in North America. Southern planters have planted much more than usual this season, and their crop is sufficiently advanced now to be out of danger. Corn has fallen 4 to 5 cts. per bushel since our last. Buckwheat is very promising. Potatoes and other roots never looked better. We advise those who have grain and roots to sell, to get them to market as soon as possible. Nothing but a bad harvest in Europe will prevent their falling still more.

Cotton has advanced about 1/2 cent per lb. Sugar is 1/2c. per lb. better. Rice, firmer. Tobacco, a slight reduction.

The Weather, on the whole, for the week, has been fine for harvesting, and the farmers are exceedingly busy. The prevailing winds have been South and South-East, and yet very little rain has fallen. This is singular, and we may infer that the Atlantic ocean is tired of furnishing weeping clouds for the present.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, Aug. 7, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The prices of vegetables generally are declining. We have often suggested to our readers the necessity of getting this kind of produce early into the market, to obtain fair prices, and our advice is every day proving true.

Potatoes are plenty this week, and have fallen in price to 62 1/2c. per basket. Peaches, enough in quantity but poor in quality, 62@75c. per basket. This crop is said to be falling from the trees before maturity, which may account for the small size of those in market. There is a scarcity as yet of good sour apples. We quoted potatoes last week declining in price, and have to add to-day that the market was overstocked on Monday so, that a number of loads went back. The rot has made its appearance, though but little damage is apprehended this season from that cause.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island Whites....	per basket	\$—50@ 56
Do. do. Mercers.....	do.	56@ 61
New-Jersey, Dyckman's.....	per bushel	1 75@1 87
Do. Junes.....	do.	1 50@1 75
Do. Mercers.....	do.	1 75@2 —
Onions—Jersey Potato.....	per bushel	2 25@2 50
Corn—Rare ripe.....	do.	2 12@2 25
Garlic.....	per 100	6 —@ —
Cabbages.....	per 100	2 50@3 50

Cucumbers.....	do	56@ 62
Squashes—White.....	per bushel	1 —@ —
Yellow.....	do	1 25@1 50
Blackberries.....	per bushel	1 50@3 —
Whortleberries.....	do.	2 50@3 —
Tomatoes.....	"	62@ —
Apples, Sour and Sweet Bow.....	per bushel	\$1 50@2 —
Common.....	do	1 25@1 50
Peaches.....	per basket	37@1 50
Watermelons.....	per 100	10 @12 —
Butter—new.....	per lb.	18@24c.
Orange County.....	do.	23@25c.
Cheese.....	do	8@10c.
Eggs.....	per dozen	—@16c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY August 8, 1855.

There is no material variation in prices from last week, although the sales at the same nominal figure are dull. The weather is fine with a fresh breeze. The total supply for the day and week at Allerton's is 1,810. No fresh ones were received on Friday, and we noticed some again in the yards that we saw quoted as sold last week at 10 1/2c. Farmers must remember that the whole cattle market system tends toward high quotations. The butchers wish to sell well at retail, the brokers like the credit of having sold well, and everybody who eats beef is benefitted, by increasing the supply in the market. The traffic is based, too, on estimated weight, so that there is a great deal of latitude for variations in judgment. There is no dependence to be put on rates of to-day over ten cents, for any thing, although some brokers claim to have effected transactions at 10 1/2c, and even 11c. The owner and the salesman frequently make a difference in their estimates, of as much as one cent per pound. Among the best cattle in market to-day, were a portion of the drove of Herd, Culver & Co., which remained unsold from last week's quotations at 10 1/2c, and 11c.

A drove of 70 head sold by R. Murray, from Jos. H. Williams, in Ohio, was among the best. They came from Madison, by N. Y. and Erie Railroad, at an expense of about \$8 per head. Held at 11c.

W. H. Gurney was selling a lot of 114 beeves, from Champagne County, Illinois, fed by Chas. M. Culverson; driven to Indianapolis, and thence shipped through by the Bellefontaine & New-York and Erie Roads, at an expense of \$9 per head, to Bergen Hill. They were a fair lot of grass fed cattle, that would average 6 cwt. dressed. Forty of them had been sold at 11 o'clock, at from \$45 to \$65 per head. The butchers called it 10c and the owner 9c.

The expense from Buffalo to Albany is \$30 per car; from Dunkirk to Bergen \$43 per car.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Extra quality.....	9 1/2@10c.
Good retailing quality.....	9 @9 1/2c.
Inferior do. do.....	8 @8 1/2c.
Veals.....	5 @7c.
Swine, alive,.....	6 1/2@7c.
Cows and Calves—Extra.....	\$65@\$75.
Common.....	\$50@65.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK. IN MARKET TO-DAY.

Beeves.....	1810	—
Cows.....	15	—
Veals.....	185	—
Sheep and lambs.....	1559	—
Swine.....	853	—

Of these there came by the Erie Railroad—beeves.....1110
Swine.....382

By the Harlem Railroad—Beeves.....26
Sheep and Lambs.....1559
Cows.....15
Calves.....15

By the Hudson River Railroad.....207
By the Hudson River Boats—Beeves.....457
Swine.....471

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Sheep and Lambs.....	6561
Beeves.....	600
Veals.....	65
Cows and Calves.....	45

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's:
468 Beef Cattle..... 8@10c.
98 Cows and Calves..... \$25@\$60
5,741 Sheep and Lambs..... 2\$@5\$1.
304 Veals..... 4@7c.

The average run of sheep and lambs is about middling. Sheep were sold during the week as low as \$2, and as high \$8. Lambs, \$1 75@65.

Sales of Thos. C. Larkins, 546—\$5,246 17; average \$4 12.
Jas. McCarty, 2,735—\$8,030 36; average \$3 42.
McGraw & Smith, 1,330—\$4,200 60.

The market was pretty good last week, but sales are not quite so brisk this week. Yesterday the supply was too great, and sales were a little slow. Good sheep and lambs are scarce, and command a good price.

WHERE MUSKETOS COME FROM.

The musketo proceeds from the animalculæ commonly termed the wiggle-tail. I took a bowl of clean water and set it in the sun. In a very few days some half a-dozen wiggle tails were visible. These continued to increase in size until they were about 3-16ths of an inch in length. As they approached their maturity, they remained longer at the surface, seeming to live in the two mediums—air and water. Finally, they assumed a chrysalis form, and, by increased specific gravity, sank to the bottom of the bowl. Here, in a few hours, I perceived short black furze, or hair, growing on every side of each, until it assumed the size of a minute caterpillar. And thus its specific gravity being counteracted and lightened, it rapidly floated to the surface, and the slightest breath of air wafted it against the side of the bowl. In a very brief space of time afterwards the warm atmosphere hatched out the fly, and it escaped, leaving its tiny house upon the water. How beautiful, yet how simple!

After the water had gone through this process, I found it perfectly free from animalculæ. I therefore come to the conclusion that this wiggle-tail is a species of the shark, who having devoured whole tribes of animalculæ, takes to himself wings and escapes into a different medium to torture mankind, and deposit their eggs upon the water to produce other wiggle-tails, who in turn produce other musketos.

Any man who has "kept house" with a cistern in the yard has doubtless observed the same effect every summer. Open your cistern cover any morning in the musketo season and millions of them will fly up in your face. Close the windows of your room, at the risk of being smothered for want of air, being careful at the same time previously to exclude every musketo, and go to bed with a pitcher of that same cistern water in the room, and enough will breed from it during the night to give you any satisfactory amount of trouble. In fact, standing by a shallow, half-stagnant pool, in a mid-summer's day, you may see the wiggle-tails becoming perfectly developed musketos, and they will rise from the surface of the water, and sting you in the face. What it is necessary to know at this day is—has there yet been discovered any positive exterminator of that infernal pest and disturber of night's slumber—the musketo?

At a recent meeting of the Society of Natural History, in Boston, Dr. Durkee, of that city, exhibited under the microscope, the rostrum or sting of the common musketo (*Culx pipiens*.) The Doctor remarked that one of the most remarkable features in the anatomy of the musketo is that the parts which constitute the mouth are elongated, so as to form a beak or sting extending horizontally, like that of some birds. The beak or sting is about half the length of the body, and to the unassisted eye appears to be very simple in its structure. When examined with a microscope, however, it is found to be composed of seven different parts, which are comparatively stout on one edge. These parts vary in length, and can be separated from each other without much difficulty. They are broad at the upper part where they are united to the head, and they gradually taper to a point. One of the parts is a tubular canal or groove, in which the others are lodged when the proboscis is not in use. Dr. D. stated that he had not been able to find any appearance of teeth, except on the two longest pieces; in these he had found them near the tip. The two longest pieces, also, are marked by traverse lines, extending from one edge to the other, throughout their whole length.

Cuvier and others state that the male musketo does not suck blood. From repeated examinations, Dr. D. has satisfied himself that the male has no sting, and consequently can not draw blood. The female alone is endowed with this organ. The male lives upon the juice of flowers and plants.

Musketoes are propagated only where there is water. The eggs, deposited in water, go through the larva and pupa state, small collections of shallow water being most favorable for their development. Most of them die in the fall of the year, but some hibernate in cellars and other warm retreats, supported by the oil which they have accumulated during the summer, and with which they are distended in the fall of the year.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE LOCUST.—The locust's favorite resort is that of a copse of young and rather thin oak wood, where the soil is rather soft and light. They are first discovered in the ground near the surface, in the form of a large white grub or worm, and a quarter of an inch in diameter. Where or in what mode they pass through the chrysalis state, and become fully invested with wings and other members, I do not know; but they are soon found in vast numbers, and in a full chorus of sonorous voices, among the branches of the small trees. They have a distinctly marked W found on the back. In this stage of their lives they do not seem to feed. On opening one, the body appears to be a mere hollow shell, without any feeding or digesting organs. They continue in this state, I believe, about six weeks or two months.

Shortly before their disappearance, many of the small twigs of young oaks appear to be girdled and partially cut off, and hang suspended from the extremity of the branches. The leaves turn red as when touched by frost in autumn. On examination these twigs appear to be sawed about two thirds off and girdled, so that—the circulation of sap being cut off—it soon dies, and probably falls to the ground during the ensuing winter by the action of wind, rain and snow.

The general belief is that by a curious and remarkable instinct, the insect is led to deposit its eggs in some secure mode upon these small twigs, and then thus partially to sever them from the parent stock, so that by their fall the eggs shall be borne gently and safely to the ground, into whose bosom they are in some form received and cherished, to reappear in the form of the full-grown locust, after the lapse of seventeen years. I am not aware that this fact of the deposit of eggs upon the falling twig has been verified by actual observation; it is one of the points which require careful examination.—*Boston Advertiser.*

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Ashes				
Pot, 1st sort, 1855.		100 lb.	—	@ 6 25
Pearl, 1st sort, 1855.				6 25 @ —
Bristles				
American, Gray and White.			45	@ 50
Beeswax				
American Yellow.			26	@ 27 1/2
Coal				
Liverpool Orrel.		chaldron.	—	@ 8 50
Scotch.			—	@ —
Sidney.			5 75	@ 6 —
Pictou.			5 25	@ —
Anthracite.		2,000 lb.	5 50	@ —
Cotton Bagging				
Gunny Cloth.		yard.	12 1/2	@ —
Cotton				
	Upland.	Florida.	Mobile.	N. O. & Texas
Ordinary.	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
Middling.	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Middling Fair.	12	12	12 1/2	12 1/2
Fair.	12 1/2	12 1/2	13	13 1/2
Flax				
Jersey.			8	@ 9 —
Flour and Meal				
State, common brands.			8 12	@ —
State, straight brands.			8 25	@ —
State, favorite brands.			8 25	@ —

Western, mixed do.	8 50	@ —	—
Michigan and Indiana, straight do.	8 25	@ 8 50	—
Michigan, fancy brands.	8 62	@ —	—
Ohio, common to good brands.	—	@ 8 50 1/2	—
Ohio, fancy brands.	—	@ 8 75	—
Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, extra do.	8 75	@ 10 1/2	—
Genesee, fancy brands.	8 50	@ —	—
Genesee, extra brands.	10 50	@ 12 —	—
Canada.	8 37	@ 9 75	—
Brandywine.	9 25	@ 9 75	—
Georgetown.	9 25	@ 9 75	—
Petersburg City.	9 25	@ 9 75	—
Richmond Country.	—	@ 9 50	—
Alexandria.	—	@ 9 50	—
Baltimore, Howard-Street.	—	@ 9 50	—
Rye Flour.	6 25	@ —	—
Corn Meal, Jersey.	4 50	@ —	—
Corn Meal, Brandywine.	5 —	@ —	—
Corn Meal, Brandywine.	5 punch.	@ 21 50	—

Grain			
Wheat, White Genesee.	1 bush.	—	@ —
Wheat, do. Canada.		—	@ 2 —
Wheat, Southern, White.		1 95	@ 2 —
Wheat, Ohio, White.		2 12	@ —
Wheat, Michigan, White.		2 12	@ 2 15
Rye, Northern.		1 28	@ —
Corn, Round Yellow.		—	@ 93
Corn, Round White.		—	@ 1 08
Corn, Southern White.		—	@ 1 10
Corn, Southern Yellow.		—	@ 92
Corn, Southern Mixed.		—	@ 90
Corn, Western Mixed.		—	@ 88
Corn, Western Yellow.		—	@ —
Barley.		1 06	@ —
Oats, River and Canal.		—	@ 53
Oats, New-Jersey.		—	@ 50
Oats, Western.		—	@ 50
Peas, Black-Eyed.	1 bush.	2 75	@ —

Hay			
North River, in bales.		—	@ 1 25

Molasses			
New-Orleans.	1 gall.	—	@ 32 — 35
Porto Rico.		—	@ 30 — 35
Cuba Muscovado.		—	@ 28 — 31
Trinidad Cuba.		—	@ 27 — 29
Cardenas, &c.		—	@ 27 —

Provisions			
Beef, Mess, Country.	1 bbl.	10 50	@ 13 —
Beef, Mess, City.		10 —	@ —
Beef, Mess, extra.		16 25	@ 17 —
Beef, Prime, Country.		—	@ 9 75
Beef, Prime, City.		—	@ 11 —
Beef, Prime Mess.	1 cce.	21 —	@ 25 —
Pork, Prime.		16 12	@ —
Pork, Clear.		20 —	@ —
Pork, Prime Mess.		17 50	@ —
Lard, Ohio, prime, in barrels.	1 b.	—	@ 11 —
Hams, Pickled.		—	@ — 9 1/2
Shoulders, Pickled.		—	@ — 7 1/2

Rice			
Ordinary to fair.	100 lb.	5 25	@ 5 50
Good to prime.		5 87 1/2	@ 6 25

Sugar			
St. Croix.	1 b.	7 —	@ —
New-Orleans.		6 —	@ 7 1/2
Cuba Muscovado.		6 —	@ 7 —
Porto Rico.		6 —	@ —
Havana, White.		7 —	@ 8 1/2
Havana, Brown and Yellow.		7 —	@ 7 1/2

Tallow			
American, Prime.	1 b.	11 1/2	@ —

Wool			
American, Saxony Fleece.	1 b.	38 —	@ 42
American, Full Blood Merino.		36 —	@ 37
American, 3/4 and 1/2 Merino.		30 —	@ 33
American, Native and 1/2 Merino.		25 —	@ 28
Superfine, Pulled, Country.		30 —	@ 32
No. 1, Pulled, Country.		23 —	@ 25

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion.
 Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.
 Advertisements standing three months one-third less.
 Ten words make a line.
 No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—

The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.

SAMUEL THORNE,

"Thornedale," Washington Hollow,

1000fm1219 Dutchess Co., N. Y.

TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.—A val-

uable FERTILIZING MANURE.—A manure made entirely of Animal Matter, Gypsum, and Ammonia, is offered for sale by FINDLEY & WAKEFIELD, Manufacturers, as cheaper than any manure ever before offered to the public. It is adapted to any crop whatever, and has been used with signal success, upon summer and winter crops, and also for top-dressing. The Proprietors have had experience of the working of it, on their own farm, for fourteen years, and can confidentially recommend it to give general satisfaction to purchasers. It is packed in barrels of 300 lbs. each and will be delivered on board any vessel or railroad in New-York city free of charge, at the rate of \$25 per tun. Address FINDLEY & WAKEFIELD,

Brooklyn, N. Y.,

Or apply at the Manufactory, on Sedgwick-st., near Van Brunt-st., South Brooklyn. 97—1001215

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do.
- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
- TRIMBLE'S do. do. for one to four do.
- WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
- TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES:

- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine.
- ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do.
- KETCHUM'S Mowing Machine.
- HUSSEY'S Reaping do.
- McCORMICK'S do. do.
- ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

THRESHERS—

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
- do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
- EMERY'S overshot.
- EDDY'S undershot.

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TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

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HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

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GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

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CARTS and WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

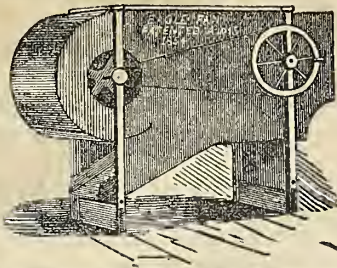
BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

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| Grub Hoes, | Picks, | Shovels, |
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AYRESHIRE BULL.—FOR SALE, A Thoroughbred Ayreshire BULL, 2 years and 4 mos. old. Bred by Wm. Watson, Esq., of Westchester. Price \$250. Apply to **WILLIAM REDMOND,** 96-100n1213 No. 30 Pine-st., New-York.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of **WM LAWTON,** 83-106n1188 No. 54 Wall-st., New-York

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists

First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.

Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.

Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.

Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.

Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.

R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The Allen Patent Mower Triumphant.

MANY are now inquiring, "What Mower shall I buy?" That question has been satisfactorily answered during the past fortnight.

At a trial at Bedford, Westchester County, in heavy, wet clover, and on rough, stony ground, the ALLEN MOWER performed better than any other in competition, being the only one which cut a smooth, even swath and spread it well; and it came out of the field unscathed, while others were badly broken or seriously injured. It has since been repeatedly tried in New-Jersey, on Long-Island, and other places, and worked admirably, whether in short, thin, fine grass, or in tall; thick and badly-lodged grass or clover. It also works well on a side hill, and on salt meadows.

The draft of this Mower is uncommonly light. It is simple in construction, very strong, and not liable to get out of order, and when so, easily and cheaply repaired.

It is the only Mower perfectly safe to the driver, the gearing being all covered; and he sits so firm in his seat, it is almost impossible to throw him out. In fact, this machine is better fitted for all kinds of work than any Mower yet manufactured.

The following letter from one of the best known and largest farmers in New-Jersey, will testify to its merits:

JAMESBURG, N. J., June 22, 1855.

MR. R. L. ALLEN, New-York:

Sir—I made a trial yesterday with the new Mowing Machine I purchased of you, and do not hesitate to say that the improved [ALLEN] machine is the best I ever saw worked with—and I have seen a goodly number. I have a field of very heavy grass, and it had fallen down and lodged so I could not cut it with the old machine; and the grass was very wet, having rained nearly all day previous to my giving it a trial. I expected to see it choke up, but to my great surprise it choked up but very little, and that was owing to mismanagement. To be plain, Sir, I feel it my duty to inform you that the improved Mower works beautifully, and I am satisfied works nearly one-third lighter for the team than the Mower I used last year, and that was called one of the best in the market.

JAMES BUCKELEW.

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is

requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the streets and privies of New-York City, by the **LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,** and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

T A F E U,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price \$35 per ton, or 13 cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York. For further particulars address

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POGRETTÉ, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price \$1.50 per bbl for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99-121n1152

B A G S.—

BOYES & WHITTESEY, No. 60 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York.

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of **GRAIN, FEED FLOUR, SALT, GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.**

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to **PRINTING and MAKING** flour and salt **SACKS.**

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97-109n1214

RHODE-ISLAND HORSE AND CATTLE EXHIBITION.

THE RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY, Will hold an Exhibition of **HORSES AND CATTLE,** AT THE **WASHINGTON TROTTING PARK, PROVIDENCE,** To commence on **TUESDAY,** September 11th, and to continue through the week.

The premium list amounts to **FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS.** Competition is open to all States and the British Provinces. Judges will be appointed from other States as far as practicable. The Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, and the Plowing and Drawing Matches, will take place on Tuesday, and an Auction Sale will be held. **EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS** are offered in premiums. An Address will be delivered before the Society in the evening. On **Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday,** the several classes of Horses will be exhibited, and on the afternoon of each day there will be a grand trial of speed of Trotting Horses. On **Thursday** the Premium Horses will be exhibited, and an Auction Sale will be held. **THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS** are offered in premiums on Horses.

In order to prevent the confusion which must necessarily arise from the entrance of too large a number of Trotting Horses, an entrance-fee of \$20 will be charged on those competing for \$200 premiums, and of \$30 to those competing for \$300 premiums, to be paid at the time of entering, which must be done on or before the 1st of September, at the office of the Society, Railroad Halls, Providence. The other entrance-fees are, \$5 for single Horses, and \$7 for matched Horses.

Arrangements have already been made with the New-York and Erie Railroad, and with the New-York Railroad and Steamboat line via Stonington, for the issue of Excursion tickets and for the transportation of stock at reduced rates. Such arrangements will be extended to other lines as far as may be practicable.

For further particulars reference is made to handbills, which will in all cases be forwarded on application to the Secretary.

JOSEPH J. COOKE, President.

C. T. KEITH, Secretary.

99-104n1217

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY.

This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing.

Especial attention will be paid to the Elements of Agricultural Science. The **FALL TERM** will commence Thursday, August 30th, and continue eleven weeks.

REFERENCES—Henry C. Bowen, Esq., New-York City; Hon. A. N. Skinner, and Benjamin Silliman, L. L. D., New-Haven, Conn. For further particulars, address

E. CONANT, Principal.

WOODSTOCK, Conn., June 21, 1855. 94-101n1209

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out

of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. MORRIS' Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Searsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Searsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86-1fn1193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE

SALE.—L. G. MORRIS' Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86-1fn1194

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—

Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, for sale by **ISAAC ROOSEVELT,** 95-120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane,

Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in **PAPER and STATIONERY** of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

MISCELLANEOUS SEEDS.—Osage, Or-

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FRUIT TREES.—Choice varieties, including the Apple, Pear, Quince, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, &c. &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES and SHRUB-BERY.—Orders received for all the native Forest Trees Shrubs and for such foreign kinds as have become acclimated. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE

HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS.

Single Horse Power	\$85 00
Double do. do.	116 00
do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator,	160 00
Single do. do.	do. 128 00
Belts \$5 and \$10 each.	

R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York. 189 and 191 Water-street.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New-York. 86-6m

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

WHEN sending a subscription always state what number it shall commence with. The back numbers of this volume can still be supplied to new subscribers. Back volumes neatly bound can now be furnished from the commencement. Price of the first ten volumes \$1 25 each, or \$10 for the entire set of ten volumes. Vols. XI, XII, and XIII, \$1 50 each. Price of the thirteen volumes, \$14 00.

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Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

Those wishing their papers changed from one office to another, should give the name, County, and State, of their old and new Post-office.

Paper is cheap, so is postage, and we earnestly request correspondents to write on one side of the sheet only; and further, that they will place their lines as widely apart as may be, so that in preparing articles for the printer, we can always have room between them to insert additions or corrections.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT!

FOURTEENTH VOLUME OF

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,

THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

A copious Index is weekly added, which will be fully amplified at the end of each half year volume, for the bound work.

COMPREHENSIVE IN ITS CHARACTER.

Each volume will contain all matter worth recording, which transpires either at home or abroad, and which can serve to instruct or interest the Farmer, the Planter, the Fruit-Grower, the Gardener, and the Stock-Breeder; thus making it the most complete and useful Agricultural Publication of the day.

CORRECT AND VALUABLE MARKET REPORTS.

The Markets will be carefully reported, giving the actual transactions which take place from week to week, in Grain, Provisions, Cattle, &c., thus keeping our readers constantly and reliably advised as to their interests. During the past year the knowledge obtained from these Market Reports alone, has saved our readers thousands of dollars, by informing them of the best time to sell or purchase.

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The Publishers confidently believe that the Agriculturists of this country are becoming too much awake to the demands of their own calling, to be longer satisfied with slow monthly issues of a paper professedly devoted to their interests, or to trust alone to the irresponsible extracts in a "Farmer's column," so popular just now in papers chiefly devoted to business, politics, or literature, and they look for the united support of all the intelligent Farmers of this country in their continued effort to furnish a weekly paper of high and reliable character, which shall be progressive, and at the same time cautious and conservative in all its teachings.

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The *American Agriculturist* stands upon its own merits; and the laborious zeal and ability which it brings to the support of the interests of the farmer. It is untrammelled by any collateral business connections whatever; nor is it the organ of any clique, or the puffing machine of any man or thing. Thoroughly independent in all points, its ample pages are studiously given alone to the support and improvement of the great Agricultural class.

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The *American Agriculturist* is under the control and management of Mr. ORANGE JUDD, A. M., an experienced farmer, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the truthfulness and reliability of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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The *American Agriculturist* is supplied to regular subscribers at a cost of less than FOUR CENTS a number, of sixteen large pages; and to large clubs for a trifle less than THREE CENTS. Each number will contain suggestions for the treatment of soils, manures, crops, stock, &c., which will often be worth to the reader more than the cost of the paper for a year.

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Specimen copies will be forwarded gratis to any one sending their name and Post-office address to the publishers.

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To single Subscribers.....	\$2 00	A YEAR, \$2 00
" Clubs of 3 do.....	1 67	" 5 00
" " 5 do.....	1 60	" 8 00
" " 10 do.....	1 50	" 15 00

The money always to accompany the names for which the paper is ordered.

The Postmaster, or other person sending a club of ten, will be entitled to one extra copy gratis.

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Subscriptions may be forwarded by mail at the risk of the Publishers, if inclosed and mailed in the presence of the Postmaster, and the name, number and letter of the bill registered.

Communications for the paper should be addressed to the Editors; Subscriptions, Advertisements and all matters relating to the business department, should be addressed to the Publishers,

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.*

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
ALLEN & CO., 189 Water-st., New-York

VOL. XIV.—NO. 23.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 101.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

VISIT TO NORFOLK COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

Farm of B. V. French, Esq.—We enjoyed both the pleasure and advantage, a few days since, of looking over this admirably managed farm, in company with its intelligent proprietor. It is situated near the Railroad Depot in Braintree, and is made up of several detached portions, the high price of land in the vicinity of Boston, and the comparatively great number of its proprietors, rendering it a difficult matter to buy large masses of land together. The aggregate area of his farm is not so much to be reckoned as its products. These are large, and in the highest degree satisfactory and remunerative. Whatever the proprietor undertakes to do, is done thoroughly, and therefore profitably, as a general rule.

His orchards of apple and most other fruit trees, all of which are the most approved varieties, are extensive and peculiarly thrifty and productive. In his early planting, he committed the fault of not unfrequent occurrence with the inexperienced, placing the trees too thickly; and as a necessary consequence their luxuriant branches already interlock and entirely shade the ground, although not over three-fourths the dimensions they would otherwise attain from his fertile soil and careful attention. His later orchards will never be subject to similar inconvenience. Next to apples, pears occupy the principal place among his fruits, and of these there are a large variety of the choicest kinds. The prices he quoted which some of this fine fruit brought in the Boston market, was quite surprising. Three to four dollars per dozen, and for some particularly choice winter pears, 50 and 75 cents each have been obtained. Horticulturists ought not to do a losing business at such prices; though these must be taken as outside retail prices, and not often to be attained.

The crops on the ground, and especially the corn and roots, were of the most promising appearance. We have nowhere seen better; and at the large prices all these articles command in the Boston market, we think Mr. French can have no cause of complaint with the result of his investments in his farming and labor.

One field of rye to which he called our attention, afforded unmistakable evidence of the value of guano—an article not hitherto used to much extent in this Commonwealth, except among the most intelligent cultivators. On a gravelly knoll, which without manure would not produce grain enough to pay for cultivation, Mr. F. obtained a crop estimated at about 20 bushels per acre, with straw enough to pay all the costs of labor and use of land. This was the result of applying about 300 lbs. per acre of guano, at a cost of about eight dollars per acre. Such facts as this, of which there are a great many even in this State, ought to satisfy the farmers that they can use this fertilizer there, as well as elsewhere, to advantage, after first having exhausted all their home-made manures.

Mr. F. has had the enterprise to adopt a mowing machine, though from its being one of the earlier kinds, it has not proved so successful, owing to its heavy draught. Lightness or ease of draught we have found indispensable to the general use of the mowing and reaping machines; and this is fully secured in some of those of more recent invention. All the tools on the farm are of the best description and in abundance for every occasion. Of carts and wagons we should think there were not less than 12 to 20; an equal number of shovels; also of plows, harrows, cultivators, &c., &c.; all of which, when not in use, were arranged in their appropriate places in the tool-house.

The stock of cows, of which near 40 were brought into their stalls in the afternoon from their pasture, to receive their rations of cornstalks, and to be milked, we have seldom seen surpassed. There are six or eight very fine thoroughbred Devons among them; and the remainder are the best grades or natives, selected for their great milking properties. Mr. F. keeps up his stock of Devons by the use of a choice bull, and finds a ready sale for all his calves at largely remunerative prices.

The milk from these cows, which mostly goes to the Boston market, by admirable management is kept sweet for 48 hours, even during the hottest weather. That drawn in

the morning and afternoon is kept in coolers till early the following morning, when it is sent to town in time for the breakfast table.

The swine kept on the place are very choice, being mostly of the Suffolk breeds, with a few Neapolitans interspersed. We have seldom seen finer ones.

The most prominent thing on the farm, however, is the barn, which is 100 by 57 feet on the ground, and some 60 or 70 feet in height to the top of the roof. The lowest room of the premises, which is under the stables, is 70 by 57 feet, and with its grouted, water-tight floor, and massive stone walls laid in cement, is devoted exclusively to the manure, both liquid and solid being dropped into it from the stables above. A sufficiency of windows admit of necessary ventilation, and ample doors on two sides allow carts to be backed in or driven through in all directions, to remove the manure. A space on the first floor above, and of the same size, is devoted to the cows, oxen and young stock, which occupy four sides of a parallelogram. The hay, straw, meal, chaff, &c., is cut and prepared on the commodious floor above, and dropped through scuttles and conducting boxes to the central area of the stalls, where are large water-tight troughs for wetting up the feed. The roots are stored in an adjoining room 30 by 57 feet, upon the ground floor, and on a level with the stables. These are wheeled into the area, and after cutting are mixed with the other feed, or fed alone as required. Water is led from a distant spring into the stable, and distributed, at will to every animal. The room is sufficiently warm to prevent freezing during the coldest winter.

The floor above, which it will be perceived is the third story in ascending, is really the commencement of the barn. A large open floor, one end of which is nearly on a level with the road, receives the hay and grain, which are driven into it with only a slight ascent, and discharged into either side, where capacious mows receive it; the whole range of the barn, 42 feet in width, after taking off a portion of the end for store-rooms, being subdivided into different mows for the purpose of storing the various kinds of forage. The remaining 15 feet of the width, is cut off for a tool-room, where all the implements and some of the superfluous vehicles, sleds, &c., of the farm are stored, each in their appropriate and labeled division. A large platform scale, set into the main floor, admits of weighing every cart-load of hay, grain or roots, going in or out. One

trap-door lets the worthless matters past the stables, and directly into the manure on the lowest floor, while others pass the feed directly into the stable. A substantial slate roof, with vane and lightning rods, complete this substantial structure.

This barn, with its massive walls and buttresses, like that of Mr. Weld's, spoken of in our last, and many others in this State, give one an idea of strength, capacity, durability, not to say nice calculation and liberality on the part of their owners, which is quite refreshing in this age of scant farming. The extent, the perfection and costliness of these structures, must not be taken as models for those farmers whose means or wants do not admit of their imitation; but we prefer seeing superfluities occasionally connected with useful objects, rather than an equal or larger amount expended on an extravagant house, furniture, or expensive modes of living, from which no possible good, but much probable injury will result. The more moderate farmer may find many ideas in the details of these capacious barns, which may be adopted with great advantage and with but a moderate outlay of means.

We observe Mr. French keeps an accurate account of all disbursements, so as to be able readily to ascertain the cost of every thing connected with his farming operations; and by this means he was enabled to detect the economy of his feeding operations, when his intelligent farmer suggested a change which he was confident would insure a saving in food with an increase of milk. The result showed just the reverse. It is by such careful and accurate calculations that every operation of the farmer should be weighed.

For the American Agriculturist.

DEVIL'S FLAX—HORSE-TAIL, &C.

There is a weed growing along the flats of the Delaware River, in this County, known by the name of *fox-tail* or *devil's guts*. It is a kind of rush, with a running root or underground stem. When it first makes its appearance above the ground it looks like the buds of asparagus, but it soon turns green and divides into distinct, long, wiry leaves, that spring from a common stem a little above the surface of the ground. From this peculiarity, I suppose it is, that it is sometimes called *horse-tail*; and I apprehend it is the same plant that goes in Dutchess County by the name of *devil's flax*.

Whoever owns it, or wherever it came from, it is a vexatious weed, and I would be glad to know of any efficient plan for its extermination. Clean cultivation seems only to multiply it, as it grows thriftily at any season of the year from the broken underground stems. In cornfields, after the last hoeing, it goes on and forms a thick green coating-like sod, and even as close a crop as buckwheat, fails to smother it out. I believe it does not interfere as much with the crop as some weeds do, still it is very desirable to get rid of it. Can you or any of your correspondents inform me of any efficient means for its extermination?

I have got the idea from some where, that

we owe this weed and the *bull's-eye daisy* to Dutchess County. Perhaps some of the farmers in that county can tell us something of their experience with it. FARMER.

DELEWARE CO., N. Y.

For the American Agriculturist.

CROPS IN THE VALLEY OF THE MOHAWK.

Never was there such teeming abundance in the land; in spite of rain and chill weather and all other obstructions, the harvest of 1855 must be unrivaled in quantity and in excellence. Hay is late, up this valley, and very little has been lost by rain*. A few days of settled weather and all will be safe. Then 2 or 3 weeks of hot suns, and the corn will be as fine a crop as ever blessed the husbandman. Grass for pasture, on lands where hay has been cut, is as green as in June, and in a great cheese and butter making section, like this, an important addition must accrue to the average production. They make superior cheese out here; some I have tasted quite equals the best English—and why not? It only requires attention and an intelligent supervision to excel in this or any other production of the farm.

The wide flat lands (river bottoms) on either side of Schenectady, present a beautiful sight at present, covered by the waving tops of the broom-corn, some of it already in head. The leaf is finer, as is the stalk, than Indian corn; it grows better here, and does not have a tasselled ear like it, but produces the oat-like head familiarly seen in our common house brooms. It may be interesting to some of your readers to know that it is cut with knives, about 18 inches from the top, before it is quite ripe, and then undergoes a drying and splitting process, before it is handed over to the broom-maker. Schenectady has become a noted district for this manufacture, and many thousands of dozens of brooms are annually shipped to all parts of the Union. Farmers consider broom-corn, at present, as a profitable crop. After cutting time, cattle are turned in to nip off the leaves, and the stalks are plowed in.

Wheat is little grown here; they dread the weevil. I have seen some very fine, heavy, black oats, 40 lbs. to the bushel, which it is a treat to look at.

Being a dairy country, there is a considerable breadth cultivated in carrots and mangel wurzel, which is excellent winter-feed for stock of all kinds.

Hops have been grown around here to a considerable extent, but the "Prohibitory Law" looms up, to put an end to this crop, as well as much of the barley now grown. Hop poles are at a discount, and can be purchased cheap.

It has been a bad year for honey—too wet and cold—and I am told by an extensive apiarist, that his bees keep swarming all the season, instead of laying up honey, which is quite unusual. White clover abounds in this valley, which produces the best flavored

* When speaking of hay, I may express my gratification in observing how general now the use of the mowing machine has become. In fact farmers find it a necessary implement, and hereafter would just as lieve be without a plow as a mower, if they have meadows to the extent of 0 acres or more to cut.

honey; that from buckwheat flowers is quite inferior.

G. M.

FORT PLAIN, N. Y., August 13, 1855.

For the American Agriculturist.

ENGLISH LARKS ON LONG ISLAND.

In your paper the 2nd of August, on page 324, I read an article under the above heading, which ascribes the introduction of the *sky-lark* to a "wealthy Englishman, living at East New-York, L. I.," who let a pair go about ten years since, for the purpose of introducing them into this country. The introduction of this celebrated songster may be dated much further back than ten years.

In the year 1824, Mr. H—, then of New-York, and myself, were traveling in England with our families, all admiring this aerial songster, and when leaving Liverpool, on our return, we purchased one dozen of these birds, brought them to New-York, and set them at liberty, east of the city. A few years after that, I read an article in a Long Island paper, but which one I now disremember, cautioning sportsmen against shooting any *sky-larks*, as a few of them had been seen on Long Island.

As I had never heard of any of them in this country before that time, and seeing that notice a few years afterwards, I always supposed that their introduction might be dated back to 1824. N. GOODSSELL.

NEW-HAVEN, August 4, 1855.

ART OF MILKING.

The art of milking well is not taught in a hurry. It requires long practice to milk properly, and therefore all the young people on a farm ought to be shown how the labor should be done. It is quite important that this branch of the dairy should be particularly attended to, for a good milker obtains at least a quart more from the same cow than a poor milker.

The first lesson to be taught to young people is gentleness and kindness to the cows. They never need be treated harshly, in case the business is properly commenced. Cows that have been caressed and uniformly well treated, are fond of having the milk drawn from the udder at the regular time of milking, for it gives them relief from the distension of the milk ducts.

Let young people be put to milking the farrow cows first, or such as are to be soon dried, and then the loss from bad milking will be less injurious. The hand should extend to the extremity of the teats, for the milk is then drawn easier.

Young people should be taught to milk as fast as possible. More milk is always obtained by a rapid milker than by a slow one. They should therefore be taught to think of nothing else while milking, and no conversation must be permitted in the milk yard. They should sit up close to the cow and rest the left arm gently against her flank. Then if she raises her foot, as she sometimes will, merely to change position, she will not be likely to put it into the milk pail.

In case of a disposition to kick, or rather to raise her foot on account of pain occasioned by soreness of the teats, the nearer the milker sits to her, and the harder he presses his left arm against her leg the less risk will he run of being injured.

Cows may be taught to give down their milk at once—and they may be taught to hold it a long while and to be stripped indefinitely. The best way is to milk quick and

not use the cow to a long stripping, or an after stripping.—*Northern Farmer.*

MRS. STRONGATHAM'S CHURN.

Speaking of churns, we have never seen any other labor-saving contrivance in that department, that for practical convenience and utility could compare with that of Mrs. Strongatham, a notable English housewife whose acquaintance we had the pleasure of making in one of the rural districts of New-York some years since. Having occasion to call upon her one summer morning, we found her occupying her huge chintz covered rocking chair, rocking and knitting as though the salvation of the family depended upon the assiduity with which she applied herself to these occupations. Not that she was uncivil or unsociable by any means, for the moment we had taken the proffered chair she set in with a steady stream of talk that was as instructive as it was entertaining, for besides her admirable qualities as a housewife the lady possessed rare conversational powers.

During our call she directed one of her daughters to some duty in a distant part of the house, adding, "I would attend to it myself, but I *must* fetch this butter." Now, we had known something of the process of "fetching butter" in our early days, and the idea of a snow-white churn and an irksome expenditure of elbow grease was as naturally associated with it in our mind, as was the compensatory slice of new bread and butter after the achievement of the victory. We therefore cast our eyes about us involuntarily for these indications, but we looked in vain. Of either churn or churning there was no more appearance than might have been seen in Queen Victoria's drawing-room any day in the week. Our curiosity was excited, and we resolved to keep our eyes open, satisfied that if we did "we should see what we should see." And we did. During a momentary pause in the conversation the lady rose from her chair, removed the cushion, raised a sort of trap door underneath, and looked into the apparent vacuum with an earnestly inquiring eye. The secret was out. Under the seat in her rocking chair was a box in which she deposited the jar of cream, and the agitation produced by the vibratory motion of the chair converted the liquid into butter.

By this arrangement the lady was enabled to kill, not two only, but four birds with the same stone. She could churn, knit, take her ease in her rocking-chair, and entertain her morning guests at the same time. And such butter as she made! Yellow as gold, sweet as the meat of the cocoa nut, and as hard, too; it always brought the highest price in the "rural" market. You may brag of your patent churns if you will, but for novelty, economy, convenience and immaculate butter we defy them, one and all, when brought into competition with Mrs. Strongatham's incomparable contrivance. Of her butter we shall retain a lively and grateful remembrance to our dying day; her churn we shall never forget either.

CAUSES OF INDIGESTION.—The annual address before the Massachusetts Medical Society, this season, was delivered by Dr. Gould, of Boston, on the curative powers of nature, and the study of and cooperation with her processes, as the great secret of success in the practice of medicine. Among the principal causes of the diseases of the digestive organs, so common in this country, he noticed the almost exclusive American practice of giving to children the food appropriate to adults, especially meats, for which their systems were not prepared. Thus their organs were prematurely excited and over-

taxed, and the seeds of permanent derangement early planted.

IMPROVING WORN OUT LANDS.

An experiment, which has been tried by some enterprising gentlemen not far from this point, the present summer, establishes conclusively the value of *deep plowing* and the economy of *good fertilizers*; and it also shows that it is better for Connecticut men to go to work on the poor and "worn out" (!) fields which constitute so large a portion of the surface of their own State than to start for "the west" to farm it, where half the profits of their crops are absorbed in the expense of transportation to a market. These gentlemen have brought under cultivation some thirty acres of land which had been abandoned as useless, it having been impoverished and drained of all vegetable principle by persistent cropping, years ago. Much of it was too poor to grow grass, pine trees being the only product, and none of it was better than the thinnest and poorest of all old pasture lots. This land, at prices ranging from \$7 to \$13 an acre, has been purchased and plowed with a *subsoil plow*—just such an instrument as some of our farmers in Connecticut need to have their skulls and ideas plowed up with a little till they can see the important truth that 2 and 2 make 4, and that *right under* the very farms which they have impoverished and are now working to poor advantage to gain a bare subsistence, exist *other farms* which have never yet been touched by the plowshare, and whose capacities are waiting to be developed. A mere annual *scratching over* of the surface to a depth of ten or twelve inches will never develop them. The entire surface of these thirty-odd acres was plowed to the depth of two feet—and this on a light sandy "worn-out" land. Then a plentiful use was made of guano and phosphates. The *result* is that on land hitherto supposed to be too poor for anything, there are acres of such potatoes, corn, and buckwheat, as can be found nowhere else, not even in the Connecticut Valley! The potatoes were planted deep, in drills evenly plowed out by horse power, a superior method which saves space and greatly benefits the crop. Large and uniformly good seed potatoes were selected for planting. The growing crop undoubtedly surpasses anything of the kind in the State. These potatoes will yield three or four hundred bushels to the acre. As Tristram Shandy says, "A handsome moral might be picked out of this, if I had time to do it;" as it is, we leave the Connecticut farmers to pick it out themselves, with the assurance that it is worth their seeking.—C., in *Hartford Times*.

FRENCH ECONOMY IN LIVING.—There can not be a doubt that the Americans are the most lavish and wasteful of any people in the world. An American eats in one day as much as would supply a European for two days. A frugal meal is his abhorrence. He must stuff daily. A correspondent of the Boston Telegraph shows that in Paris economy is so general that all classes live temperately and even abstemiously apparently—you see sculptors that the whole world come to admire, when it comes to the meal time take a small piece of bread and an apple out of their pocket, and this is their whole dinner—and while they are eating it, they take from another pocket a cheap pamphlet edition of some of their authors, and spread it out upon the knee to read—on such kinds of living as this, the French have, in a true sense, conquered the world. The most patient, the most kind, the most frugal, the most sympathetic, the most industrious people in existence. But if their own honor or

the honor of France is once satisfactorily to their minds, in implication—then look out for bombs, cannon, fire, lightning, tempests, torrents, anything, that expresses uncontrollable fury.

THE HESSIAN FLY.

According to a recently published account of Mr. Edward Tilghman, of Queen Ann Co., Maryland, says Mr. Glover, the eggs of the Hessian fly, (*cecidomyia destructor*), very destructive to wheat, are deposited in October, in the longitudinal cavities between the little ridges of the blade, from which, in about fifteen days, very small worms or maggots appear. It is properly a small two-winged gnat, which lays its eggs in winter or fall, when the grain has sprouted and begins to show leaves. They make way down the blades with considerable activity, until hidden between them and the stems of the plant. The number on a single leaf is often twenty or thirty, and sometimes greater. The eggs are extremely minute, and of a pale red color; and, if the weather prove favorable they will hatch in four days. The maggots, when they first come out of their shells, are also of a pale-red color. Forthwith they crawl down the leaves and work their way between them and the main stalk, passing downward till they come to a joint, just above which they remain, a little below the surface of the ground, with the head towards the root of the plant. Having thus fixed themselves upon the stalk they become stationary, and never move from the place before their transformations are completed. They do not eat the stalk, nor do they penetrate within it, but lie lengthwise on its surface, and are wholly nourished by the sap. As they increase in size, and grow plump and firm, they become imbedded in the side of the stem by the pressure of their bodies upon the growing plant. One maggot thus placed seldom destroys the plant; but when two or three are fixed in this manner around the stem they weaken and impoverish it, and cause it to fall down or wither and die. They usually come to their full size in five or six weeks, and then measure about three-twentieths of an inch in length. After escaping from the pupa state the body of the Hessian fly measures about the tenth of an inch in length: the head, antennæ and thorax are black, the hind body tawny, more or less widely marked with black on each wing, and clothed with fine grayish hairs. The legs are pale-red, or brownish, and the feet black. The maggots are generally transformed to flies in autumn. The Hessian fly is subject to the attacks of several parasitic insects, which serve more or less to lessen their numbers, the chief of which is *ceraphron destructor*, of (say) a shining black four-winged fly, about one-tenth of an inch in length. Mr. Herrick recommends that the stouter varieties of wheat should be chosen, and the ground kept in good condition. If fall wheat is sown late, some of the eggs will be avoided; but the risk of winter killing will be incurred. Burning the stubble immediately after harvest, and then plowing and harrowing the land is also highly recommended. Steeping the grain, and rolling it in air slaked lime or plaster, as promoting a rapid and vigorous growth, would also be beneficial.—*Agricultural Division of the Patent Office.*

HOW TO MOVE A SULLEN OX.—"Did you never observe," said a plain man, a friend of ours a few days since, as we were driving a dog out of the cow pen, to prevent his taking refuge behind us—as the cows took it by turns to chase him over the lot—"did you never observe that a cow will never make friends with a dog?" "Often." "Well, the best way you ever tried to make steers rise

when they get sullen, and lie down, is just to bring a dog and drop him down on them. It will make them jump up when nothing else in the world will." We seized the hint at once for the benefit of our friends who own such pests as obstinate oxen, and give it to them now. We believe there is no antipathy so universal and inveterate as that of cattle against dogs, and it strikes us that when all other means fail, that will answer.—*Southern Planter.*

A PLEA FOR HORSES.

We have a word to offer to our farming friends who employ horses as their chief draught animals. The horse of all animals is one of the most sensitives to sudden changes of temperature, and to impure air or want of cleanliness. We speak from observation, when we say that not half the stables in the country are, at this season, kept in a fit condition to be occupied by horses, even while put in about an hour for the noon feeding.

The droppings of horses, both liquid and solid, are among the most quickly fermenting, easily decomposed manures. In warm weather the work of decay commences immediately, and in a very few days one-half or more of the weight goes off in a gaseous form. This keeps the air constantly loaded with noxious, unhealthy matters, which are just as deleterious to the health and vigor of horses as to those of man. During the busy season of harvest and seeding, cleaning stables is scarcely ever attended to regularly. The animals generally occupy them a short time in the morning, at noon, and perhaps in the evening for graining, but the stables lie untouched for days or weeks—we have seen them lie thus for months. The horse is tied up for an hour's feeding and rest in the heat of the day, but instead of standing in a cool, sweet, well ventilated stable, ten chances to one, he stands sweating and panting, with scarcely a breath of air which is not literally loaded with the fumes of his own decaying excrements, and he goes forth tired and debilitated instead of refreshed, to undergo the severe toils of drawing the plow during the sultry hours of the afternoon.

The remedy for this is very simple. If the stalls do not have a free circulation of air, let a board or two be knocked off in front or on the sides at the head of the stalls; they can be easily replaced when cold weather comes on. Let some such plan be adopted, and in every case let the stables be made as cool and airy as possible.

Let all excrements, however small in quantity, be removed at least once a day, and by all means keep the floor well sprinkled with some deodorizing material. A weak solution of sulphuric or muriatic acid is excellent for this purpose; but these are often inconvenient and troublesome, even if readily obtained. Plaster of Paris (Gypsum or sulphate of lime) is very good; common salt is also good. Each of these substances increases the value of the manure more than its cost. Dry straw and muck are also very valuable for the same reason.

We have frequently known lime and ashes recommended for this, but these rapidly decompose the manure, and greatly diminish its value for applying to crops, and they should never be used unless with muck, or with long manure, which is to be immediately covered in the soil. These may seem trifling considerations, but they are really of great importance.

As before stated, horses take cold very easily. On this account they should never be turned from a warm stall, where they have perspired for an hour, directly into a wet, damp pasture. A horse should never be compelled to lie down over night in a

wet, unsheltered pasture. Let them always have a dry plot, or, what is better, a shed or stable to retire to when they have completed their evening grazing, especially if there be heavy dews, fogs or rain. A horse will never lie in an open field when a sheltered spot is accessible. Every one must have observed that they always seek the driest spot to be found, and generally lie near a fence, shed or tree.—ORANGE JUDD, in *N. Y. Times.*

POINTS OF A GOOD HORSE.

Zadok Pratt, in a late lecture on the horse, gives his opinion of what constitute good points:

He should be about fifteen and a half hands high; the head light and 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 shoulder, well thrown 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 all work, and a bargain, well worth getting hold of.

Mr. Pratt is now seventy years of age, and has always been an admirer of fine horses, and is a competent judge. There are in Mr. P.'s lecture many valuable hints. We give two or three:

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 the beast as to the man, a horse will do more labor in the six days than if he were worked the whole seven.

In reference to the peculiar excellence of the horses of New-York, I might say, that I have driven a pair two hundred and forty miles in three days, or eighty miles per day, without injury. Among the many hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of drivers and teamsters in my employ, I had a slow molded man by the name of Dana Brown, who drove for me some ten years, and always drew the largest loads in the same time, and with less fatigue to his horses, than any other driver I ever knew. His horses would look better on the same feed than those of any other, and they always appeared in good condition, while those in charge of others gave unmistakable evidence of improper usage. Forty, fifty, and even sixty hundred weight, has he drawn over the Catskill mountains with one pair of horses, and I am only doing him an act of justice to say, that he never wore out a lash, and hardly a snapper in the whole time. While other teamsters had sick horses, his were always in good condition. The whole number of teams I had in one year, averaged in every three working days 2,600 pounds to Prattsville, and 3,000 pounds to Catskill, a distance of thirty six miles, making about two and a half millions of pounds in all. I mention these facts as illustrating the great benefit of a good management of horses and of roads.

In feeding a horse, it should be remembered that corn has a tendency to make him slow, as may be witnessed in the slow moving corn-fed horse of Ohio. Oats are more suitable to develop all his qualities, and from

ten to sixteen quarts per day should be given.

Age of Horses.—With regard to the natural longevity of a horse, nothing can be said with certainty. They have been known to live thirty or forty, and in some instances even sixty years, but ill usage frequently destroys them before they are nine or ten. I think that under ordinary circumstances fourteen years would be a fair average.

Breaking.—Too much importance can not be placed upon the judicious breaking and management of this noble animal. It should be like that of a child; by no other means can a horse be reduced to a cheerful and ready obedience. A sullen and dogged submission will result, it is true, from cruel and brutal treatment, but a prompt and eager response to the wish of a rider can be obtained by patient kindness. I think there are few horses baulky by nature, and that then most are made so by drivers, who are possessed of less brains than the horse himself.

THE DEAD HORSES OF PARIS.

Four hundred horses die or are killed in Paris in one week. There is a common pound, surrounded by a stone wall, covering some ten acres. According to some municipal regulations (there is an 'ordinance' for everything in France) all dead carcasses, except human bones, must be brought to this general receptacle. The carcass of a horse is valuable for the bone, the hide, and the hair, to say nothing of the flesh, much prized when fresh, in certain sausage manufactories. But should you wait until the horse has actually shuffled off his hairy coat, you might miss a bargain—another of the trade precedes and purchases. Hence it is important to buy the horse, before he is dead. It is a regular business in Paris. You can tell these agents for the purchase of dead horses at a glance; the dress is that of an English groom, save the vignette on the visor of the cap, representing a dead horse's head and cross-bones; a memorandum book, a pencil, a stamp, and a piece of caustic complete his accoutrements. With scrutinizing eye he travels the thoroughfares of Paris; should a horse go lame, break a leg or neck, should he show symptoms of distress—in a word, anywhere or in any way evince signs of the many ills to which horseflesh is heir, immediately is an offer made for the animal, deliverable when really dead. The bargain concluded, the 'signalment' of the horse and owner is carefully recorded, and a private mark stamped on the inside of the foreleg with the caustic; the horse goes, perhaps rejoicing, on his way for weeks, perhaps months, only to be met with and identified after death, at the graveyard for horses. Now, except in cases of fresh specimens, as mentioned above, the first operation on a dead horse is to take off the skin; then the flesh, to get at the bones. The skinning portion is easy, and performed with a dexterity and rapidity truly astonishing. I have seen in the inclosure spoken of, at one time, over one hundred horses skinned, or being put through that process. The next point is to divest the bones of adhesive and often putrid flesh—bones are valued in proportion as they are clear, neat, and free from other matter. To take off the flesh by hand is a tedious and difficult operation. An ingenious Frenchman solved the difficulty. He noticed that rats were very fond of horse-flesh; he advised the authorities to colonize the horse pound with these animals; the catacombs of Paris furnished them by thousands. It was done, and now-a-days a dead horse's carcass put in over night, is literally nothing but a neat and beautiful skeleton in the morning. The pecuniary saving to the bone dealers from the voracity and gnawing pro-

penalties of the rat family, is, I am told, very considerable.

Our Yankee Frenchman did not, however, stop there. It was natural to suppose that rats so well fed and provided for, would rapidly increase and multiply; hence the necessity of regulating the matter. Every three months a grand 'battue' is made upon the aforesaid colony of rats, and all caught above ground die the death of rats. The manner of doing this amused me. Horizontal and cylindrical holes are bored all around, in and at the foot of the inclosing walls—the depth and diameter being respectively the length and thickness of the rat's body. Upon the morning of the 'battue,' men armed with tin pans, kettles, drums, &c., rush in at the peep of day and 'charivari' the poor rats, who, frightened to death, poke their heads into the first opening. Of course, all those in the wall holes have tails sticking out. The rat collector, with bag over his shoulder, now makes a tour of the premises, and the scientific and rapid manner with which the rats are seized by the tail and safely (to both rat and operator) transferred to the bag, challenges admiration. It even surpasses the 'Chiffonniers' rag picking. Perhaps you wish to know what becomes of the rats. These, also, are sold before they are caught or killed. The privilege of gathering rats on the 'battue' days is framed out by the authorities, and a profitable business it is. These rats, sleek and fat as they necessarily are, fetch a highly remunerative price—the fur, skin, and the flesh, meet with ready sales.

COLOR OF HORSES.—A proverb says, "A good horse can not be of a bad color." Domestication appears to have the effect of multiplying the colors of animals. The prevailing color of the wild species is the bay; but Foster says that among the troops he saw in Central Asia, the dun and greyish-brown colors were most frequent. Bell judges the chestnut to be most common in Tartarian districts. Sir Francis Head states that many of the horses of the Pampas are piebald. The black is rarely found among the Arabians. The leopard-spotted are said to be frequent in China. With us (England) it ranges from milk-white to coal-black. Some persons are inclined to give the preference to the darker colors, from the fact that, among animals generally, the lighter the skin the weaker the energy. Lord Bacon seems to have entertained the same idea, when he asserted white to be the color of defect.

THE ADULTERATION OF FOOD.—The Select Committee of the British Parliament, to inquire into the adulteration of food, is still in session. Dr. Hassall, who was called as a witness, mentioned the various articles generally adulterated, with the substances employed for the purpose. Coffee, he stated, was adulterated by chicory, wheat, rye, roasted peas and beans, mangold wurtzell and acorns—porter and stout by water, sugar, treacle, salt, coeulus indicus, tobacco, wormwood, ginger, liquorice, honey, alum, carbonate of soda, ground oyster shells, caraway seeds and coriander—rum by water and Cayenne pepper—milk by water, annatto, sheep's brains, &c.—sugar. (rarely adulterated) by sand and plaster of Paris—tea by exhausted tea leaves, siccamore, horse chestnuts and plum tree leaves, starch, and various coloring matters, such as plumbago and Prussian blue—wine by sugar, (burnt) and sulphuric acid. There was no such thing as a pure green tea to be had at present in the country. The microscope detects, by the structure of the article, the adulterations practised much more readily than is done by chemical analysis. The mode which has

been suggested of preventing these adulterations, so prejudicial to the public health, is the publications of all names and addresses of persons whose goods are examined, whether pure or impure. The punishment by fine, of the sellers of adulterated articles, and the punishment by fine or imprisonment, or both, of the actual adulterators.

SHOCKING GRAIN.

The frequent rains of the present year render it exceedingly difficult to gather wheat, rye, oats, &c., in good order. The dry weather, usually prevailing at the harvest season in this country, has induced a slakness, a slipshod habit among American farmers that is quite surprising to Englishmen, who on account of the damp atmosphere and ever "weeping skies" of their own country, are accustomed to much greater care in protecting their grain while it is euring in the field.

Last week we saw a very good illustration of the different methods, and of the superiority of the English practice, while visiting the farms of a couple of wheat growing neighbors. One farm was tilled by an American—an out-and-out K. N.—the other by an Englishman, who still retains many of the agricultural notions and practices of his native country.

They owned fields of wheat, side by side, which had been cut and shocked when we saw them, just after a heavy fall of rain. The American farmer had bound his wheat in large bundles or sheaves—as large as the arms could enquire; the bands were put on nearest to the "buts" of the straw, leaving the heads to spread out at a wide angle, and just fitting the sheaf to take in all the rain falling upon it. These sheaves were set up by a boy, in rows, six sheaves leaning against six others, in the form of a parallelogram or long square. There was so little care exercised in forming these "shocks," that many of the sheaves had fallen down, or been blown over by the wind, while those standing were quite as broad at the top as at the base; indeed they could hardly have been better arranged if they had been expressly designed to catch all the rain possible.

The Englishman, on the contrary, had bound his wheat in small bundles; the bands were put on near the grain to contract that end of the sheaf as much as possible. They were then set closely together in round shocks of small size, the heads slanting inwards, and the whole was "capped" with an inverted sheaf. The cap-sheaf was tied up with two bands, one near the middle and the other near the butts, the latter band being drawn quite tightly, to make this end of the sheaf as nearly pointed as might be. In putting on this cap, its grain end was opened from the center to form a hollow cone, which was set over the shocks, the heads of all the upright sheaves being first drawn inwards to a point. This work was not entrusted to a "boy," to a careless "hand," but to the most careful person on the premises, the most of it being done by the proprietor himself.

An examination of these two fields showed that while in the first nearly every sheaf had been wet down to the band at least, in the latter field the water had in no case penetrated to the depth of two inches except in the upper or straw end of the "cap," and in this it had not gone down to within a foot of the grain.

We conversed with the English farmer as to the time and expense, and in answer to our inquiries, he stated that after the wheat was cut and bound, he could prepare the caps and put up in this manner from two to six acres a day, or even more, according to the stoutness of the crop; that the expense was

nothing compared to its advantages, since he could leave his grain in the field as long as he wished; that the wheat and straw were better for being thus fully cured in small parcels, with a free access of air, than if stored too soon in a "mow" or large stack; and that after five years' experience in this country, prior to the present one, he had concluded that, one year with another, the saving from loss by rain in this method was at least equal to three times the extra expense over the plan commonly pursued. He follows the same course with his other grain, rye, oats, &c., and when barn room is short he leaves a crop in the field until ready to thresh it directly from the cart. By the latter course he also saves one or more handlings.—N. Y. Times.

HOW TO KEEP HARNESS.

In answer to an inquiry for information as to the best mode of cleaning and oiling harness, &c., we re-publish the substance of an article given in the Rural New-Yorker:

Observing the good condition and fine appearance of the harness of Ald. Baker, proprietor of the most extensive livery establishments in Rochester, we requested him to impart to us, for publication, the *modus operandi* by which so desirable an object was achieved. In compliance, there with, he stated the course adopted as the best and most economical, after twenty years' experience in a business which required considerable attention to tacking apparatus. His process of oiling and washing harness is substantially as follows:

Take neats foot oil and ivory or patent black—the latter well pulverized, or to be made so before using. Mix thoroughly, adding the black until the oil is well colored or quite black. In cool weather the oil should be warmed somewhat before mixing. With a sponge apply a light coat of the mixture—only what the leather will readily absorb, unless the harness is very dry, in which case a heavier coating may be necessary. After the harness is dry—which will be in from two hours to half or a whole day, depending upon the weather and previous condition of the leather—wash thoroughly with soap-suds. In making the suds use good Castile soap and cold rain-water. Warm water should never be used on harness leather. Apply the suds with a sponge. Rub off with buckskin. This will give your harness a nice, glossy surface, and the leather will retain a good color and continue pliable for months. If it becomes solid with mud or sweat, an application of soap and water as above directed (without oiling) will be sufficient to give it a bright appearance.

Two applications of this oil and black mixture a year, (or once every six months) will be sufficient to keep harness, as ordinarily used, in good order. It may be necessary for livery men, and others who use harness constantly, to apply the oil oftener—but in most cases, two oilings a year and washing with suds when soiled, will keep a harness in good trim for sight and service. This process will pay a large dividend in extra service and durability—to say nothing of improved appearance.

Ald. B. assures us that the same, or a very similar application, is just the thing for carriage tops which are made of top leather. The only difference in treatment is, that less oil should be used, or rather a lighter coating applied—and it should be washed off before drying in, top leather being thin and much more penetrable than harness. Of course this mixture would not answer for enameled leather, of which some carriage tops are constructed.

Help the needy and you will prosper.

THE STAR PAPERS.

BY THE REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

We have so often and so liberally quoted the very racy and attractive articles constituting the above volume, as they appeared from time to time in the Independent, that our readers hardly need any further expression of our opinion as to their merits. The volume comprises off-hand sketches, reveries, and fancies, that occupied, for the passing moment, the fertile brain of the ever busy author. They are the spontaneous effervescence of the hours of relaxation from severer mental toil. The topics are mostly rural; and in the hands of their gifted author, are invested with all the interest which country life and country scenes impart to the devotees of Nature.

As an illustration of their generally sportive and attractive tone, we subjoin a sketch which has just appeared in the Independent, and which will doubtless constitute one among the second volume of these popular papers:

THE FARM.

LENOX, July 28, 1855.

What a world of things one has to look after when he first reaches the country, and the farm! First in order, of course, is the crop of children—tumultuous, tumultuous, climbing, kissing, talking, and eager to pull you a dozen different ways. They are all tanned brown as a chestnut. All are plump, ruddy, and hearty. One has had his curls cut off; another is rigged in farm-boy style, and the younger ones have their catalogues of mishaps to rehearse—the finger cut, the toe stubbed, the loss of a pet goat, the acquisition of a Newfoundland puppy, which is agreed to be the most extraordinary and amusing of all little fat black puppies.

We sally forth, a long train of boys and girls following and pointing out the marvels. First we look after the grass—thick, succulent, "green as grass," and quite tempting. One is almost disposed to lie down and roll, and then to take a bite, just to see what kind of fare the Babylonish king must have had. Bravest of all grasses is the Indian corn! It is now about three feet high, and waving its blades to every wind with the most graceful movements. It has had the last hoeing; it is "laid by." Nothing now remains for it but to go forward, as all its fathers have done, grow, top out, then tassel out, then shake its top-dust down upon its silken tassel, then fill up the plump kernels, at which point, in respect to the sweet corn, we shall step in and relieve the stalk of any further care of the delicious ear, transferring it to the pot, the platter, the plate, and elsewhere. The field corn must go on and nurse its charge, swaddled in juicy husks, until the cob is armed with gold or silver grains, and the shrinking and withered husk lets out the tops of the shiny ears.

We walk along the rows of potatoes, admiring the clusters of blossoms, and admiring the wisdom of Nature which ordained a race of Irish, especially to eat such tasteless things. Potatoes, rice, and white of eggs, baker's bread, and cotton wool, are food whose flavor is to be apprehended by faith.

Next we look after the oats, the most graceful of small grains; then after the wheat, and the barley. (Take note, we feed the barley to the stock, not to the brewers.) We walk through the purple and pink blossoming clover, through the herds-grass, down into the pastures, to look after the cows and the yearlings. The kind and grass-breathed creatures know that we are stran-

gers. They pause, with an unchewed mouthful, and look full-faced at us, and reach forth their muzzles to smell out who we are. By a little coaxing we make our peace, and are allowed to pat their sides and caress them.

The barns next must be inspected; the empty mows, and stables, the yard, and, above all, the great barn-floor, which is to be bedded with fresh hay, and then receive our body for many an hour this summer. For, through the south door comes up the pictures of scarped mountains, and green hills, and tree-covered knobs, and the pale blue of distant mountains, and near fields full of elm and ash trees, and the lake, cut into three parts by the trees which line its edge, so that it looks like three pet pools instead of a one-mile-long lake.

The hens are not to be neglected. We have no pure bloods except the Boston Greys. The Shanghais have been abridged and improved. Our common barn-yards and the Shanghais have been rolled into one, and both have profited by the junction. The old-fashion hens have gained in size, and in all motherly qualities. The Shanghai has been led to see the error of rumplessness and of yard-long legs. After converting some inches of legs into tail-feathers, he has become a well-dressed and [most respectable creature.

A pair of turkeys have made their appearance here. Nine eggs have resulted. Nelly, the maid of the dairy and of the yard, has plucked away the eggs as soon as they were born, and to-morrow a broad-breasted hen, who for the last week has been diligently setting upon an empty nest, is to take charge of these shells charged with turkeys. We—that is, the children—bring in from fifteen to twenty-five eggs a day, fresh, warm, white! The city grocers may peddle their obsolete eggs to whom they will, but not to us, whose henery is every hour vocal with new achievements, and whose pantry is rich in dishes rounded up with globes of white, which come and go with daily fluctuation. The old rooster is quite dilapidated. He is now put upon a pension and turned out of the coop. His feathers are ragged, his head scarred and battered, his tail is ragged and thin. He walks about with a subdued and serious air, as one who reflects upon the vanity of life. He utters no musical call as he picks up his seeds and morsels. Crowing is a past glory with him. All his past services are forgotten. His wives are given to others, and the poor Mormon patriarch wanders about, the very pauper of the barn! Although he walks up and down in sight of youthful roosters, not one of them takes the lesson to heart, or reflects upon his own destiny. The Boston Grey is careless; the Bantam is fierce and fiery; and the amalgamation Shanghai towers up in perpendicular pride and prowess, as if he felt immortal blood within his heart.

We have no geese. We are going soon to have some ducks. The pigeons are increasing prodigiously. What an air of state and abundance it gives to a place to have half a hundred pigeons flapping through the air, sweeping in long circles among the trees, cooing on the roof-top, and soiling everything that comes near the roosts!

We had almost forgotten the pigs. They are multitudinous and comely, and when they consider themselves neglected they are able to make their delicate notes of expostulation heard and heeded.

And now, when this long and sultry wet weather shall have cleared up, and we have the peculiar Lenox air, the hills and mountains, we shall be prepared for the chronicling of other events.

Shun the vulgar if you would be respected.

Horticultural Department.

THE NEW BLACKBERRY.

A year since we gave a somewhat full report (the first one published, we believe,) upon the claims, characteristics and value of the New-Rochelle Blackberry—called also the Lawton. We recommended the plant as one worthy of general cultivation, and our endorsement and remarks have been extensively copied by the press of this country, and by some European journals, and a very general interest has been awakened. An evidence of this is found in the circumstance that, during this month, more than a hundred horticulturists and others, from Boston, New-York, Philadelphia, and the cities and towns between these places, as well as from Concord, Albany, Newburg, Utica, Syracuse, and Rochester, have visited the grounds of Messrs. Geo. Seymour & Co., of South Norwalk, Conn., in response to their invitation for "all interested to come and see the plant growing and bearing, and taste the quality of the fruit."

These gentlemen have, we believe, the largest area in the country (some five or six acres) devoted to the cultivation of the genuine variety of this plant. A part of this ground they use for raising young plants, and a part was left to fruit this year for the purpose of showing it in bearing while in field culture. All who have examined the fruit have been surprised and delighted with the large size of the berry, its deliciousness, and especially its productiveness. We visited this plot on Thursday of last week, and from what we saw there, as well as at other times during the past year, we are ready to endorse all we stated a year ago. (See page 321, vol. xii.)

The plants especially devoted to fruiting were set out two years ago—eight feet apart each way—upon a rather poor, worn-out, hill-side soil, with no other previous preparation than plowing and an ordinary coat of barn-yard manure. The only cultivation since has been keeping down the weeds, and the application of about 400 lbs. per acre of Peruvian guano, which was sown broadcast last spring and worked in with a cultivator where the plants were not spread out so much as to preclude the use of this implement. The ground is now so thickly covered with loaded vines and young shoots that it is difficult to go over it.

Since the beginning of the month visitors have had free access to about one-fourth of an acre, and though hundreds of quarts have been eaten or carried away, the whole vines on this plot seemed to be loaded with berries. Two canes in each hill were allowed to fruit. We counted the berries on some of the average-bearing canes or single stalks, and found from 500 to 1,000 ripe or growing berries on each.

The size of the fruit can hardly be appreciated by those who have seen only the common varieties of blackberry. Of about the average size, 30 to 40 berries filled a pint basket; while of those a little above the medium, 20 to 25 berries did the same. An

inch to an inch and a half may be set down as the average diameter, though larger berries are quite common.

There are two remarkable things about this variety, viz: its few seeds and its richness of flavor, notwithstanding its large size; and its steady bearing, for we learn that it has not failed to yield an abundance of fruit every year since its cultivation, now a dozen years or more.

It appears quite hardy, as it sustained very little injury in the open field during the past severe winter. We noticed the tops of a few of last year's canes were slightly nipped by frost.

It grows well even upon poor soil. We should advise a moderately dry loam, but some cultivators recommend even a heavy clay as best. It has been thought that blackberries need shade; but those cultivated by Seymour & Co. are upon an open lot, and we found the best and richest berries upon the top of the vines, where most exposed to the sun. However, the fullest clusters of the largest fruit, though not the sweetest, were partly shaded by the leaves. Mulching, or covering the soil with straw, leaves, salt hay, or some such substance, is doubtless good treatment for this, as for all similar plants. We should advise the selection of at least a moderately good soil, deep plowing or spading, with a coating of barn-yard manure or guano. When first set out they should be placed at about their natural depth, say 3 inches, in rows 6 to 10 feet apart, and the stems be cut down to within six inches of the ground.

They may be set out in November or April, in this latitude; at the South, in March. Probably November planting is preferable. If planted in autumn, it is better to cover them up till spring with straw or litter.

We have spoken thus freely of this fruit, because we esteem it a valuable acquisition, and we desire to see it distributed so extensively that it may soon become abundant in every market. It now sells readily in New-York for 25 to 50 cents per quart, while we do not see why it may not be raised, with a fair profit, at 5 or 6 cents a quart. Once planted, it requires no more labor to cultivate it than the same area of corn, since the chief care required is to keep down the weeds and an excessive growth of young shoots; though all of these that can be raised for some time to come will probably be in demand at fair prices. The limited supply, and the high prices heretofore asked, has been a bar to its general introduction; but several persons have a large number of growing vines which will be ready for sale the coming autumn, and we learn that the price is being considerably reduced.

A word of caution is necessary in reference to securing genuine plants, carefully packed: for unprincipled and irresponsible peddlers and speculators will in this case—as in that of fruit trees—attempt to palm off any thing in the shape of a blackberry vine, as the genuine New-Rochelle. If carefully packed, they may be carried safely to a considerable distance, provided always, that in

taking up or setting out, the roots are never left exposed to wind and sun.

For the American Agriculturist.
TRIAL OF NEW VEGETABLES.

Pea—Champion of England.—This is a fine pea, generally with seven or eight in a pod; sweet, large, and well flavored when cooked; grows five feet high on rich land, and requires "sticking"—which is a great objection, and on which account it will not, I think, be very generally grown.

Early May Pea.—This pea, although not new, is good. I have tried it by the side of the pea which is annually sent to your markets from Norfolk, Va., and find it to come in equally early and bear as well.

Cucumbers—Adams's Conqueror of the West.—This kind can not be too highly prized; it grows freely and produces fine fruit. I have several measuring 22 and some 24 inches in length.

Jewess Cucumber.—This is also a fine variety, but not so good as the above. It does not bear as well, and not quite so early; but I have had fruit of this kind 23 inches in length. It does not stand the scorching heat as well as the Conqueror, but still is far ahead of the diminutive things we so often see. I have several other new seeds for trial, the results of which I will inform you, in due time, for the *American Agriculturist*.

W. SUMMERSBEY.

KNIGHTS' PROTECTING BROCCOLI.

This is one of the finest and best kinds of broccoli, and most hardy in cultivation, yet almost impossible to obtain. If any of your correspondents have this kind, I should be very thankful if they would let me have some, as I would gladly pay all reasonable charges. I have written to some of the most eminent seedsmen, of your city, and always receive the answer, "we have not got it," or, "we don't know it." It would be of great value here, as we get only moderate frosts. This variety has a peculiar way of protecting the heart, by the leaves turning over it, and it produces its large head in May and June, when we are short of vegetables.

In taste, it nearly equals the cauliflower. Next to this, stands the Russian broccoli, which is a dwarf, hardy kind, equally hard to get true to name.

Among the numerous good sorts of broccoli in cultivation, we rarely see any but the purple cape broccoli, which is objectionable on account of its color. The Walchren broccoli, sown the same as cauliflower, to stand the winter, is more hardy, and can not be distinguished by the best judges from that excellent vegetable when cut and ready for market.

W. SUMMERSBEY.

BOTH WRONG AND RIGHT.—"That man is a shoemaker, I'm sure," said a worshipful magistrate to his colleague the other day, in petty sessions on the Tyne. "You're a shoemaker?" he continued, addressing the man at the bar. "Yes, sir," was the reply, *a horse-shoemaker.*" (A horse laugh.)

LIQUID MANURE FOR PLANTS.

BY AN OLD LONDON PRACTITIONER.

Few things, in the management of plants, are more overlooked than that of applying liquid manure. When the roots of plants are confined within a garden pot the soil soon becomes exhausted; and if it be desirable to grow the plant rapidly, it must be turned out of the pot, and the exhausted soil shaken from the roots, and replaced with fresh earth, or recourse must be had to liquid manures. Floriculturists can not be aware of the advantages of applying manure in a liquid state, or it would be more frequently used. I have found that all free-flowering plants, such as petunias, geraniums, some of the calceolarias, balsams, and cockscombs, are improved, and indeed I have not found any flowering plant whatever that has not been benefited by a greater or less quantity of this element. Many New Holland plants are increased in vigor by this treatment; the *Epacris*, *Diosma ploygala*, and many others, besides not a few of the heaths, are benefited, when it is occasionally applied, as, for instance, once every seven or ten days. In watering plants with liquid manure, it will be observed that the soil, after having been watered a few times, does not dry so soon as when watered with clear water, and this independent of the extra nutritious qualities left in the soil by the application of manure-water; it is, then, a great point gained, by whatever means effected, when plants, whether in pots or in the natural soil, can be cultivated without the necessity of frequent waterings. As there is no more labor required in using manure-water than in applying the same quantity of water without any mixture of manure, considering, too, that its advantages must be obvious to all who give it a fair trial, it does seem somewhat unaccountable to see persons exerting a great amount of labor to accomplish very small results. It must be regarded as so much labor misapplied, when, had half the same labor and attention been bestowed, using at the same time liquid manure, far more satisfactory results would have been obtained.—*Floricultural Cabinet.*

EDUCATION OF BIRDS BY THEIR PARENTS.

Nothing is more striking than the efforts of the maternal birds to tempt their young to make the first experiment of trusting themselves to their wings. The nightingale flutters around her nest holding an insect in her bill at a little distance to draw her young to the edge of the nest and to incite them through their appetite to make the first effort with their wings. The Iceland divers offers a still more striking spectacle of maternal solicitude. The bird builds its nest on the steepest summits of the mountains near the shores of the sea. As soon as her young are fledged, she ceases to bring them food. But she continues to visit them, to flutter about the nest, to show them the power of her wings, and to invite them to follow her. The younger bird, oppressed by hunger, approaches the edge of the precipice, hesitates, and finally falls into the air. Its wings are too small to sustain it, and it would dash upon the rocks below. The mother summons the aid of the male. They spread their wings in concert a little beneath their young, to allow free play to their wings. Thus they gently let the bird down to the shore, crowds of their kind assemble round the young bird, and raise cries of congratulation at the view of this new companion, that maternal love has emboldened to the first attempt at flight.

Those who don't make hay while sun is shining won't make much that is good.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, August 16.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

NOTICE.—In our next issue, No. 102, we shall make an announcement of special interest to all our subscribers, which we trust they will be careful to notice; and should that number chance to be mis-carried by mail, send to the office for a duplicate.

THE POTATO DISEASE.

Potatoes are now selling in this market cheaper than we find them quoted at any time last season, and are still rapidly falling. We like to see the prices of produce at such rates as shall abundantly remunerate the cost of production, yet when potatoes are kept up to a dollar and a half a bushel by scarcity, we are glad to see signs of coming plenty. The high rates of last season were produced by a scanty supply, and farmers have been afflicted by the "hard times" as much as every body else.

We see that the blight is again making its appearance; though the late period at which it comes, and the fine growth already attained, together with the great number of acres planted, lead to no serious apprehensions of a crop deficient even to the ordinary amount.

Numerous theories have been invented to account for this disease, and most of them, in some shape or other, are still afloat. The fact that there are so many of these hypotheses is, of itself, presumptive evidence that the true cause of the potato malady is as far as ever from being understood.

The theory that has been most in vogue is, that the potato is "running out;" that its constitution had been weakened by incessantly breeding from slips instead of from the seed. It is a well known fact that, when we propagate a plant by grafting, we do actually extend and increase the same original body; that the scions of the *Esopus Spitzenburgh*, for instance, wherever they may be growing, are truly members of the original tree; and it is natural to infer that there will be a period assigned to their lives, as there is to that of the parent stock; that the life-time of the two will not differ very materially; and that, at some future time, this variety will become extinct. From the manner in which we propagate the potato, this is equally true of it. The Mercer of this year, is not the descendant of the original Mercer, but is a true member of its body;

and so it seems just to conclude that it must be subject to the condition of old age, as an individual plant is, and must some day perish and be no longer known as a variety.

A second theory is that of Liebig, who attributes this, with other diseases—such as the eruptive fevers of man and the contagious disorders among animals—each to its own proper ferment. His theory is, that these ferments, such as those of small-pox, measles, scarlet fever, etc., once taken into the system, must go through a given course, and that they will do this in a given time; that these fermentations effect only changes of arrangement in the existing elements of the blood; that these changes are not inconsistent with the highest condition of health, and that after they have been once effected, the tendency is slowly to revert to the original unfermented condition; so that men may have these diseases to a limited extent at subsequent times. He considers the poison of a snake bite of the same nature, while that of hydrophobia he supposes always effects a fermentation in the blood analogous to putrefaction, and which is, consequently, necessarily fatal. It is in accordance with this hypothesis that physicians are in the habit of remarking of a person sick with any of the first-mentioned diseases, that if he lives beyond a certain day, he will recover, while no such hopes can be entertained of those unfortunates affected with hydrophobia. Horse distemper is one of this class of diseases; and Liebig has enumerated the potato malady among the rest, and presumes it to depend on a like epidemic cause.

This disease has also been attributed to planting too deep, or too shallow; to the sting of insects; to worms in the stalk; to a wet, clayey soil; to a dry, sandy one; to the lack of humus; to deficiency of mineral ingredients, or of salt in the soil; but as none of these theories have been established by any proofs, we pass them by. The evidences in their favor, as yet, have only shown that certain processes of culture exert a favorable influence on the growth of this plant, and we think that all these practical facts may be very conveniently arranged under the two theories we have enumerated. There is less objection to doing so, as they do not necessarily clash with each other; that is, some of our present varieties may be failing of old age, and thus more subject to the epidemic influence—as the old and the feeble are well known to fail first under circumstances of exposure.

But we do not believe that the first of these theories is yet tenable. We still lack the evidence to assert that any varieties of the potato have ever perished of old age. It is yet to be proved that it is not as natural to this plant to multiply by scions as by seed, or that this kind of breeding may not go on indefinitely. We lack the evidence to assert that any of the varieties of the potato have ever perished of old age, or that there is any well established relation between the age of a variety and its qualities, as there is known to be in the flesh of animals; or that there is any such connection between the age of a variety and its liability

to rot, as exists between the period of childhood and scarlet fever. Yet such an undiscovered relation may exist, for it would be strange if a life time were not assigned here as every where else in animate nature; and it is hardly to be supposed that by a change of stock a scion should escape so general a law. It was at one time imagined that the transfusion of the blood of a young animal into the veins of an old one would rejuvenate it, but it is unnecessary to say, that this anticipation was never realized.

As no specific has ever been discovered for the potato disease, we are left to the study of such practices as may increase the vigor of the plant. We should suppose *a priori*, that high manuring would be one of these, but it is very generally agreed among farmers that fermenting manures have increased the evil, and we are left to the application of ashes and the special mineral manures. It can not be the ammonia of stable-manure that does the mischief, for we planted a crop, in 1853, on ground to which as thick a dressing of wood shavings as could be plowed under by forking them into the furrows, had been given the preceding fall, and we supplied the crop well with wood ashes, and yet it signally failed, while crops around it partially succeeded with simple dressings of wood ashes. The application of guano to potatoes is quite generally and successfully practiced.

In 1846, Dr. Klotzsch, of Prussia, proposed a remedy for the potato disease, viz: "In the 5th, 6th and 7th weeks after setting the tubers, or at a time when the plants reach the height of six to nine inches above the soil, pinch off the extreme points of the branches or twigs to the extent of half an inch downwards, and repeat this on every branch or twig in the 10th or 11th week, no matter at what time of day."

In explanation of this process, it is the fact that, as a plant ripens and perfects its fruit, the vigor and strength of the stalk becomes concentrated in the seed, so that if it stands unharvested until it is fully ripe, the stalk is worthless for feed. We believe it is for certain prudential considerations connected with the straw, that harvesting before fully ripe is usually advocated. If the perfection of seed, then, exhausts, where this product is of no worth, why should a plant be allowed to go to seed? We cut grass for hay when the stalk is in its prime, since, if allowed to stand, the seed is perfected at the expense of the stalk. Why then should we not follow out the same plan with the potato, and by abrogating a worthless though expensive process by which it attempts to reproduce itself, encourage the other method of reproduction—the formation of tubers. This is in conformity with an operation of established utility, and for a long time practiced on animals. The Prussian treatment of the potato amounts to nothing more than this operation—preventing fructifying, and thereby increasing the development of the individual by picking off the germs of the flower-buds.

In the season of 1852, we practiced this operation, at the time of hoeing, on an acre

or more of potatoes, while a quarter of an acre near by them, on better land, were allowed to blossom and form balls. In the fall, there was an increased amount of starchy matter in the tubers of the larger piece, and they were so much better that they sold first at a higher price. Since that time we have not taken an opportunity to repeat the experiment.

It is a significant fact, in reference to this practice, that Nature follows it in her treatment of the feeble plant, and does not task it to produce seed when it is in too low a state of vitality; and, in the absence of clear light, it is always best to follow where she appears to lead.

There is another matter to which we wish to direct attention now, while the potato vines are in their full luxuriance. It is the fact that the tuber is formed in the top; that the starchy matter, on which its value depends, originates in the leaf. The distance of the hills from each other, then, should vary with the extent to which the top may be expected to reach. At this season of the year, in order to secure the greatest yield per acre, they should meet together, completely covering the ground and absorbing all the light, so as to leave no portion of the earth visible. It is better that the plants should crowd each other a little, rather than that there should be any deficiency. A crop seen from a little distance, many times appears completely to cover the ground, when, on close inspection, the stand will be found much too open for profit. If we were certain that the tops must begin to perish when only half grown, we should endeavor to plant so thick that they would at that time meet each other. It will be seen, too, that such varieties as the Rohan, with coarse, branching vines, need a greater distance between the rows, than such as the Pink-eye, with delicate tops.

But, in conclusion, the fact that the potato is propagated by slips, when considered along with Liebig's theory of the nature of the disease to which it is subject, may lead us to anticipate that the potato rot, like other epidemics, will have a period assigned to it, as the duration of epidemic diseases has in the bodies of individual animals. Yet we ask for these speculations no more consideration than we extend to the fermentation theory, which, however plausible, is yet hypothetical.

VIEW OF NEW-YORK and the adjacent waters and Country, as seen from the Latting Observatory. Published by Smith, Fern & Co., 340 Broadway, New-York.

This is a splendid conception, beautifully executed, in a style reflecting the highest credit on the enterprising publishers. A great number of prominent buildings are given, inclusive of the Crystal Palace immediately in the foreground, with a bird's-eye view of the surrounding country of New-Jersey and Long Island, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Hoboken, Staten Island, the adjoining bay, and rivers.

FARM FOR SALE.—Any one wishing a cheap farm to devote to grazing, summer crops, &c., will do well to look at one advertised in this number.

TURNIPS.

The *Yellow Aberdeen* grows nearly as large, is almost as good a keeper, and is about as nutritious as the ruta baga. It should be sown in drills 2 to 3 feet apart, and be well supplied with rotted barn-yard manure, guano, superphosphate, or bone dust.

The *Strap Leaf Red Top*, is a flat turnip, solid, sweet, and good. It may be sown to the middle of August, broad east, in well-prepared ground as above.

The *Purple Top* is also a flat turnip, of good quality, and may be sown still later.

Prepare the ground well if you wish a quick growth, and good crops.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS.—No better indication could be had of the interest everywhere awakened upon the subject of agriculture, than in the great multiplication of agricultural periodicals and books. In this City we have a new agricultural book almost weekly from Saxton & Co., who are the most extensive publishers in this class of literature in the country. So numerous are the new facts, and developments in agriculture, that one needs an annual encyclopedia, or work of some kind, in which shall be collected the discoveries, statistics, &c., of the agriculture of our country, and just such a book we find is announced by Messrs. Childs & Peterson, of Philadelphia. The full announcement is given in our advertising columns, to which we particularly refer our readers.

Correspondence of the American Agriculturist.

LETTERS FROM MR. PAGE—No. VII.

KENTUCKY, April, 1855.

Four miles from Lexington I found the residence of Dr. Tarlton, who has but recently commenced farming and breeding improved stock. Feeding on his lawn were several fine Southdowns, bought a year or so since of Mr. Thorne, of Dutchess Co., N. Y. One or two were the get of the celebrated buck 112; and I was glad to hear that this breed is likely to be appreciated in this neighborhood. These were the only specimens of the improved breeds of sheep that I saw in the State. Another rarity was a pair of Suffolks, from the stock of Col. Sherwood, of Auburn. The longer-legged swine seem to be preferred, it being supposed that they can "follow" the cattle better. When cattle are fed corn in winter it is the practice to throw it out to them upon the ground in a field or fields, set apart for the purpose, and called the "feed lot." After the cattle have eaten all they can get, the fattening hogs follow to pick up the scattered remains. Whether a well bred Suffolk would have sufficient industry to dig up his living, is somewhat uncertain.

Dr. Tarlton has made a good selection of cows; three of them were particularly good, viz: Finish, white, of the late importations; Cherry, and Pixy, of the 1817 stock. The description of Mrs. Motte's descendants, previously given, applies well to the last named two cows. He is breeding to St. Lawrence, purchased of the importer, Mr. Thorne, and now owned in company with Dr. Elisha

Warfield. From the get of this bull, which I had seen in New-York, I had formed a favorable opinion of his merits. He is a stylish animal, with the look of the Bates blood. In the crops he is not the equal of many of the Ohio and Kentucky bred animals; yet, in this particular point, his get are very superior.

Dr. Warfield has been breeding Short Horns for many years; and, like most of the Kentucky herds, his is this spring in low condition. My attention was called to only three of his animals—St. Lawrence, a fine red heifer, six months old, and a bull calf, same age and color.

Dr. W. also raises thoroughbred horses. He has recently accomplished one of the objects in view at the commencement of his stud, "to breed the fastest horse on record," in Lexington. The day I was at the "Meadows" chanced to be the one on which his horse Lexington performed the extraordinary feat upon the Metarie race-course, near New-Orleans. I saw his dam, Aliee Corneal, a dark bay, quite old, and is now breeding to Berthune, an imported horse, belonging to this stud. He is now seventeen years old, yet is full of life, and from his splendid carriage and action, I should suppose he would prove a good getter of roadsters.

The great race has been a topic of conversation for many days. Upon returning to my hotel in the evening, I found the excitement at the highest point, and must confess to having caught a little of the spirit—enough to induce me to sit up with the crowd to hear the result. The colored porters in the hall, over their evening cigars, were having an animated talk upon the merits of the two horses. In the barroom, the office, the reading rooms, and about the street corners, crowds were gathered eagerly discussing the subject of blood horses and breeding.

It appears that Lexington, in his colthood, received a name that has been recently changed for the one which he now bears. One gentleman remarked, "I don't think they should have changed his name;" to which there was a general demur; and one exclaimed, "Change his name! I tell you it should be changed to 'Lexington, Fayette County, State of Kentucky, and United States of America.'"

I mention these incidents to show the interest taken in such matters in this State. The fact is, the Kentuckians are a little vain of their splendid country, their herds of fine cattle and fast horses, and in my humble judgment, with good reason.

In the herd of Capt. Benj. Warfield, near Lexington, I saw many of the descendants of the Teeswater cow, imported at the same time with Mrs. Motte and others. Cherry 2d is of this strain; is a large, grand cow; and, in good beef order, I should judge that she would weigh fully eighteen hundred pounds. She is in color red, with some white; has a good head; bright, full eye; horns short, fine, and "turning gaily upwards at the point;" neck short and fine; deep, wide brisket, straight top; wide and level loin, hips and rump; handsomely shaped legs, of

fine bone and standing wide apart; a little higher behind than forward, which, with her good flank and udder, gives a look of much more weight in the hind than in the fore quarter. In addition, she has hair, "long, soft, mossy" and abundant, and is of course a good handler.

This account of Cherry 2d, applies to a majority of Mr. Warfield's herd, which is large, and more particularly to two daughters of Cherry 2d—Sally Smith, two years old, and Amie, three years. The latter is the property of Benj. Warfield, Jr. Both heifers named are the get of Renick, the stock bull of this herd for many years past. Renick was bred by George Renick, of Chillicothe, Ohio, and is still sprightly and active considering his nine years, and that he has "done the State some service." When he dies it will without doubt be said of Renick, that he "has gone to the place where good critters go," if there is any.

In a little lot close by the mansion was a dozen fine calves, chiefly the get of Young Chilton, imported last season. It will be sufficient to say of Chilton, that he is of fine style, and the only objection to him is that he is white.

Mr. W. showed me his herd book, in which were recorded all the "births, deaths, and marriages" which have occurred in his Short Horn family during the whole period of his breeding—twenty-five years. Ten years or more ago, when prices were so depressed that a good animal would not bring for breeding purposes as much as he now would for beef, very many owners of good Short Horns became careless in their breeding, and their pedigrees are involved in inexplicable confusion; while those who, like Mr. Warfield, kept a careful record, are reaping an abundant reward.

Another son of this veteran breeder is Mr. Wm. Warfield, whose estate joins that of his father. I there saw several fine Short Horns, descended from his father's herd. One cow, imported last season, looked very much like a Mrs. Motte, in her general appearance. Of Peerless, a heifer, ten months old, bred here, I must say that she is the best calf of that age I ever saw. Much disappointment is often felt by breeders, in that their calves, which were so promising while quite young, at seven months to one year old—as it is termed—"go to pieces;" often growing one end at a time; and although they will probably recover their good points with a little more age, yet it is a critical period, in which a calf should be judged as much by his pedigree as by personal appearance.

Peerless in color is a light roan; her head is very fine—what many would call old-fashioned; that is, a little narrow between the eyes, and long from the eye down. Did you ever notice the beautiful expression in the eye of a deer? Just such eyes has Peerless. She is nearly a parallelogram in outline; the roundness of her fore ribs, and the flatness of her loin and rump, however, would make one end of the box round, and the other end square.

Some old English breeder it is, who has said, "The man that breeds one gem in his

life should be satisfied." If this is so, Mr. Warfield can congratulate himself that he has reached the highest point of good breeding early in life. May success attend him, and all other breeders of good cattle.

In company with a friend I visited the Cemetery at Lexington. It is laid out in a tasteful manner, adorned with a variety of evergreens, shrubs, flowers, and fine old shade trees. As in all similar places, the monumental marble told many a sad and mournful story. One chaste and lofty column recorded the deaths, at short intervals, of nine children. We also visited the grave of Henry Clay. His remains now rest beside those of his mother, but are soon to be removed and placed under a noble monument, which his friends and fellow-citizens are raising as a tribute to memory and greatness.

I also visited Ashland, late the residence of the great statesman, now owned by his son, James B. Clay. The mansion having by age become dilapidated, and its foundations giving way, it has been torn down. It was surrounded by a large lawn thickly planted with every variety of evergreen and deciduous tree which the climate or soil will grow. Several years ago I had the pleasure of seeing the sage of Ashland, at one of our State shows. I had heard much of his love for good cattle, and so, instead of rushing with the crowd towards the quarters where his carriage then stood, I quietly took my station near the fattest ox on the ground, and, as I expected, his carriage was stopped to examine the great ox. The critical remarks of the farmer of Ashland showed his judgment and taste in stock to be equal to his reputation as a statesman.

In concluding these letters, allow me to tender my sincere thanks and good wishes to those Ohio and Kentucky farmers whose acquaintance I made, for their unbounded hospitality, and the thousand little kindnesses and attentions I, as a stranger, received at their hands.

JOHN R. PAGE.

BOSTON AHEAD.

We see by the official announcement in the circular below, that Boston liberality has come to the aid of the United States Agricultural Society, and with a strong purse, to say the least. We have not room for further notice to-day, and it is hardly necessary, for the circular tells the whole story.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
CIRCULAR.

A Grand National Exhibition of Stock—Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine—open to competition to all the States of the Union, and to the British Provinces, will be held by the United States Agricultural Society, in the City of Boston, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th.

Twenty Thousand Dollars have been guaranteed by patriotic gentlemen of Boston and its vicinity to defray the expenses; the City of Boston has generously guaranteed to the Society for present use, a fine public square of fifty acres; and Ten Thousand Dollars will be offered in premiums, in the various departments.

The previous Exhibitions of this Society—

at Springfield, Mass., in 1853, and at Springfield, Ohio, in 1854—were eminently successful, and no efforts will be spared to make the present show, combining as it does, the Four Great Departments of Farming Stock, superior to its predecessors.

The premium list, with the rules of the exhibition will be forwarded to all who will address the President, or Secretary, at Boston, to that effect.

It is earnestly hoped that all breeders, and owners of fine stock will feel it to be a duty, as it certainly is for their interest, to contribute to the show.

The list of entries, exhibitors and award of premiums, and all the proceedings of the exhibition, will be published in the Journal of the Society, for 1855. Annual members of the Society, who desire to receive the Journal, should remember to renew their subscriptions. MARSHALL P. WILDER, Pres. WILLIAM S. KING, Sec. BOSTON Aug., 1855.

ON HAY CAPS.

W. H. Denning of Fishkill Landing, N. Y., writes to the Country Gentleman as follows:

Although my harvest experience is late for this season, I send an account of 38 tons of hay, got in in very catchy weather, which may be of advantage for some one next year, who has 38 tons of hay to get in.

MOWING MACHINES.—Every body now has a mower, or ought to have one. Mine is one of Ketchum's, a machine which does its work well, but is liable to get out of order. The motion on the crank shaft, shakes off the nuts, and every part of the machinery is difficult to get at, the machine requiring to be taken to pieces to repair it. In mine, the crank shaft had a flaw in it, and fearing it would break, as it afterwards did, I procured another at Mayher's in New-York, which cost me \$4 for a piece of iron not worth \$1. Guards, knives, and every thing, cost in proportion. If makers of these machines charge us farmers 200 per cent profit on the machines, the replacing defective parts should be made at less cost. The machine I have, in heavy grass takes 3 horses. Allen of New-York, has made a decided improvement. His machine requires less speed; all the gearing is in sight, to be oiled and examined; it cuts 5 inches wider, and 2 horses worked it easier than 3 did Ketchum's, doing as good work. They all work fast enough. With Ketchum's, I cut an acre in 52 minutes, adding 15 required for repairs, a key in my new crank shaft falling out, the machinist having put it in from the lower side of the wheel.

THE COLLAR BUSINESS.—Lynn is not more famous for shoes than Troy, N. Y., is for collars and bosoms. There are 15 of these establishments in Troy, and it is estimated that they turn out, on an average, 50,000 collars per day. One establishment employs 40 sewing machines, worked by as many young ladies, who easily turn off 15 dozen per day, and it is said that they can readily earn from \$9 to \$10 per week.

A GOOD SOAP RECIPE.—Save the lye of sufficient strength to float an egg; measure it into barrels as obtained, and to each gallon add one pound of grease. Stir every day till it becomes thick; then to sixteen gallons of this soft soap put four gallons of lye, as strong as that above. Boil one hour or more till the grease entirely disappears; then dissolve six quarts of salt in four gallons of water; stir it in, and boil the whole fifteen minutes longer; pour it into tubs to harden; cut it out in bars, and dry, in the shade.—*Danbridge Herald.*

EXPLANATION OF WAR TERMS AND PHRASES

A *Division* consists of a force amounting to several thousand men, and is composed of two or more brigades, as a "Brigade," is formed by several regiments, which "Regiments" consist of a certain number of companies. A proportion of artillery is usually attached to each division, with one or more batteries, so that a division can act as a small army, complete in itself. It is a Lieutenant-General's command, and each brigade is under a Major-General.

The *Staff* consists of the Generals and their Aides-de-camp, Brigade-Majors, Assistant Adjutant, and Quartermaster-Generals.

When civilians read that a division, brigade, or regiment moved in "close column," "open column," or "column at quarter distance," the term, perhaps, conveys no definite idea to the uninitiated. But if they understand that a "Close Column" of a regiment is formed by the companies of which it is composed being drawn up in rear or close behind each other, so that a solid square can be formed in a few seconds, or a line formed on any named company by the remaining companies deploying on the company indicated, which company stands fast during the movements of the others, the meaning is at once obvious.

A *Column at Quarter Distance* has an open space between the divisions and companies of which it is composed of one-fourth of the ground occupied by each, so that by closing the first and second to the front, and moving up the two rear companies, while the remainder wheel outward by sections, a square, four deep, is formed.

An *Open Column* is when the companies of a regiment are placed behind each other with intervening spaces, sufficient to allow each company to wheel on its flank or pivot, and thus form into line, &c.

An *Echelon Movement* is a term applied to an oblique line of march, which movement is accomplished by wheeling the companies a given number of paces, before marching, according to the degree of obliquity required.

Guns—a term generally applied to field artillery, which mostly consists of six, nine, and twelve pounders, with a few howitzers, which latter are something between a mortar and a gun—half brother to the former and cousin german to the latter. The howitzer can throw spherical case shot, small shells, &c.

Shells are hollow cast-iron globes, filled with gunpowder, &c., in which a fuse is inserted, so that when it burns down to the powder an explosion takes place, and the shell bursts, scattering the shattered fragments in every direction.

Guns of Position are larger than field guns, and are mostly used in places where an enemy occupies a defensive position. Being more cumbersome than field guns, they can not be moved with the same celerity as the smaller cannon, and are therefore not so generally used.

Siege Guns are of heavier metal and larger calibre than either field guns or guns of position, and consequently throw larger projectiles. A "Field-Battery" generally consists of six guns with ammunition wagons, and the requisite number of horses to draw them, and the proper number of officers and men to work them.

A *Wing* of a regiment implies one half: thus every regiment has a right and left wing. The same term may be applied also to an army.

Outlying Picquet, or *Picket*, is a small body of men, commanded by an officer. Its place is in front of an army, to prevent surprise. *Picquets* are constantly on the alert,

and sleep not. This duty generally commences at sunset, and terminates after full daylight.

Inlying Picquet is a similar force, which remains in the camp, readily accoutred to turn out on the slightest alarm.

A *Covering Party* generally consists of an officer and forty or fifty men, who take up a position in front of the principal trenches, and protect the workmen employed therein from molestation.

Trenches are long narrow excavations, some feet in depth, the earth from which is thrown up towards the enemy, so as to afford shelter to the troops who guard them during the night against surprise, &c. Duty in the trenches is always unpleasant, and in cold weather particularly so, as the men have to remain quiet, or they would bring a heavy fire on them, and thus increase the danger to which, in trench duty, they are more or less exposed.

Although trench and picquet duties are the most arduous that fall to the lot of a soldier, yet, in the British army, the officers and men so employed, even for months, seldom obtain credit or promotion for their service. But the French act very differently to their troops when engaged in such dangerous and fatiguing duties, for we generally hear that General Canrobert has promoted and rewarded with the Legion of Honor, many brave men for their gallant conduct in the trenches.

Gabions are baskets of a cylindrical form filled with earth, and which are placed opposite the enemy's batteries, as a protection to the men when they first break ground, and commence to entrench themselves.

The term *Fortress* is applied to a fortified place on an extensive scale, that of *Fort* to a smaller fortification.

A *Bastion* has two or more faces of such a form that, when several of them are joined together, a complete pentagon is the result. It is called the system of "reciprocal defense," as one projecting bastion in the pentagon defends another. A ditch, either wet or dry, adds to the difficulty of approach.

Lunettes are small works usually raised in front of sally-ports, &c., and when filled with men, are capable of offering considerable resistance.

A *Redan* is a triangular work, generally constructed in front of a more extensive fortification, which it partially protects, and renders an attack on it more difficult.

Embrasures are openings in a work through which the guns are pointed.

Loopholes are small apertures in a work through which muskets may be fired.

Redoubt is a general name for nearly every kind of work in field fortification; redoubts are sometimes triangular, with flanks; sometimes in the form of a star, called a *Star Fort*. Redoubts for the defense of positions are in general intended to contain only about 50 men with three guns; but works in the form of irregular polygons are sometimes constructed to contain from 1,000 to 1,500 men, and from twenty to twenty-five pieces of artillery, if intended for the protection of any place.—*Boston Journal*.

PASTE.—Dissolve an ounce of alum in a quart of warm water; when cold, add as much flour as will make it the consistence of cream; then strew into it as much powdered rosin as will stand on a shilling, and two or three cloves; boil it to a consistence, stirring all the time. It will keep for twelve months, and when dry, may be softened with water.

The trophies taken during the American war are not now exhibited with the other curiosities in the London Tower.

TO ESCAPE FROM PREMISES ON FIRE.

The Superintendent of the London Fire Brigade gives the following judicious directions for aiding persons to escape from premises on fire:

1. Be careful to acquaint yourself with the best means of exit from the house, both at the top and bottom.

2. On the first alarm reflect before you act. If in bed at the time, wrap yourself in a blanket or bed-side carpet; open no more doors or windows than are absolutely necessary, and shut every door after you.

3. There is always from eight to twelve inches of pure air close to the ground; and if you can not walk upright through the smoke, drop on your hands and knees, and thus make progress. A wetted silk handkerchief, a piece of flannel, or a worsted stocking drawn over the face, permits breathing, and to a great extent excludes the smoke.

4. If you can neither make your way upwards or downwards, get into a front room; if there is a family, see that they are all collected here, and keep the door closed as much as possible, for remember that smoke always follows a draught, and fire always rushes after smoke.

5. On no account throw yourself, or allow others to throw themselves, from the window. If no assistance is at hand, and you are in extremity, tie the sheets together, and having fastened one end to some heavy piece of furniture, let down the women and children one by one, by tying the end of the line of sheets around the waist, and lowering them through the window that is over the door, rather than through the one that is over the area. You can easily let yourself down after the helpless are saved.

If a woman's clothes should catch fire, let her instantly roll herself over and over on the ground, if a man be present, let him throw her down and do the like, and then wrap her in a rug, coat or the first woolen thing that is at hand.

TWO THOUSAND LADIES BATHING AT ONE TIME.—The Cape May correspondent of the Baltimore American says: "The beach presented a scene to-day (Monday) of the most spirited and interesting character. The number of bathers exceeded that of any preceding day. Between 11 and 1 o'clock there could not have been less than 4,000 in the surf, fully one-half, as usual, being ladies (all in neat dresses); many of whom can swim, and one lady I saw floating on the surface of the water, and riding over the swelling surf with the greatest ease imaginable. A great number of ladies were unattended, but were fully as able to take care of themselves as the sterner sex. The decorum of the surf is never violated, and any one who would dare to insult or annoy a lady while bathing, would find himself surrounded in a moment by a host of avengers. The American character in this respect, is displayed at Cape May to its fullest extent, and both on shore and among the breakers, the ladies feel a greater freedom from formalities of all kinds than they would at home."

TO PRESERVE CORN.—First shave the corn from the cob with a sharp knife, and then pack in a close vessel corn and salt in alternate layers, until the vessel is full; soak well in warm water before cooking, and it is just as good as it is in summer. Try it all of you who are fond of good eating.—A. C. STEPHENSON, in *Tip Farmer*.

A celebrated poet at one time advertised that he would supply "lines for any occasion." A fisherman sought him shortly after, and "wanted a line strong enough to catch a porpoise."

PHILOSOPHY AND CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

In the different squares of our city, it is really distressing sometimes of an afternoon to witness the effect produced by nurses vieing with each other in decorating their poor little infant charges so as to make them look genteel. Go to a fashionable watering place, and the case is worse; parents and sisters also feel their credit at stake, in producing the best-dressed little responsibilities. In the country, properly so called, how different. The children are allowed to kick off shoes and stockings if they please in hot weather, and to run about as and where they choose. The effect is that they grow up robust and strong, with healthy minds in healthy bodies.

The effect of these city fashions, pushed to the extreme they are, upon health, is not easily to be estimated. A child, dressed up in fine clothes, cannot take proper hearty exercise. Its movements are all watched and constrained by the nurses. It never stirs without the fear of being scolded by some one for disarranging its curls or soiling its clean dress. How miserable all this constraint upon its freedom. Those ringlets so carefully arranged, what a source of misery and often sickness. Long hair will absorb as much of a child's strength in a season as would give it an inch of growth. Now it tickles the neck, now it increases the warmth, and now it is wet and gives the child a perpetual cold and sore throat. This fine dressing must be a source of countless irritations. The nurse acquires the habit of perpetually snapping, interfering, watching and checking all the free notions of childhood, and the little one learns to believe that to sit still, and take these lectures meekly is the very essence of being a good child. Its spirit is broken in, and it becomes a docile suppliant, instead of a free, bold, and vigorous child. No wonder its cheek is pale, and the doctor is constantly needed, or that it grows up nervous, irritable and peevish.

The direct cost of all this is no trifle. It may gratify a parent's taste for the moment, gratify that kind of affection which loves to bestow costly tokens of regard, however useless or injurious, but where is the prudent mother that would not better show her kindness by creating a little fund, and saving all these superfluous expenses for its use at a future day? The extra cost of this curling, making and washing fine dresses of two such little ones, is not less than equal to the time of a maid servant, or \$250 beyond what is requisite in attention for their best health and greatest comfort. There are telegraph stocks in the city where every \$250 thus saved would increase in eight years to \$625. The habits of infancy form the taste of youth, and the passion for finery is easily cherished. But what man of moderate means can afford to marry one of these young lilies of the valley, who toil not, neither do they spin, while arrayed more gorgeously than Solomon in all his glory?

Life itself is often put in jeopardy by all this. A thin, fine dress has given many a child the croup; a low bare neck has enlarged the tonsils, and contracted the chest of many a pretty little one. We ourselves have very lively recollections of chilled and aching feet, chilblains and innumerable other evils, through the thin, pretty, but tight shoes into which the feet of our childhood were crammed even in winter on a Sunday, that we might appear respectable at church.

A little child just beginning to walk climbs up to the top of a pair of stairs, step by step alone. Its feet get entangled in its dress, it pitches head long down to the bottom, and its brain is injured for life; or it dies, and the father finds the hopes and toils of a life frustrated. What has caused it? Some feeble

lace inserting at the bottom of its dress, through which its little foot has naturally caught, torn the lace and tripped it up. Would that father but take a penknife and cut away the whole of such dangerous finery, it would be no small kindness to the child, nurses to the contrary notwithstanding.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

THE LITTLE FROCK AND SHOES.

BY BENJ. R. MITCHEL.

A little frock but slightly worn,
Of blue and white de laine,
With edging round the neck and sleeves,
Lay folded neat and plain;
Beside a little pair of shoes,
With here and there a flaw,
Lay half concealed among the things
In mother's bureau draw.

Summer had passed away from earth
With all her sweetest ties,
The birds had left their Summer haunts
For more congenial skies;
The twilight breezes sweetly played
Among the dews of even—
An angel left his home on high,
To gather flowers for heaven!

The angel near and nearer came,
Where sister sick did lie;
Then gently fann'd her faded cheek,
And pointed to the sky!
The morning shone upon the bed,
The Autumn wind blew free,
The angel moved its silvery wings
And whisper'd, "come with me."

We gather'd round her dying bed,
With hearts to weep and pray,
And many were the tears we shed,
When sister went away!
"No bitter tears had she to weep,"
No sin to be forgiven,
But closed her little eyes in sleep,
To open them in heaven!

We laid her in the earth's green breast,
Down by the village green
Where gently weeps the dewy grass,
And Summer flowers are seen;
And often, when dear mother goes
To get her things to use,
I see her drop a silent tear
On sisters frock and shoes.

ANECDOTE OF HOGARTH.

A few months before this ingenious artist was seized with the malady which deprived society of one of the most distinguished ornaments, he proposed to his matchless pencil the work he has entitled a "Tail Piece"—the first idea of which is said to have been started in company, while the convivial glass was circulating round his own table.

"My next undertaking," said Hogarth, "shall be the End of all Things."

"If that is the case," replied one of his friends, "your business will be finished, for there will be an end of the painter."

"That will be so, answered Hogarth, sighing heavily, "and therefore the sooner my work is done the better."

Accordingly, he began the next day, and continued his design with a diligence that seemed to indicate an apprehension (as the report goes) he should not live until he completed it. This, however, as he did in the most ingenious manner, by grouping everything which could denote the end of all things—a broken bottle—an old broom worn to the stump—the butt end of an old firelock—a cracked bell—a bow unstrung—a crown tumbled in pieces—tower in ruins—the sign-post of a tavern, called the World's End,

tumbling—the moon in her wane—the map of the globe burning—a gibbet falling, the body gone, and the chains which held it dropping down—Phœbus and his horses being dead in the clouds—a vessel wrecked—Time with his hour glass and scythe broken, a tobacco pipe in his mouth, the last whiff of smoke going out—a playbook open, with "exunt omnes" stamped in the corner—an empty purse—and a statue of bankruptcy taken out against Nature.

"So far so good," cried Hogarth, "nothing remains but this"—taking his pencil in a sort of prophetic fury, and dashing off the similitude of a painter's pallet broken—"Finis!" exclaimed Hogarth, "the deed is done—all is over."

It is a very remarkable and well known fact, that he never again took the pallet in his hand. It is a circumstance less known perhaps, that he died in about a year after he had finished this extraordinary tail-piece.

"You Forgot Me."—A good joke is told at the expense of one of our church-going citizens, who is the father of an interesting family of children, and among them a bright-eyed boy numbering four or five summers, the pet of the family, and unanimously voted the drollest little mischief alive. On Saturday night he had been bribed to keep peace and retire to bed an hour earlier than usual, with the promise that on the morrow he might go with the family to church. On Sunday morning it was found inconvenient to put the youngster through the regular course of washing and dressing necessary for his proper appearance at the sanctuary, and the family slipped off without him. They had not, however, more than got comfortably seated in their pew, when in walked the youngster with nothing on but a night-wrapper and a cloth cap. "You forgot me," said he in a tone loud enough to be heard all over the church. The "feelings" of the parents can be more easily imagined than described.—*Lafayette Journal*.

The Plymouth Rock announces a great medical discovery, entitled "Syrup of Bat's Wing and Quintessence of Wharf Rat." Its effect on the system is thus described: "The 'Bat's Wing' flies into the brain, kicks up a row with the ill of the head, driving them out at the ears, while the 'Wharf Rat' dives into the stomach, and from thence makes diligent inquiry into disease through the whole thirty feet of hose pipe which is coiled up in the human system." The discoverer modestly alludes to his philanthropy in the following strain: "In bringing out these medicines, I do it solely and entirely for the benefit of diseased humanity and sympathy for a sick universe; and I utterly detest money or reward of any kind above actual cost price, and as bats are not to be had in winter, and wharf rats only live in seaport places, the raw materials are scarce and high; but I am nevertheless determined to put the articles as low as one dollar per barrel, which is warranted to cure a moderate sized disease, or you can return the empty cask."

IS YOUR NAME HUGGINS?—A little fellow was carrying home a coat from a tailor's in Boston the other evening, when a man stopped him, and claimed the parcel as his. He attempted to take it by force, but the boy held on, and finally asked, "Is your name Huggins?" "Yes, that's my name," said he, "and that's my coat." "If your name is Huggins," said the lad, "the coat is not yours, for it belongs to Mr. Ordway." The scamp immediately left him.

Mirthfulness will save physic.

A BIT OF ADVICE.—Have you enemies? Go straight on and don't mind them. If they get in your way, walk round them, regardless of their spite. A man that has no enemies is seldom good for anything—he is made of that kind of material which is so easily worked that every one has a hand in it. A sterling character—one who thinks for himself, and speaks what he thinks, is always sure to have enemies. They are as necessary to him as fresh air; they keep him alive and active. A celebrated character, who was surrounded by enemies, used to remark: "They are sparks which if you do not blow will go out themselves." Let this be your feeling, while endeavoring to live down the scandal of those who are bitter against you. If you stop to dispute, you do but as they desire, and open the way for more abuse. Let the poor fellows talk—there will be a reaction, if you perform your duty, and hundreds who were once alienated from you, will flock to you and acknowledge their error.

Yesterday morning at 4 o'clock P. M., a small man named Jones, or Brown, or Smith, with a heel in the hole of his trowsers, committed arsenic by swallowing a dose of suicide. The verdict of the inquest returned a jury that the deceased came to the facts in accordance with his death. He leaves a child and six small wives to lament the end of his untimely loss. In death we are in the midst of life.—*Springfield Republican.*

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, August 15.

Compared with one week ago, the poorest grade of flour is $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents lower; the medium unchanged, while the higher grades have advanced $12\frac{1}{2}$ a 25c. per bbl. With an admixture of a small amount of grown kernels in much of the wheat heretofore producing the "Extra Genesee flour," we shall not look for an immediate large decline in this brand. Indeed there is so large a class of persons who are accustomed to this specific brand, and who being able, will have it at any price. With the fact that there is not likely to be a large supply of this, it will undoubtedly rule disproportionately high through the year. We say disproportionately high, since, for the purposes of muscle or strength-supplying food, the darker qualities are even superior to the whiter. The whiter flour is, the less gluten it contains, and the nearer it approaches to pure starch, which is not the best food for laborers, the less valuable it is, however appropriate it may be for confectionary, dessert puddings, or for weak stomachs.

The wheat harvest is now about over. Since the 1st of this month, the weather over the whole country has averaged as favorable as in ordinary years. Any excess of injury from rain this year over common years was done prior to August 1st. The amount of that injury we estimated last week as "not exceeding one-tenth, probably not one-twentieth." Another week's reports fully confirm this estimate; indeed we doubt very much whether the loss upon the entire wheat crop has come any where near to one-twentieth;

for in making up this estimate we must only reckon that *lost* by *rotting*, or beating down so that it could not be gathered. The great bulk of sprouted wheat, though lessened in market value, is not lost for consumption. This view will bear out our estimate of the actual total loss. No one but the most inveterate croaker or interested speculator will hesitate to admit that the wheat crop of 1855 is considerably above an average yield. How far this excess will be counterbalanced by the European demand, by the short supply of old stocks, and by the abundance of money, it is impossible now to predict, but the stronger probability is, that in connection with the great yield of corn and other crops, the average price of flour for the coming year will be much below the present. The current price of flour in New-York furnishes no criterion for judging of the future, as a moment's consideration will show. The uncertainty as to the future, and the high prices prevailing, would have effectually prevented speculators from laying in their usual stock of old flour, even had such a stock been available at the west. This market then was very bare, and it has been impossible, as yet, to bring forward new flour fast enough to make up this deficiency and meet the current demands for consumption. Indeed there is not yet enough new flour for present consumption; hence the continued high prices. And this is likely to continue for a few weeks yet, since there is much hay to be gathered, the summer grains are ripening, and putting in the next crop of wheat will soon require the whole farm force, so that really farmers can not stop to get wheat to market; and if they could, it will take some time to get much wheat threshed, floured, and brought to tide-water, through the ordinary cheap but slow channels. Again, the uncertainty, the freedom from debt, and the unwillingness to take a lower price than has prevailed heretofore, will make wheat raisers loth to sell their wheat. They reason thus, "wheat has been \$2.50 per bushel, it may be again, and I will run the risk and wait." There is danger that something like the following will be the result. Every body will hold back their wheat, and high prices will necessarily continue, since enough must be had for consumption; and navigation will perhaps close with three-fourths of the surplus wheat locked up in western barns and granaries. But when spring comes, a large amount of wheat *must* be sold, and the rush to the market will sink the prices far below what they would have been had the wheat come regularly into the market.

It may be that a general conviction of the large yield now certain, and the large corn crop, which will enter largely into consumption, will force itself upon the owners of wheat; and that, for a few weeks previous to the close of navigation, there will be a large influx of grain. If this takes place it will in part, and only in part, counteract the evil of excessively low prices in the spring.

It is then a matter of grave consideration with farmers, whether it is not their true interest to secure the present price for as much of their grain as it is possible to get

into market while the current prices continue. We will not take the responsibility of advising such a course, but we have given above some of the considerations which look strongly in that direction. Every one must judge for himself. The question is not whether the wheat crop, as large as it undoubtedly is, would not, if brought into market regularly, command remunerative prices. The probable European demand, the complete exhaustion of the country of old wheat, and the abundance of money, would secure this; but a small supply and high prices for a season, to be followed by an over supply and *very low* prices, is what is much to be feared. Such a state of things will benefit no one but the speculators; the consumers will be compelled to pay high prices for a time which will be counterbalanced by succeeding low prices, while the producer will be the real sufferer.

The Corn crop promises to exceed by far all former crops. At the South the crop is safe, in the Middle States nearly so, while at the North, though some reports of "lateness," "backwardness," &c., come in almost every day, such reports end with, "it is coming forward finely." The price is about the same as last week, which is about 25c. less per bushel than a few weeks since.

Oats are unchanged.

Cotton is about the same, say $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. advance.

The Weather has generally been moderately warm, with one or two unimportant showers of brief duration. Every thing is growing with the greatest luxuriance. The second crop of grass will exceed the entire growth of last year if this weather continues.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, AUG. 14, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The disposition to a decline in prices still continues. In market language, "Stuff is growing plentier." With the exception of Apples, we quote all the principal vegetables that are in season at a little lower rates.

Common Potatoes are bringing only 44c. $\frac{1}{2}$ basket. We noticed, on a visit to Flat Lands last week, that the vines are generally dead on this portion of Long Island and that farmers are digging them, but hear no complain, yet of rot in the market.

Tomatoes are down to 50c., although this week in their prime. The marketmen say they never were better, and they do look luscious enough.

For some time past reports of an immense growth of peaches have been widely circulated. It has been predicted that they would be so plentiful and cheap that it would not pay to bring them to market. We learn that several farmers living a little remote from market have not even supplied themselves with baskets. But present indications are that these reports have been premature. The wet and hot weather has produced an unfavorable effect; and from many parts of New-Jersey we hear that from one-fourth to one-half of the crop has come to maturity too early, and fallen off. Considerable quantities of these have been gathered and sent to this market, but have not met with a ready sale, owing to their poor quality. We have had a limited supply of small Delaware peaches, and these commanding from 75c. to \$1.50 a bushel at wholesale. Yesterday there was not enough in market to meet the demands of street corner peddlers. Good peaches will, without doubt, find ready sale at good prices during the whole season.

Of Pears, the small, green; hard ones are worth almost nothing, while the ripe Bells are called for at full prices.

Apples are in good demand at slightly increased rates. Melons from New-Jersey have begun to come in during the past week, and bring, as all early produce does, very remunerative prices—\$20 to \$30 per 100. Muskmelons are here, too, for the first, bringing from \$2 50 to \$3 50 per barrel. Butter is quoted at the same price. Cheese has declined a cent or two per lb.

VEGETABLES.

Table listing various vegetables such as Potatoes, Onions, Garlic, Corn, Cucumbers, Squashes, Blackberries, etc., with their respective prices per basket, bush, or pound.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY August 15, 1855.

Prices are nominally the same to-day, though the sales are somewhat brisker. The market is abundantly supplied with poor stock, though good cattle are not quite so plenty as last week; so that the range of prices to-day is wider than last quotations. The weather is fine, and the yards are more than commonly empty at 12 M. The total supply is a little greater than last week.

The following are about the highest and lowest prices:

Table listing cattle market prices for Extra quality, Good retailing quality, Inferior do, Veals, Swine, and Cows and Calves.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth-street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK. IN MARKET TO-DAY. Beeves, 1964

The report of sales for the week, at Browning's, are as follows:

Table listing sales figures for Sheep and Lambs, Beeves, Veals, and Cows and Calves.

The following sales were made at Chamberlain's: 493 Beef Cattle, Cows and Calves, 64,21 Sheep and Lambs, Veals.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.

Table listing prices for various commodities including Ashes, Bristles, Eeeswax, Coal, Cotton Bagging, Cotton, Flour and Meal, and various oils and fats.

Table listing prices for various types of flour, meal, and other grain products.

Table listing prices for various types of hay and molasses.

Table listing prices for various types of provisions including beef, pork, and lard.

Table listing prices for various types of sugar and tallow.

Table listing prices for various types of wool.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

A GOOD FARM FOR SALE VERY CHEAP.—A good Farm of 104 acres, situated in the town of Liberty, Sullivan County, N. Y., can be bought for \$3,000—a part of which may remain on mortgage. There is a good, new FARM-HOUSE, which cost more than half the price asked for the whole. There is also a good Barn, Out-buildings, &c. For further particulars apply to JAMES HORTON, 101-4n1221 Liberty Falls, Sullivan Co., N. Y.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112. He would also sell a few imported Ewes. SAMUEL THORNE, "Thornedale," Washington Hollow, Dutchess Co., N. Y. 100fn1219

THE FARMERS' BEST FRIEND—Is a box of REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE—the very best ointment to have in your family in case of accidents. Burns, cuts, wounds, of every description, are healed and completely cured. It relieves pains and allays inflammation at once. For felons it is the best article ever used. This excellent SALVE has been sold in Boston for the last 30 years, and it is well known to be a good article. Price 25 cents a box. Sold by all druggists in the United States, and at most of the country stores. REDDING & CO., Proprietors, 84,8,93,7,102,6n1189 No. 8 State-st., Boston.

TO FARMERS AND ALL OTHERS interested in AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, & C. Will be published, in October, 1855, THE YEAR BOOK OF AGRICULTURE; OR, THE ANNUAL OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS AND DISCOVERY FOR 1855.

Exhibiting the most important discoveries and improvements in Agricultural Mechanics. Agricultural and Horticultural Botany. Agricultural and Economic Geology. Agricultural Zoology, Meteorology, etc. Together with Statistics of American Growth and Production, A List of Recent Agricultural Publications, Agricultural Patents, with Notes by the Editor, on the Progress of American and Foreign Agriculture, for the Year 1855.

BY DAVID A. WELLS, A. M., Member of the Boston Society of Natural History, formerly Chemist to the Ohio State Board of Agriculture; Editor of the Annual of Scientific Discovery, Familiar Science, &c.

It is evident that a publication of this character, giving a complete and condensed view of the Progress of every Department of Agricultural Science, free from technical and unnecessary scientific descriptions, and systematically arranged so as to present at one view all recent Agricultural Facts, Discoveries, Theories and Applications, must be a most acceptable volume to every one interested in the Cultivation of Soil, or the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge.

THE "YEAR BOOK OF AGRICULTURE" will be published in a handsome octavo volume, comprising upwards of 300 pages, and will contain an elegant Steel Portrait of a Distinguished Agriculturist, together with Fine Illustrations of new Agricultural Machines, Stock, Fruit, &c., together with a series of BEAUTIFULLY COLORED ENGRAVINGS.

Although the publication of this work will be attended with heavy expenses, it will be issued at the low price of \$1 50, thereby enabling every FARMER and PLANTER to possess a copy. On receipt of the published price it will be sent free per mail, to any part of the United States. As the sale will be very large, all orders should be sent in immediately.

A liberal deduction to Clubs. Address, CHILDS & PETERSON, 124 Arch-st., Philadelphia. AGENTS wanted to sell the above valuable work 10m1220

TENTS! FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, MILITARY COMPANIES, EXHIBITIONS, &c.

The Subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of Tents of every description, suitable for Agricultural Fairs, Military Encampments, Camp Meetings, Conferences, Political Gatherings, Exhibitions, &c., &c., which he will rent on liberal terms. He has a large number of Camp Meeting and Military Tents of the following sizes:—24 feet by 30; 16 by 24; 12 by 17; 9 by 12. Also, for Conferences, Agricultural Societies, &c.—80 feet diameter; 70 feet do.; 60 feet do.; 50 feet do., and 80 feet by 110 feet by 90; 50 by 80.

These tents are of his own manufacture, of the very best material, and are every way desirable. When parties renting Tents desire it, a competent person will be sent to erect and take charge of them. He has furnished Tents to the Agricultural Societies of New-York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin Michigan, Illinois, Canada, and to many other prominent Agricultural and other Associations, and can therefore with confidence refer those who are about purchasing or renting Tents, to any of the officers of these Associations as to the character of his work and fairness of his dealings.

TENTS AND FLAGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, MADE TO ORDER. He has on hand the largest assortment of Tents on the Continent, sufficient to accommodate seventy thousand persons, and can fill orders for any number of Tents, on short notice. All orders by Mail will meet prompt attention. February, 1855. E. C WILLIAMS, 79,84,8,93,7,102,5n1182 Rochester, N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and minute description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWES, (QUEENS PATENT.)

Advertisement for portable forges and bellows, including an illustration of a man operating a forge. Text describes the quality and uses of the equipment, particularly for blacksmiths and industrial purposes.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

GRAIN AND SEED DRILLS, CORN PLANTING and BROADCAST SOWING MACHINES, for every description of field and garden planting and sowing, either by hand or horse.

SCYTHES of all the best brands.

GRAIN CRADLES, of 4 and 5 fingers, and of all sizes.

HAY RAKES, both horse and hand, latest and best kinds.

GARDEN RAKES, with steel and iron heads and teeth.

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do.
- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
- TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
- WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
- TARLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES:

- ALLEN'S Mowing Machine.
- ALLEN'S Mowing and Reaping combined do.
- KEITCHUM'S Mowing Machine.
- HUSEY'S Reaping do.
- MCCORMICK'S do. do.
- ATKINS' Self-raking and Reaping combined machine.

THRESHERS—

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
- do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
- EMERY'S overshot.
- EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which evenly large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stable, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS and WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGERS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Spades, Cultivators, Seed and Grain Drills, Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

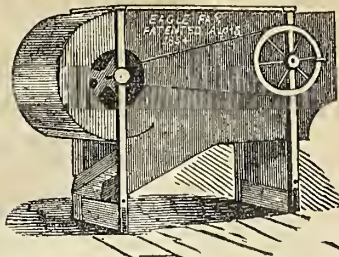
Clover Hullers, Shingle Machines, Apple Parers, Hay and Manure Forks, Picks, Wheelbarrows, Road-Scrapers, Garden Engines, Cotton Gins, Gin Gear, Wire Cloth, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

AYRESHIRE BULL.—FOR SALE, A Thoroughbred Ayreshire BULL, 2 years and 4 mos. old. Bred by Wm. Watson, Esq., of Westchester. Price \$250. Apply to WILLIAM REDMOND, 96-100n1213 No. 30 Pine-st., New-York.

LAWTON-BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON, 83-109n1198 No. 54 Wall-st., New-York

EAGLE FAN MILL.



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GRAIN AND SEED SEPARATOR EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

The superiority of this Fan consists
 First—In cleaning without a screen, by separating the impurities, such as chaff, cockle, smut, &c., by the blast alone, consequently saving the loss of the small sound kernels of wheat which must go through a screen.
 Second—An arrangement by which a part of the sound and perfect grains are separated from the rest for seeding, leaving the balance in a good marketable condition, so that the farmer need sow only such grain as contains the germ of growth.
 Third—Smaller seed, such as grass and clover seed, are cleaned in the most perfect manner.
 Fourth—Fans built on this plan will clean grain, both in the first and second cleaning, faster and better than any others now in use.
 Fifth—The cheapness and durability of its construction.
 R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

The Allen Patent Mower Triumphant.

Many are now inquiring, "What Mower shall I buy?" That question has been satisfactorily answered during the past fortnight.
 At a trial at Bedford, Westchester County, in heavy, wet clover, and on rough, stony ground, the ALLEN MOWER performed better than any other in competition, being the only one which cut a smooth, even swath and spread it well; and it came out of the field unscathed, while others were badly broken or seriously injured. It has since been repeatedly tried in New-Jersey, on Long-Island, and other places, and worked admirably, whether in short, thin, fine grass, or in tall, thick and badly-lodged grass or clover. It also works well on a side hill, and on salt meadows.
 The draft of this Mower is uncommonly light. It is simple in construction, very strong, and not liable to get out of order, and when so, easily and cheaply repaired.
 It is the only Mower perfectly safe to the driver, the gearing being all covered; and he sits so firm in his seat, it is almost impossible to throw him out. In fact, this machine is better fitted for all kinds of work than any Mower yet manufactured.
 The following letter from one of the best known and largest farmers in New-Jersey, will testify to its merits:

JAMESBURG, N. J., June 22, 1855.

MR. R. L. ALLEN, New-York:

Sir—I made a trial yesterday with the new Mowing Machine I purchased of you, and do not hesitate to say that the improved [ALLEN] machine is the best I ever saw worked with—and I have seen a goodly number. I have a field of very heavy grass, and it had fallen down and lodged so I could not cut it with the old machine; and the grass was very wet, having rained nearly all day previous to my giving it a trial. I expected to see it choke up, but to my great surprise it choked up but very little, and that was owing to mismanagement. To be plain, Sir, I feel it my duty to inform you that the improved Mower works beautifully, and I am satisfied works nearly one-third lighter for the team than the Mower I used last year, and that was called one of the best in the market.
 JAMES BUCKLEW.

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is

requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

T A F E U ,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price \$35 per ton, or 1 1/2 cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York. For further particulars address

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P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price \$1.50 per bbl for any quantity over 7 bbls.
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B A G S .—

NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York, manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT, GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS. Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city. Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day.
 97-109n1214

RHODE-ISLAND HORSE AND CATTLE EXHIBITION.

THE RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY,

Will hold an Exhibition of

HORSES AND CATTLE,

AT THE

WASHINGTON TROTTER PARK, PROVIDENCE,

To commence on TUESDAY, September 11th, and to continue through the week.

The premium list amounts to **FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS.** Competition is open to all States and the British Provinces. Judges will be appointed from other States as far as practicable. The Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, and the Plowing and Drawing Matches, will take place on Tuesday, and an Auction Sale will be held. **EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS** are offered in premiums. An Address will be delivered before the Society in the evening.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the several classes of Horses will be exhibited, and on the afternoon of each day there will be a grand trial of speed of Trotting Horses. On Saturday the Premium Horses will be exhibited, and an Auction Sale will be held. **THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS** are offered in premiums on Horses.

In order to prevent the confusion which must necessarily arise from the entrance of too large a number of Trotting Horses, an entrance-fee of \$20 will be charged on those competing for \$200 premiums, and of \$30 to those competing for \$300 premiums, to be paid at the time of entering, which must be done on or before the 1st of September, at the office of the Society, Railroad Halls, Providence. The other entrance-fees are, \$5 for single Horses, and \$7 for matched Horses.

Arrangements have already been made with the New-York and Erie Railroad, and with the New-York Railroad and Steamboat line via Stonington, for the issue of Excursion tickets and for the transportation of stock at reduced rates. Such arrangements will be extended to other lines as far as may be practicable.

For further particulars reference is made to handbills, which will in all cases be forwarded on application to the Secretary.

JOSEPH J. COOKE, President.

C. T. KEITH, Secretary.

99-104n1217

WOODSTOCK (CONN.) ACADEMY.

This Institution designs to prepare Students for business or for college. Instruction is given in the common and higher English branches, the Latin, Greek and French languages, Music and Drawing.

Special attention will be paid to the Elements of Agricultural Science.
 The **FALL TERM** will commence Thursday, August 30th, and continue eleven weeks.

REFERENCES—Henry C. Bowen, Esq., New-York City; Hoa. A. N. Skinner, and Benjamin Silliman, L.L.D., New-Haven, Conn. For further particulars, address

E. CONANT, Principal.

WOODSTOCK, Conn., June 21, 1855.

94-101n1209

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam,

out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. MORRIS'S Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 24 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasture \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale, P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y.
 April 24, 1855. 86-41n1193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE

SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 187 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm.
 April 24, 1855. 86-41n1194

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—

Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, for sale by **ISAAC ROOSEVELT,** 95-120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

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 Single Horse Power \$85 00
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Belts \$5 and \$10 each.
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removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New-York. 86-6m

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Special Notices to Subscribers, Correspondents, &c.

PREPARED COVERS.—We keep constantly on hand prepared covers for Volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV, which will be furnished at 25 cents each. These have stamped sides, and gilt backs, are uniform, and can be put on by any book-binder, at a cost of 25 cents. They can not be mailed very conveniently.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

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No new edition of the volumes subsequent the tenth will be issued, as the work is too large to admit of stereotyping.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT!

FOURTEENTH VOLUME OF

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,

THE LEADING WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL PAPER OF THE COUNTRY.

The American Agriculturist,

A weekly Periodical of 16 large quarto pages, making an annual volume of 832 pages of nearly double the size of those in the first ten volumes of the *Agriculturist*.

N. B.—The work is divided into two semi-annual volumes of 416 pages, each volume having a complete index.

It is beautifully printed with type cast expressly for it, and on the best of clear white paper, with wide margin, so that the numbers can be easily stitched or bound together.

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The *American Agriculturist* is under the control and management of **MR. ORANGE JUDD, A. M.**, an experienced farmer, whose knowledge of practical chemistry, soil analysis, &c., will enable him to sift the "scientific" nostrums and humbugs of the day. Mr. JUDD is wholly independent of business connections of any kind, and will take good care that no collateral interests shall, in the slightest degree, interfere with the *truthfulness* and *reliability* of every department of this Journal.

Mr. A. B. ALLEN, one of the originators of the *American Agriculturist*, in 1842, and for a long time principal editor, will still continue to aid its progress by his counsel and editorial contributions.

Constant editorial assistance will also be given by Mr. LEWIS F. ALLEN, an eminent practical farmer, stock breeder, and fruit grower; Rev. WM. CLIFT, and Mr. R. G. PARDEE, both widely known as pleasing and instructive writers on gardening and other departments of practical Agriculture, and, by a large number of other eminent Agricultural and Horticultural writers.

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CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
ALLEN & CO., 189 Water-st., New-York

VOL. XIV.—NO. 24.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 102.

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

EVERY one writing to the Editor or Publishers of this journal will please read "Special Notices," on last page.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

THE DESTROYERS OF OUR GRAIN.

In looking over our Wheat reports to ascertain, if possible, the *relative* amount of damage the crop has received from each class of the prevailing destructive insects, we have been surprised at the confusion of terms or names used in the descriptions. Indeed, there seems to be no intelligent comprehension of the difference between these various insects. Thus, from the same town where all the injurious results appear to be traceable to the same cause, we have one writer saying, "We shall lose half our crop by the *weevil*;" another says, "The *fly* is doing us immense harm; and another still—more cautious in making a distinction—writes, "Much injury was feared from the *insect*, but it will be less than was anticipated." These three reports from a single town are a fair sample of those from the country at large.

It would materially assist investigations upon these insects, and also convey a more definite idea of the character and amount of injury to be estimated, if editors and all others reporting upon this matter, would state exactly what kind of "insect" is at work in their several localities. To facilitate such a course we will give a brief description of some of the more generally destructive "insects" that prey especially upon the wheat crop. Among these are the *Grain Weevil*, the *Hessian fly*, the *Clear-winged Fly*, or *Wheat Midge*, several varieties of *Grain Moth*, the *Chintz* or *Chinck Bug*, &c.

THE GRAIN WEEVIL (*Calandra Granaria*, or *Curculio Granarius* of Linnæus).—There is a wrong impression as to the character of this insect, and especially in reference to the time of its chief depredations. Quite early in the Spring, while wheat was not yet in blossom, reports came from some interior counties of Michigan that the *weevil* wa

thus early committing extensive depredations. From many other localities we heard similar reports, but a little later in the season. These were founded in misconception, for the truth is the weevil proper preys only upon the *grain*, commencing its ravages about the time of its ripening, and continuing them long after it is gathered into the granary; hence the name of *grain* or *granary weevil*.

The grain weevil in its perfect state is a dark or pitchy red, winged beetle or bug, about a line and a half, or one-eighth of an inch long. It has a slender proboscis or snout, curving a little downwards. The thorax, or chest, constitutes about one-half of its body, and is nearly as large as the abdomen, or belly, lying back of the middle ring. The thorax is punctured with a large number of holes, giving it a rough appearance. Over the abdomen are delicate wings, which are shielded by wing-covers, having lines or furrows upon their upper surface running parallel with their length. The wings do not entirely cover the tip of the abdomen. The female punctures the ripening or ripened grain with her beak or rostrum and deposits one and sometimes two eggs. From the egg is hatched a grub or worm, which eats its way into the grain, closing up the aperture behind it with excrements so that it lies perfectly shielded from external injury. No mechanical action short of crushing the kernel can disturb the destroyer. They are effectually destroyed by kiln-drying the grain. This worm or grub grows to about one twelfth of an inch in length; its body is white and soft, with nine rings around it. The head is small, round, yellow colored, and provided with cutting instruments. Arriving at maturity, which is not till after the flour portion of the wheat kernel has been principally devoured, this worm or larvæ assumes a nymph or chrysalis state, (like that between the worm and the butterfly,) and within two weeks after, the perfect weevil is formed, which eats its way out through the shell, and goes forth to deposit its eggs in turn upon other sound kernels. They are very productive, a single pair often multiplying to five or six thousand in a single year. Both the perfect insect and the grub feed upon the grain.

THE HESSIAN FLY, (*Cecidomyia destructor*.) is so named because introduced, or supposed to have been, by the Hessian soldiers employed by the British during the Revolutionary war. It was first discovered in the vicinity of New-York, from which point it extended in all directions, its usual rate of advance being from 15 to 25 miles a year. The full grown *Hessian Fly* is nearly the size of a small musquito, which it resembles in general form. It has, however, no bill for sucking blood, and has preportionately a larger thorax or chest, and a smaller abdomen or belly than the musquito. There are two

broods hatched annually, from eggs deposited in September and May. The full-grown fly deposits its eggs, which are very small reddish grains, in the upper channels of the wheat leaf, soon after the stalk begins to branch. As this takes place in September or early in October, late sown wheat usually escapes the Autumn egg. These eggs hatch out in about 15 days, producing a small worm which works its way down between the leaf-sheath and stalk to a point below the surface of the ground, where, in the form of a white or spotted maggot, it lies concealed, and sucks out the juice of the plant. In a few weeks it arrives at full growth, and changes to a pupa or chrysalis state, of a cone-like or flaxseed shape. In this state it lies until the following Spring, when the perfect fly comes forth and deposits a second brood of eggs, which attack the wheat stalks above the ground, but near the lower joints. The juice extracted weakens the stalk and it crinkles down. Its effects are not very visible until the stalk has attained nearly its full growth, when by going through a field the extent of its depredations is generally known by the number of lodged or fallen stalks. The flaxseed grub when present may be found much earlier by carefully stripping down the leaf-sheath from the still green and upright stalk. Since the point of attack is usually below the gathered portion of the straw, the grub is left in the field, where it undergoes its transformation to come out the perfect fly again in Autumn. It is on this account that burning the stubble soon after harvest has proved a partial remedy against future attacks. There is a parasitic insect enemy, which multiplies faster than the Hessian fly, and to which we are indebted for the disappearance of this pest after its prevalence during a few years in any locality.

THE CLEAR-WINGED WHEAT FLY, (*Cecidomyia Tritici*).—This fly, by many called the *MIDGE* or *WHEAT GNAT*, resembles the Hessian fly in general form and size, but differs from it in having an orange-colored instead of black body, clear or transparent wings instead of dark; its antennæ or horns are longer and more fringed, its legs are longer and more slender, and its abdomen is covered with short hairs and blunt at the extremity, instead of smooth and pointed like that of the Hessian fly. It undergoes its changes in the soil and attacks the blossoms and immature grain instead of the straw. These distinctions should be studied, for upon a clear understanding of them depends the treatment to be pursued.

The clear-winged wheat-flies conceal themselves among the grass and leaves during clear midday, but morning, evening, and on cloudy days, they appear in swarms over a wheat field, and deposit their eggs in the heads. In the course of a week or so these eggs hatch out orange-colored maggots which feed upon the pollen of the flower, and finally attach themselves to the soft grain. They can not injure the kernel after it has acquired some degree of hardness. They do not

make their appearance until the latter part of June or forepart of July, according to the latitude, and only attack the wheat while in a soft state, and on this account early wheat escapes injury. Using only the early, hardy varieties, or sowing early, and forcing to quick maturity with guano or other stimulating manures, are the best known means of escaping this insect. The yellow or orange-colored maggots are easily observed—there frequently being as many as twenty or thirty, or more of them, on a single wheat head. We have often found several of them on a single kernel, upon carefully removing the chaff or sheath. From the imperfect descriptions given, we think that much the greatest "insect" injury of the present season has been done by this species. During the latter part of July and the fore part of August, the maggots or worms obtain their full size, cast off their skins, descend to the ground and bury themselves half an inch or so below the surface, where they remain during the Winter, and come forth perfect flies the following season, to continue and multiply their depredations. It is against this fly that sprinkling lime over the growing wheat, burning sulphur in the field, and such-like means, have proved a partial remedy.

The GRAIN MOTH (*Tinea Granella*), when fully developed, is a small winged insect, a little resembling a butterfly in its general form. Upon its head is a white hairy tuft, and two short antennæ or horns. Its fore wings are mottled with black, white and intermediate colors, always with one black rectangular or square spot near the middle of the outer edge. The eggs are deposited in Spring, and again in the latter part of the Summer. The first brood are hatched in July, and take the form of a sixteen-legged caterpillar, with a naked soft body, nearly half an inch in length. They gnaw the surface of the grain, and cover it with a thick web, which sometimes fastens together a number of kernels. After a time these caterpillars spin a cocoon, in which they undergo the usual transformations, like those of the butterfly.

The ANGOUMOIS MOTH (*Anacampsis cercal-ella*) is another grain moth, which has proved immensely destructive in France, especially in the province of Angoumois, from whence it derives its name; and the same moth, or one very similar, has appeared in this country. The perfect insect is a very small moth, of a pale cinamon brown color, and satin luster. Its wings are long, narrow, broadly fringed and ash or lead-colored. It has two thread-like antennæ or horns consisting of numerous bearded joints; a spiral tongue of moderate length, and two tapering feelers turned back over the head. It lays twenty or more eggs upon each of three or four wheat grains, and within a week these hatch out little worm-like caterpillars not thicker than a hair, which immediately disperse, each selecting a single grain and burrowing into its most tender part. Within the grain (and not upon the surface like the grain-moth) it devours all the heart portion, then spins a web to divide its cell into two cavities, in one of which it deposits its excrements or rejected fragment of food, and in the other it undergoes its transformations preparatory to coming forth a perfect moth. These, like the grain weevil, may be destroyed by kiln-drying.

There are several other species of grain-moths, but they are yet imperfectly known, and have not been generally destructive.

CHINZOR CHINCK BUG (*Lygæus leucopterus*.) This insect has proved more destructive in Virginia and other Southern States than at the North. In its perfect state it has a black downy body about one-sixth of an inch in length, and is readily distinguished by its white wing-covers, upon each of which there

is a short, black central line, and a large black oval spot upon the margin. They do not arrive at their perfect state until about the time the wheat is ready to cut. Previous to this they are without wings and resemble the bed-bug in odor and color. It is at this time that they are most destructive. From the eggs laid in the ground the previous season, the young come forth in the Southern States in May—later at the West or North—at first of a bright red color, but changing with age to brown and black. They travel from field to field in immense columns, like Locusts, destroying everything as they proceed. They destroy wheat by attaching themselves to the green stalk and sucking out the entire moisture. They have been arrested in their course by running ditches across the field before them, filling these with dry straw which is set on fire when the bugs are seen thereon. They have also been destroyed by burning the dry leaves of the forest, upon which they have settled.

For the American Agriculturist.

UNDER-DRAINING.

The beneficial effect of under-draining has presented itself so unmistakably to my observation, that I feel it my duty, as an individual desirous of seeing the farming community prosper, to write a short article upon the subject. I hope to call forth something from abler pens than mine; for I really believe this to be one of the most important matters that can engage the attention of the farmers.

There is scarcely a farm within my knowledge, that can not be more or less improved by under-draining. Few farms are to be found on which there are not many patches of cold springy land, which are considered nearly worthless, and on many there are large fields bearing only a little sour grass, which no stock will eat unless verging on starvation. But such lands under proper management often become the most valuable portion of the farm.

I have examined within a short time several fields which have been under-drained, and the effect is indeed surprising. One piece having a slight inclination to the east, was previously cold and wet. I have assisted in cutting the grass upon it several times, though considered hardly worth mowing, it never having, to my knowledge, half a tun of hay to the acre, and what there was being of poor quality. An attempt was at one time made to reclaim it by plowing and manuring, but without success. The first year the potatoes planted were hardly worth harvesting. It settled down so heavily the second year that the oats with which it was sown were not worth cutting. And the grass crop that followed was even lighter than previous to its being plowed. The owner said he considered it of less value than if composed of a flat rock, for then he could have carted over it with less difficulty, which, as far as profits were concerned, would have been worth more than all he obtained from it.

A gentleman acquainted with under-draining, having witnessed its beneficial effects in another State, purchased this tract of land for a trifling sum, and has already raised produce enough on it, not only to pay for the land, but also to pay for all the labor and ex-

pense of reclaiming it. He has grown heavy crops of potatoes, corn and oats on it, and thinks of trying wheat; and should he do so, I have no doubt he will meet with success. Last season, and the present, he has cut two tuns of hay to the acre on that portion now in grass; the hay being composed of timothy, and clover.

His method of reclaiming was as follows: He opened ditches about three rods apart, three or four feet wide, and two feet deep. These he filled with small stone, to within one foot of the surface, and then covered the stones with the earth thrown from the ditches. This was done in the fall, after an oat crop. The beneficial results of under-draining have been completely demonstrated on this piece of land, which, from being nearly worthless, has been rendered as valuable as any in this region.

One of our best farmers having failed to get a crop on a flat piece of land, lying between two knolls, concluded to try the effect of under-draining. He opened a ditch somewhat larger and deeper than those above described, and having nearly filled it with stones, covered them with a portion of the earth thrown from the ditch. The remainder he spread on either side evenly over the ground, which he sowed with wheat. His most ardent anticipations were realized in the succeeding harvest. I visited this piece of grain when he was cutting it, and I think I never saw stouter wheat than a strip marked by the drain, about three rods wide and thirty long. Although lodged in some places, it appeared well filled. He afterwards told me that he never before got so many bushels of wheat from the same number of square rods, and he believed that the drain through this piece of land had more than doubled its value.

It is actual experiments like these that carries conviction to the mind of the farmer, and have ten times more effect on his future action, than labored articles written by learned men, on scientific principles, but without experience or practice.

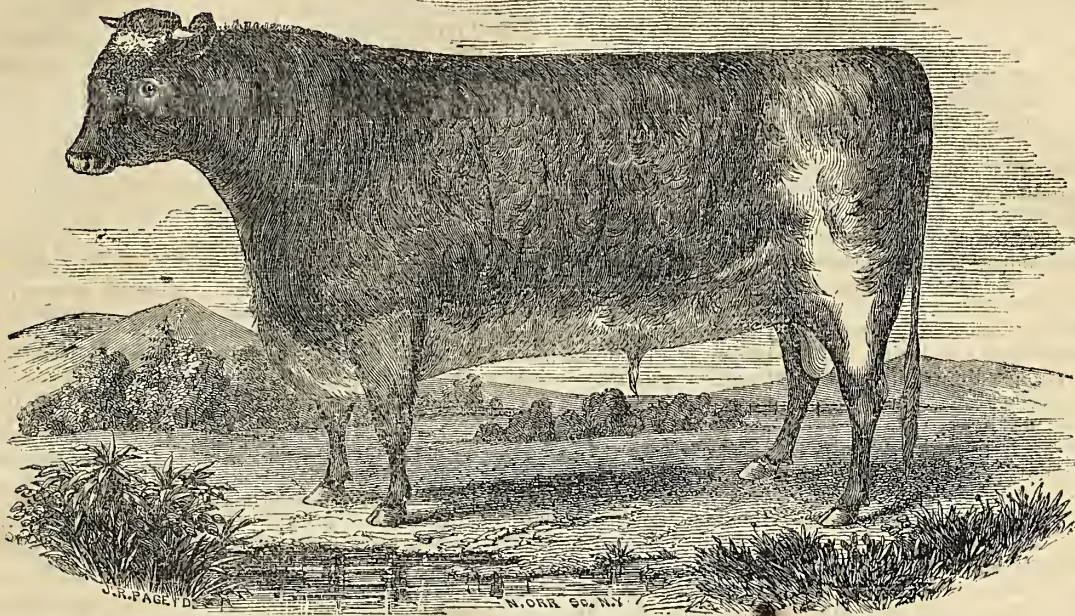
As our lands grow old, the importance of under-draining will more fully develop itself. New land seldom needs it; roots, and vegetable matter contained in the soil obviate, to a considerable extent, its necessity. But as these become eradicated the earth settles down, becomes hard, sour and lifeless, and the importance of under-draining becomes apparent. The air, the great fertilizer, can not penetrate such soil; dead, and stagnant water accumulates in it; its productive powers are destroyed; and under-draining can alone restore it to its original fertility.

I believe this subject is yet in its infancy, and that if farmers will but give it the attention its importance demands, they will find a mine of wealth, which is destined to increase the value of our farms beyond any thing else within reach.

Thousands of acres that produce little or no income to the owner may, in this way, be caused to remunerate him well for his labor, and rendered in value to the very best in their vicinity.

JAS. FELLOWS.

SALISBURY, N. H., Aug. 13, 1855.



WARWICK.

WARWICK was bred by Samuel Thorne, Esq., and is now owned by Samuel T. Taber, of Chestnut Ridge, Dutchess County, N. Y. Calved 18th March, 1854. Color, red roan. Got by Duke of Glo'ster [11,282]; 1. Dam

Mystery, by Usurer [9763]; 2. Minstrel, by Count Conrad [2510]; 3. Magic, by Wallace [5586]; 4. By Wellington [2824]; 5. By Marmion [406]; 6. Daphne, by Merlin [430]; 7. Nell Gwyne, by Layton [366]; 8. By Phe-

nomenon [491]; 9. Princess, by Favorite [252]; 10. By Favorite [252]; 11. By Hubback [319]; 12. By Snowden's Bull [611]; 13. By Waistell's Bull [660]; 14. By Masterman's Bull [422]; 15. By Studley Bull [626].

For the American Agriculturist.
GET THE BEST.

I have often wondered why our hard working farmers, particularly those who have easy access to our large cities and towns, (which with our numerous Railroad, and Steamboats, embraces nearly all,) do not more generally and extensively cultivate choice vegetables and fruits, for market, instead of confining themselves, in many instances, to a scanty livelihood, obtained by growing on a small scale our ordinary field crops. And why do not farmers raise only the most desirable and best varieties, since it requires but little more expense and care to raise the choicest stock or crops, than the inferior; while the best always find ready sale, and usually at a price very much above, and frequently at several times, the price of ordinary produce.

I was impressed with the truth of these remarks when recently visiting the farms of the Messrs. Hallocks, and others, at Milton N. Y., and viewing among other fine things, their splendid raspberries, which are sent by steamboat daily to New-York, and which one of the Messrs. Hallocks, I think, told me brought him in for several weeks during bearing season, \$100 per day; while he also sells a large number of his fine plants in the fall and spring. I have seen the same result lately, at Mr. Lawton's, with his fine blackberries. He has several acres of plants, and sells all his fruit readily at \$1 the gallon, and says he could get a higher price if he thought it polite to do so. He estimates that an acre of bearing plants would yield 800 to 1,000 gallons during the season. He also sells at a high price a large number of plants. If our farmers were to show more enterprise in growing new and superior varieties of fruit, seed, stock, &c., and in using the best labor-saving implements, I think they would find more cash in their pockets than if they imply raised, as too many do, hay and oats

for their horses, corn for their pigs, and pigs and wheat for themselves.

EXCELSIOR.

For the American Agriculturist.
CORN-PASTURE-THE RESULTS.

The following facts may be of service to some of your readers: Acting upon the repeated suggestions of the *American Agriculturist*, I sowed, early in the spring, (about the 20th of April,) one acre of corn broadcast, for soiling. It so happened the hay crop in this Valley was expected to prove a failure; and, therefore, as soon as my corn made its appearance above ground, "as thick as the hair on a dog's back," and my neighbors got over their wonderment, they began to imitate my example, several of them putting in, late in May, eight or ten-acre fields of broadcast corn. As far as I can learn, it has done well in every case. In my own field it has grown very nearly as well as the corn planted in the regular way—as the season has been very propitious—and will produce an abundant crop of "nubbins," if not of full-grown ears. It has already, (August 15,) paid me thrice over, for I have been feeding three head of stock upon it for eight weeks, and not one-quarter of it is cut yet. At the same time, my cow gives twice as much milk, and of a better quality than ever before.

As was expected, the hay crop did fail, but those of us who have broadcast corn, consider the loss of the hay crop a matter of very little importance. E.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY, PENN.

The Sandusky Register has seen a potato vine six feet two inches in length. There was a fine yield of potatoes at the bottom.

For the American Agriculturist.
THE CROPS.

The excitement under which farmers have labored for some time past, because of the continued rain upon their exposed wheat fields has, we are happy to say, considerably abated. The weather during the last week having been fine, farmers have availed themselves of it to hurry their grain into the barn.

Wheat however is badly sprouted, and the injury in dollars and cents will be great. Considerable has been threshed, and the grain spread upon the barn floor for drying. Such as I have seen will make passable flour, if it can be preserved from mustiness. Contrary to the statement that "the injury to wheat has been over-rated," it is such as totally to unfit it for seed, and renders it comparatively unmarketable; and the injury is likely to be increased, too, by the precipitate manner in which the crop has been ushered into the barn. Some millers, in this section, have already been west and bought Illinois wheat for flouring, the home-produced being rejected by many retail customers.

The hay crop in this, as well as Onondaga, Wayne and Seneca Counties, has also been materially injured. A great deal had been cut by mowing machines before the rains, and as little was secured much was spoiled. Clover ripened earlier and was mostly secured before the rains. The hay crop, however, will undoubtedly be greater than last year after all.

There must be an overwhelming crop of oats this season. In traveling through the country, one is astonished at the numberless fields of this crop that meet the eye. In every direction it is oats, oats, oats. Not only are great quantities sown, but the crop is unusually heavy and promising.

The prospect for a great crop of corn is good. The spring was cold and backward, and the growth continually retarded up to the

first of July; but since that time, corn has come forward amazingly. I can not see but it is as forward as on previous years. It is certainly full as heavy; and as more acres were planted than ever, there must be a great harvest.

The potato crop never looked finer or more promising. No symptoms of rot, I believe, have yet been perceived, and the vines look uncommonly thrifty, and full of blossoms; and, as it will be remembered that, in potato-rotting seasons the "tops" gave signs of premature decay, and were not over-stocked with blows or balls, the inference is safe for an uncommon crop this season. None need be surprised, if potatoes are retailed this fall as low as 18 cents per bushel.

In traveling through the State, I perceive that there is an abundance of apples. In regard to peaches, I doubt there being a single one raised in this county this year.

In short, taking all things together, notwithstanding the injury to wheat, there is a fair prospect of plenty in the approaching winter.

F. J. BELL.

WEEDSPORT, N. Y., Aug. 5, 1855.

FOOD FOR SUMMER.

Diseases of the stomach, liver and bowels, and fevers, all of which spring but too generally from errors in diet, are those which we find to be peculiar to the summer and autumn. It will be proper, therefore, that diet should chiefly claim our attention at the present time.

To the child, food furnishes materials for three uses, *growth*, *repair* of waste and *warmth*. To the adult, whose growth has ceased, food serves two uses only, *repair* and *warmth*. Anything more than enough to satisfy the demands of either of these periods is *excess*, and as such, it is injurious at any season, most injurious in summer.

To some extent the needs of cold and hot weather are opposed. In winter, the necessity of maintaining the heat of the system creates a demand for food rich in *combustible* material, such as milk, butter, fat meats, corn meal or like articles, and an appetite is felt for such food. The increased activity of cold weather also necessitates the taking of *nutricious* foods and calls for a free supply of bread, flesh, eggs or some like aliment. In summer most persons need less of the heat producing elements. Hence all forms of animal food, if used at all, should now be taken more sparingly. Besides the tendency to speedy decay renders animal food liable to produce diarrhea, dysentery, cholera and fevers.

If there is any exception to this rule it is probably to be found in salted fish, which, the codfish, especially, seems to furnish a healthful and safe summer diet. The whole quantity of food taken by a single person should be diminished by one-third, or perhaps more.

Water alone may be taken more freely. For economy, beans, peas, corn-meal, oat-meal, hominy, rice and sugar are the most eligible forms of food we have.

In making the changes of diet required by the different seasons, a healthful appetite is a very good guide. Thus in the hot months we lose our relish for the grosser and heartier forms of food, and choose, instead (just what, indeed we stand in need of,) those articles of diet which moderately distend the digestive organs, without containing the flesh and heat producing elements in their most concentrated state, such as farinaceous foods, vegetables, and fruits. So our edibles should now be of the *starchy* and *succulent*, rather than of the *oily* kind. The teachings of nature and experience, however, alike go to show that we can never, with safety to

health, wholly dispense with the oleaginous element in food.

THE CULTIVATION OF TRUFFLES.—It has been suggested to the Patent Office that measures should be taken to introduce the truffle into the United States. This esculent, which in some respects resembles the mushroom, has been the favorite dish of epicures from time immemorial to the present day, and yet strange to say, they have always been scarce and high-priced, few knowing how to raise them, and fewer still possessing the proper knowledge to prepare them for the table. The royal cooks of France say that "the truffle improves all it touches," and happy the cuisinier who can give a taste of its delicacy and flavor to each separate dish!

A gay French writer says: "When I eat truffles, I at once think myself transported to another world; for instantly my spirit becomes more joy and more joyous; my blood courses my veins with an indescribable pleasure; an agreeable voluptuousness seizes upon me, and my whole spirit is changed by the delicious symposium. As I continue eating, my judgment becomes sound and discreet, my wit sharp and ready, and my imaginings of the most lofty, varied, and beautiful kind. Indeed, a sort of inspiration comes over me, and I feel as if I could readily write an epic poem, address a popular assembly with unsurpassed eloquence, and compose works which, for depth of learning, and beauty, and brilliancy of style, should astonish the world. Then the agreeable digestion which follows—the delicious sleep—and the ecstatic dreams!—ah, language is too poor to portray these; and all—yea, all—are inspired by truffles!"

STATE AGRICULTURAL SHOWS FOR 1855.

Name.	Where Held.	Date.
Georgia,	Atlanta.....	Sept. 10—
Vermont,	Rutland.....	" 11—13
Canada East,	Sherbrook.....	" 11—14
Rhode Island,	Providence.....	" 11—15
" " Horse and Cattle, do.		" 11—15
New-Hampshire,		" 12—14
New-Jersey,	Camden.....	" 18—21
Ohio,	Columbus.....	" 18—21
Pennsylvania,	Harrisburg.....	" 25—28
West Virginia,	Wheeling.....	" 26—28
Kentucky,	Paris.....	" 25—28
Tennessee,	Nashville.....	Oct. 1—8
New-York,	Elmira.....	" 2—5
Michigan,	Detroit.....	" 2—5
Connecticut,	Hartford.....	" 9—11
Illinois,	Chicago.....	" 9—12
Canada West,	Coburg.....	" 9—12
Iowa,	Fairfield.....	" 10—
North-Carolina,	Raleigh.....	" 16—19
Indiana,	Indianapolis.....	" 17—19
East Tennessee,	London.....	" 23—25
Alabama,	Montgomery.....	" 23—26
Maryland,	Baltimore.....	" 29—
Virginia,	Richmond.....	" 30—2

NEW-YORK COUNTY SHOWS.

Otsego,	Cooperstown.....	Sept. 10—11
Franklin,	Malone.....	" 10—12
Saratoga,		" 11—13
Chatauque,	Westfield.....	" 12—13
Fulton and Hamilton,	Fonda's Bush.....	" 18—
Putnam,	Carmel.....	" 18—19
Rensselaer,	Lansingburg.....	" 18—20
Jefferson,	Watertown.....	" 19—20
Delaware,	Hobart.....	" 19—20
Onondaga,	Syracuse.....	" 19—21
Queens,	Flushing.....	" 20—
Monroe,	Spencerport.....	" 20—21
Dutchess,	Washington Hollow.....	" 25—26
Oneida,	Rome.....	" 25—27
Albany,	Albany.....	" 25—27
Cayuga,	Auburn.....	" 25—27
Ontario,	Canandaigua.....	" 26—27
St. Lawrence	Canton.....	" 26—23
Steuben,	Bath.....	" 26—28
Tompkins,	Ithaca.....	" 27—28
Herkimer,	Frankfort.....	" 22—28
Seneca,	Farmersville.....	Oct. 10—13
Niagara,	Lockport.....	" 19—20

OHIO COUNTY SHOWS.

Belmont,	St. Clairsville.....	Sept. 3—5
Champaign,	Urbana.....	" 4—6
Fayette,	Washington.....	" 4—6
Hamilton,	Carthage.....	" 4—7
Pickaway,	Circleville.....	" 5—7
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland.....	" 11—13
Delaware,	Delaware.....	" 11—13
Clermont,	Bantam.....	" 11—14
Butler,	Hamilton.....	" 12—14
Franklin,	Columbus.....	" 12—14
Warren,	Lebanon.....	" 25—27
Trumbull,	Warren.....	" 25—27
Huron,	Olena.....	" 25—27
Licking,	Newark.....	" 25—27
Richland,	Mansfield.....	" 25—27
Columbiana,	New Lisbon.....	" 25—28
Portage,	Ravenna.....	" 26—
Meigs,	Pomeroy.....	" 26—27
Geauga,	Burlin.....	" 26—28
Miami,	Troy.....	" 26—28
Harrison,	Cadiz.....	" 26—28
Clinton,	Wilmington.....	" 27—28
Athens,	Athens.....	" 27—28
Drake,	Greenville.....	" 27—29
Guersy,	Cambridge.....	" 27—29
Conneaut,	Independent.....	" 29—
Ashtabula,	Jefferson.....	Oct. 2—4
Sandusky,	Fremont.....	" 3—4
Ashland,	Ashland.....	" 2—4
Morgan,	McConnellsville.....	" 2—4
Montgomery,	Dayton.....	" 2—4
Mahoning,	Canfield.....	" 2—3
Clark,	Springfield.....	" 2—3
Preble,	Preble.....	" 2—3
Monroe,	Woodsfield.....	" 3—4
Putnam,	Kalida.....	" 3—4
Medina,	Medina.....	" 3—5
Richland,	Mansfield.....	" 3—5
Logan,	Ballefontaine.....	" 3—5
Loraine,	Elyria.....	" 3—5
Greene,	Xenia.....	" 3—5
Stark,	Canton.....	" 3—5
Summit,	Akron.....	" 3—5
Shelby,	Sidney.....	" 4—5
Muskingum,	Zanesville.....	" 4—5
Shelby,	Sydney.....	" 4—5
Lake,	Painesville.....	" 10—12
Adams,	West Union.....	" 10—12
Mercer,	Celina.....	" 11—
Hancock,	Findlay.....	" 11—12
Crawford,	Bucyrus.....	" 11—12
Erie,	Sandusky.....	" 11—12
Coshocton,	Coshocton.....	" 11—13
Wayne,	Wooster.....	" 11—14
Ottawa,	Port Clinton.....	" 16—17

PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY SHOWS.

Philadelphia, Pa.,	XXIVth Ward.....	Sept. 12—14
Delaware,	Media.....	Sept. 20—23
Montgomery,	Morristown.....	Oct. 3—4
Alleghany,	Pittsburgh.....	" 2—5

NEW-JERSEY COUNTY SHOWS.

Jamesburg (Town)	Jamesburg.....	Sept. 18—
Mercer	Hightstown.....	" 25—
Cumberland,	Bridgeton.....	" 26—
Monmouth,	Freehold.....	" 27—
Salem,	Salem.....	" 27—
Somerset,	Raritan.....	Oct. 3—4

COUNTY SHOWS—MISCELLANEOUS.

Bourbon, Ky.,	Paris.....	Sept. 11—14
Windham, Conn.,	Brooklyn.....	" 19—20
Lake, Ill.,	Waukegan.....	" 26—27
Waldo, Me.,	Belfast.....	Oct. 3—4
Litchfield, Conn.,	Litchfield.....	" 2—3
Kane, Ill.,	Elgin.....	" 3—4
Brooke, Va.,	Wellsburgh.....	" 9—11
Ag. Association, Ky.,	Louisville.....	" 9—14
Oakland, Mich.,	Pontiac.....	" 17—18

SHEEP.—The high price of beef, for several months past, has driven many beef-eaters to eating mutton. Since January there have been sold in the various markets, 61,650 sheep. The sales of beef cattle have only amounted to some 8,000 head. The supply of sheep is still increasing, and the demand for them continues unabated. This state of things will continue, it is probable, until the exorbitant price asked for beef is abated.—*Phil. Ledger.*

Boys' Corner.

THE ROBIN'S APPEAL.

O shoot me not; you thoughtless boy
While singing here in gladsome joy;
'Tis wicked thus to harm me now—
Still let me hop from bough to bough.

O shoot me not; life's dear to me
As 't is to you; so wild and free—
Now poised in air, then sailing low—
How full of glee, we only know.

O kill us not; in yonder tree
My mate and I have younglings three;
You would not, sure, that these should die
For want of food, up there so high!

O let us live, and day by day
We'll utter thanks in our own way;
We'll surely come quite near your door.
And sweetest songs sing o'er and o'er.

[J. M. H., in Child's Paper.

PRACTICAL JOKES.

Arthur M— was a bright little boy of ten years, and his pleasant face and cheerful spirit seemed like a ray of heaven's own blessed sunlight in his mother's otherwise solitary dwelling. But I am sorry to say Arthur was not loved by his companions. He was a *practical joker*, and his little friends were in constant fear, when in his company, of having some very unpleasant trick played upon them. If they went to gather nuts and berries, he did love to kill a snake and throw it around some boy's neck, just for the fun of hearing him scream. When they went to bathe, they often found a frog in their pockets, or their shoes would be filled with angle worms. And he was sometimes so very cruel as to take away a boy's dinner, and fill his basket with stones.

These things were very annoying, and at length Arthur was left to play alone, or go home to his little sister. Dear little Eliza was just beginning to go to school, and Arthur loved her very much. But his love of fun, as he called it, was sometimes so strong, that he would even overturn his sled, and throw the sweet little girl into the snow. His mother strove in vain to correct this cruel propensity, and she felt some anxiety on his account when a father came to take charge of his education. His own father died when he was a babe, and of course he had known a father's love. But he was very much pleased when a pleasant, smiling gentleman came to live with them, and he was told he might call him father.

One morning, a few days after Mrs. M— was married to Mr. L., Arthur was told to cut some potatoes and give them to the cow. He obeyed very cheerfully, cut the potatoes and carried them to the barn; but when he placed them before the cow, he turned a peck measure over them, so that the cow could not eat them. "My son," said Mr. L. when he returned, "did you give the potatoes to the cow?" "Yes, sir," he replied, but the merry twinkle of his eye led his father to suppose something wrong, and he very soon went to the barn himself. Arthur was frightened when he saw him go out, for he expected a whipping. But no notice was aken of the *joke*, as he called it.

Soon there was a snow-storm; and when it passed away, the snow lay piled in drifts on both sides the road. Arthur started for school the next morning, drawing his little sister on his sled; but when he came near the deep drifts, suddenly the sled was overturned, and Eliza was buried in the snow. Arthur sprang to take her up, and very tenderly led her back to the house. But his father stood at the window, and saw the whole transaction. Next morning Mr. L. said pleasantly, "I'll draw you to school

this morning, if you like." Arthur was delighted. He thought his father was very kind indeed. But when they came to the drift, suddenly the sled was overturned and he was buried in the snow.

"You must learn to hold on better than this," said Mr. L., "if you mean I shall draw you." And he quietly returned to the house, leaving Arthur to get out as he could.

"O! chicken for dinner! chicken for dinner!" shouted Arthur, as he returned from school and saw his favorite dish on the table. They were soon seated, and Mr. L. helped Arthur to a large plate full. But just as he was taking up his knife and fork, his father took up a large bowl that stood by his plate, and turned it over Arthur's dinner. At first he looked up in surprise, but he immediately understood it. He was very hungry, but he did not dare to remove the bowl. The rest of the family began to eat, but he sat looking very red and unhappy. At length he burst into tears.

"Father," said he, "I never will put the peck measure over the cow's dinner again, and I'll never turn sissy into the snow again, if you'll let me eat my dinner."

"Very well, my son," said Mr. L., removing the bowl; "you find practical jokes are not very pleasant when played upon yourself. Always remember that if you would be loved and respected, you must do by others as you wish others to do by you."

DO THE BEST YOU CAN.

It is a very usual and a very natural thing for men—and women too—to sink down discouraged when obstacles present themselves in the way of easy progress through life. The apprentice, the mechanic, the clerk, the merchant, and the professional man, will *slur* over what they find to be either difficult and disagreeable in their rounds of duties, without once thinking the wrong they do themselves and others, and the ever accruing evil which such a habit engenders. A constant self-watching is needed by all who would "do well" in the world, and they can not get along without it. The apprentice and the clerk injure themselves more than their employers when they give way to slothful feelings and become mere eye servants; while, on the other hand, by constantly keeping in mind and practising upon the motto "Do the best you can," they earn the good will of all around them and the satisfaction afforded only by an approving conscience. Then, when time and opportunity arrive for advancement, they rarely want a helping hand.

To "Do the best you can," young man, is not to plod on, day by day, performing the allotted round of duty uncomplainingly, without once thinking of better things or of independence for yourself and for those in whose existence yours is bound up. Neither is it, on the other hand, to let the thought of your own superior worth, and the watchfulness for "chances" predominate in all you say and do, so that it can only be said you "do" your duty—nothing more. Nor yet is it to think of your work as so much task to be rid of as quickly as possible, so that you may spend every other moment in idleness or mere amusement without aim or object beyond passing pleasure.

To "Do the best you can," is, so far as possible, to lay down a course of life in your own mind to which you will obtain if possible, and then keep your eye upon it, wherever you are, and whatever you do. If you are determined to be a master mechanic, let every day of your apprenticeship show that you have learned some new thing or principle connected with your trade—no matter how ttle or trifling the thing may be. Strive to

make the work which goes through your hands just as you would be proud of if you had turned it out as employer. Connect yourself with some library, or in other ways obtain books descriptive of the art or trade in which you are engaged. Lose no opportunity to obtain information upon every branch and minute detail of it. Relaxation you must have, of course, but while you seek and enjoy it, see if you can not adapt even that to the aim you have chosen.

Your first steps in such a course will be hard ones; you may feel terribly discouraged, but persevere, and when you can not do all you would, then do all you can, and be content therewith. But do not give up the contest. Renew it day by day, and year by year. When you once get fairly started, the progress you make will encourage you on, and difficulties will vanish like mist. Soon you will gain confidence in your position. A superior intelligence will show itself in your work, and as you compare yourself with your fellow-workmen—those who work without thought or study—you will discover, little by little, that the secret of real success in life is perseverance and close application.—*New-York Sun.*

REST OF THE SABBATH.

The North British Review speaks of the physical necessity of the Sabbath, as follows: "The Creator has given us a natural restorative—sleep; and a moral restorative—Sabbath keeping; and it is ruin to dispense with either. Under the pressure of high excitement, individuals have passed weeks together with little sleep, or none; but when the process is long continued, the over-driven powers rebel, and fever, delirium and death comes on. Now can the natural amount be systematically curtailed without corresponding mischief. The Sabbath does not arrive like sleep. The day of rest does not steal over us like the hour of slumber. It does not entrance, almost whether we will or not; but addressing us as intelligent beings, our Creator assures us that we need it, and bids us notice its return, and court its renovation. And if, going in the face of the Creator's kindness, we force ourselves to work all days alike, it is not long till we pay the forfeit. The mental worker—the man of business, or the man of letters, finds his ideas becoming turbid and slow; the equipoise of the faculties is upset, he grows moody, fitful and capricious; and with his mental elasticity broken, should any disaster occur, he subsides into habitual melancholy, or in self-destruction speeds his guilty exit from a gloomy world. And the manual worker—the artizan, the engineer, by toiling on from day to day, and week to week, the bright intuition of his eyes gets blunted; and forgetful of their cunning, his fingers no longer perform their feats of twinkling agility, nor by plastic touch mold dead matter, or wield mechanic power; but mingling his life's blood in his daily drudgery, his locks are prematurely gray, his genial humor sours, and slaving it till he has become a remorse or reckless man, for an extra effort, or any blink of balmy feelings, he must stand indebted to opium or alcohol."

WALKING.—To walk gracefully, the body must be erect, but not stiff, the head held up in such a posture that the eyes are directed forward. The tendency of untaught walkers is to look towards the ground near the feet; and some persons appear as if admiring their shoe-ties. The eyes should not be thus cast downward, neither should the chest bend forward to throw out the back, making what is termed round shoulders; on the contrary, the whole person must hold itself up, as if not afraid to look the world in the face, and

the chest by all means be allowed to expand. At the same time, everything like strutting or pomposity must be carefully avoided. An easy, firm, and erect posture, are alone desirable. In walking, it is necessary to bear in mind that the locomotion is to be performed entirely by the legs. Awkward persons rock from side to side, helping forward each leg alternately by advancing the haunches. This is not only ungraceful, but fatiguing. Let the legs alone advance, bearing up the body.

Horticultural Department.

NEW YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its Monthly meeting, at its room in Astor place, on Monday evening, the 6th, the President, Wilson G. Hunt, in the chair. There was a good attendance of members, and the meeting was one of unusual interest. The Premium committee reported a list of prizes for the Fall Exhibition; but being imperfect, it was referred to a special committee, to report at an adjourned meeting on the 23th.

On the tables we noticed a large and choice collection of cut flowers, the principal exhibitors being Mr. Hogg, of Yorkville, and Mr. Cranston, gardener to E. A. Stevens, Esq., of Hoboken. In Mr. Hogg's collection we noticed *Erythrina cristagalli*, *Magnolia purpurea*, *Stephanotus floribunda*, *Oncidium flexuosum*, *Rachia, falcata*, a collection of beautiful Phloxes, &c., and Phlox criterion. This last is a decided acquisition. It is striped like *Princesse Marianne*, and has the procumbent habit of *Phlox Drummondii*. It is hardy, and will make a fine bedding plant.

Mr. Cranston's collection contained, among other things, *Justicia carnea*, *Gesnera tubiflora*, *Lobelia cardinalis*, *Rachia falcata*, a collection of Phloxes, and the finest Balsams we remember to have seen.

There was, also, on the table, a basket of the famous New-Rochelle Blackberry, presented by Mr. Rosevelt, of Pelham. He also exhibited a *Seedling* from the New-Rochelle, and the general impression seemed to be that it was better than the original. The Fruit committee reported very favorably on the New-Rochelle, and commended this excellent fruit to the attention of the public.

After the transaction of some further business, the Society adjourned.

On the 15th, the Society held an adjourned meeting, the President in the chair. After the minutes had been read and approved, Mr. Mead presented the Report of the special committee on the prize list. The committee seem to have performed their labors diligently, for they presented the best list yet issued by the Society, and one of the best we have ever seen. We refer the reader to our advertising columns for the proof. The list was accepted and adopted. A committee of Arrangements was then appointed, consisting of Messrs. Mead, Hogg, Bridgeman, Groshon, Dr. Knight, Suttle, and Buchanan. On motion of Mr. Mead, the President was added to the committee.

From the spirit manifested, we anticipate

a fine exhibition in the fall. We hope the Society will meet with a hearty coöperation and support from the public.

Mr. Cranston and Suttle exhibited some choice cut flowers. In Mr. Cranston's collection were *Tecoma jasminoides*, *Tabernaemontana coronaria*, *Lagerstroemia Indica*, *Punica granata fl. pl.*, *Hibiscus rosa sinensis fl. pl.*, *Nerium olender alba*, *Clethra alnifolia*, some very fine double China Pinks, and a collection of Balsams raised from seed received from the Patent Office, two of which were passable, but the others very poor. Mr. Cranston also exhibited some vegetables raised from seed sent from the Patent Office; and as these seeds are said to have been selected with great care and from the best sources, we give the results as produced by one of the best growers anywhere to be found. The Carrots were the ordinary Horn, and mixed at that. The Onions, said to be the Cambridge, were also mixed, and inferior to the Portugal. The Cabbage, by some remarkable process, had been transmuted into *Ruta Bagas*, *Kohl rabbia*, &c.! That seed, certainly, was very pure! We have heard of other equally striking results obtained from the Patent Office seed.

GRAPES ON LAKE ERIE.

Mr. Carpenter, of Kelly's Island, a few miles west from Sandusky, recently gave us much interesting information about grape raising in that island. His farm consists of the stiffest clay ever subject to horticultural cultivation. The general products of the island are wheat, grass, and the ordinary cultivated crops for which a fertile yet stiff clay is adapted. But its chief value has been found in the immense product of our native grapes, the *Isabella*, the *Catawba* and the *Scuppernong*, which it is found capable of producing. The last season gave him sufficient grapes to yield 900 gallons of wine, from a single acre, worth one dollar a gallon at the farm, besides all that could be used by the family and visitors, and some \$200 worth sent abroad.

The severe drouth of last season was not so much felt on the clay land as on most others, which accounts for the very large yield in defiance of the drouth; yet this yield is an excessive one for any season, and one that would soon exhaust the vines if permitted. The location is exceedingly favorable for the production of grapes, being surrounded by water, which keeps off frosts both early and late, and the extremes of heat and cold, at the same time that it affords a humid atmosphere.

We trust the culture of this delicious and wholesome fruit may be so much extended as soon to justify sending it to this market. There are yet hundreds of acres to be had on the above island at a very moderate price, even for farming lands; while in the neighborhood of Cincinnati, \$1,000 is frequently paid per acre for steep side hills for grape cultivation, the location being every way decidedly inferior. Horticulturists have here a hint where, and in what way, they can turn their capital and labor to a good account.

MAKING NEW STRAWBERRY BEDS.

To continue successful in producing a full crop of fine strawberries, it is necessary to occasionally make fresh beds, and do away with the old ones as they show signs of becoming unfruitful. It is a good plan to plant a fourth of the breadth occupied with this fruit every year, so that plants will then be in every stage from one to four years old, which is as long, under ordinary circumstances, as they can be trusted. Beds, intended to be more permanent, are perhaps best, if allowed to occupy the whole ground with their runners, as a crop is more certain if of good kinds, although the size will be far inferior to young thrifty plantations. Whenever practicable, ground unoccupied a few years previously with strawberries, should be selected for making new plantations, although with trenching and heavy manuring, where that is difficult, they will succeed on the same land several years.

Success more usually attends plantations made in the spring than the summer, mainly from the fact of the summer planting being left too late before done, to allow the plants to get strong enough to stand the winter, and secure against being thrown out by frost. If planted in permanent beds, it should not be done after this month, August—the earlier in it the better.

We have seen very good crops of strawberries the first summer by spring planting, treated thus: A spare border is selected, and well spaded and manured. Early in August, or sooner if the runners are rooted, they are taken up and dibbled into this in rows a foot apart, six inches between the plants. Keep off all runners, frequently stir the soil. In Spring, as soon as they have commenced growing, or as soon as the ground can be worked, prepare the ground by deep digging, trenching, or subsoil plowing, if for large squares. Take a trowel or spade and lift the plants from the border with as much of the soil as will hang about the roots, and plant in rows two feet six inches, or three feet if land is plenty, and one foot in the rows. They will receive but little check and at once commence growing vigorously, and a fair crop may be anticipated.

If decided to plant in permanent beds in the summer, prepare the ground as before directed, working it nice and fine on the surface, and plant the strongest plants that can be got as soon as possible. Afterwards treat as recommended for the border. If it should happen to be a dry fall, and practicable, the beds should be occasionally watered, when, by winter, they will have become strongly established plants. Just before hard frosts set in, they will have to be covered with a litter or coarse dung. The severity of this climate makes this an absolute necessity or failure will frequently occur, even to killing the plants outright, while if done on drained land they will seldom suffer.

Beds now in bearing should be thoroughly cleaned and divested of all runners, where not wanted for making new plantations, as they only help to weaken the plants. A good deep pulverization of the soil is advantageous at this season.—*Co. Ge.*

APPLE-PEARERS.—Our readers will notice an advertisement of an Apple-Pearer, which we have heard highly commended. We have not used one of them ourselves, but one we saw in operation at the State Fair, and another at the Crystal Palace, appeared to work admirably. We intend trying one when apples of a better quality than most of those now in market shall become more plentiful.

THE APPLE BORER.

Last autumn Mr. David Thomas, of Union Springs, N. Y., came into possession of a young orchard of about a dozen trees, each four or five inches in diameter. They had been much neglected, and were so infested with borers that he thinks not one of them would have survived a year without prompt attention. The presence of the borer is indicated by the orange-colored, sawdust like excretions thrown out from the holes near the surface of the ground, and the first thing was to find their entrance. This was in most cases easily accomplished by scraping all the pith thus thrown out away from the bark, and where necessary removing the earth away from the tree till the roots branch and separate from each other. As soon as the holes are found a flexible twig is thrust into it, worked up and down till it reaches the grub, which is at once known by the peculiar *crush* it occasions. A twig the eighth of an inch in diameter, and four or five inches long is commonly quite sufficient. Sometimes the holes are larger and more tortuous, so that it may become necessary to cut away a portion of the bark to obtain access, in which case care is taken to cut longitudinally or lengthwise with the tree, so as to occasion as little injury as possible. It is necessary to pass round several times during the season in these examinations, as new holes will often become visible that were not at first discovered.

By this treatment all the trees we have mentioned have been restored to a sound healthy condition, with the exception of one that was so far gone that it could not be recovered.

When the trees are taken at an early period in the attack, the removal and destruction of the insects are very easy, as much so as that of the peach grub, the borer not immediately cutting deep into the wood of the tree.

No remedy by way of prevention has been found equal to the application of urine about the roots—about a pint or less for small trees, and two or three quarts for quite large ones, the application being made about once a fortnight.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTS OF KEY WEST.

A correspondent of the Savannah Georgian, in an interesting letter from Key West, July 12th, gives the following account of the climate and products of the place at the present time :

The climate of this island was never more delightful than at the present time. Such cool bracing sea breezes in June and July as we have had, and are now having daily, are probably not often known in this latitude. Plentiful showers have fallen, and the earth is well saturated, and vegetation feels the effect and has put on a new coat. Flowers are bursting forth on every side, and the bloom and freshness of early spring in more northern climes meets you wherever you may turn. There are very few acres of land cultivated at all on this or on any of the neighboring islands, yet where the gardener or planter has been, a bountiful harvest is seen.

The grape is now ripening. This delicious fruit has been but lately introduced on the island, and all the vines are yet in their infancy. Judging from the quantity and quality of their production now, we dare not venture to predict to what perfection they will arrive at a more mature age. We have lately seen single clusters that weighed over six pounds. The flavor of the Isabella, the variety most grown here, is unsurpassed. The price at which they are sold fresh from the

vines is 37½ cents per pound, a sum that ought to remunerate and satisfy the most greedy. We believe that no attempt has been made to manufacture wine from this grape. In fact, its value, unprepared, forbids almost the experiment. The whole climate of the keys of Florida is capable of producing immense quantities of the grape. The climate and soil seem to be suited to its growth.

The fig, both the white and blue, grow luxuriantly on the Keys. In three years time, fruit is grown from the seed. The fresh fig is a delicious fruit. The plant is hardy, easily cultivated, and requiring little care after being planted.

Many varieties of the lemon are growing in the neighborhood; but the lime seems to flourish best, growing to a large size, full of pulp, thin-skinned, and of a fine flavor. It is also a hardy plant, grows vigorous and rapidly. It is always bearing. The cocopalms is a longer time in coming to perfection. It bears in the sixth year, and is, after that time, never bare of fruit—crop succeeding crop in rapid succession. As a shade-tree it is valuable, and for beauty it has no parallel.

LAW.

BY STEVEN.

Law is law—law is law; and as in such, and so forth, and hereby, and aforesaid, provided always, nevertheless, notwithstanding. Law is like a country dance, people are led up and down in it till they are tired. Law is like a book of surgery, there are a great many desperate cases in it. It is also physic, they that take least of it are best off. Law is like a homely gentlewoman, very well to follow. Law is also like a scolding wife, very bad when it follows us. Law is like a new fashion, people are bewitched to get into it; it is also like bad weather, most people are glad when they get out of it.

We shall now mention a cause, called "Bullum versus Boatum;" it was a cause that came before me. The cause was as follows.

There were two farmers; farmer A. and farmer B. Farmer A. was seized or possessed of a bull; farmer B. was seized or possessed of a ferry-boat. Now, the owner of the ferry-boat having made his boat fast to a post on shore, with a piece of hay, twisted rope-fashion, or as we say, *vulgo vocato*, a hay band. After he had made his boat fast to a post on shore, as it was very natural for a hungry man to do, he went up town to dinner; farmer A.'s bull, as it was natural for a hungry bull to do, came down town to look for a dinner; and observing, discovering, seeing, and spying out, some turnips in the bottom of the ferry-boat, the bull scrambled into the ferry-boat; he ate up the turnips, and, to make an end of his meal, fell to work upon the hay-band; the boat being eaten from its moorings, floated down the river, with the bull in it; struck against a rock; beat a hole in the bottom of the boat, and fossed the bull overboard; whereupon the owner of the boat brought his action against the bull, for running away with the boat. After this, notice of trial was given, Bullum versus Boatum, Boatum versus Bullum.

Now the Counsel for the bull began with saying, 'My Lord, and you Gentlemen of the Jury, we are counsel in this cause for the bull. We are indicted for running away with the boat. Now, my Lord, we have heard of running horses, but never of running bulls before. Now, my Lord, the bull could no more run away with the boat, than a man in a coach may be said to run away with the horses; therefore, my Lord, how can we punish what is not punishable? How

can we eat what is not eatable? Or how can we drink what is not drinkable? Or, as the law says, how can we think on what is not thinkable? Therefore, my Lord as we are counsel in the cause for the bull, if the Jury should bring the bull in guilty, the Jury would be guilty of a bull."

The Counsel for the boat observed, that the bull should be non-suited, because, in his declaration, he has not specified what color he was of; for, thus wisely, and thus learnedly, spoke the counsel—"My Lord, if the bull was of no color, he must be of some color; and, if he was not of any color, what color could the bull be of?" I overruled this motion myself, by observing the bull was a white bull, and that white is no color, besides, as I told my brethren, they should not trouble their heads to talk of color in the law, for the law can color any thing. This cause being afterwards left to a reference, upon the award, both hull and boat were acquitted, it being proved, that the tide of the river carried them both away; upon which I gave it as my opinion, that, as the tide of the river carried both bull and boat away, both bull and boat had a good action against the water-bailiff.

My opinion being taken, an action was issued, and, upon the traverse, this point of law arose, how, wherefore, and whether, why, when, and what, whatsoever, whereas, and whereby, as the boat was not a *compos mentis* evidence, how could an oath be administered? The point was soon settled, by Boatum's attorney declaring, that, for his client, he would swear any thing.

The water-bailiff's charter was then read, taken out of the original record, in true law Latin, which set forth, in their declaration, that they were carried away either by the tide of flood, or the tide of ebb. The charter of the water-bailiff was as follows; "Aque bailiffest magistratus in choisi, super omnibus fishibus qui habuerant finnos et scalos, claws, shells, et talos, qui swimmare in freshibus, vel saltibus reveris, lakis, pondis, canalibus, et well-boatis; sive oysteri, prawni, whitini, shrimpi, turbutus solas;" that is not turbot, alone, but turbot and soles both together. But now comes the nicety of the law; the law is as nice as a new-laid egg, and not to be understood by adde-headed people. Bullum and Boatum mentioned both ebb and flood, to avoid quibbling; but, it being proved, that they were carried away neither by the tide of flood, nor by the tide of ebb, but exactly upon the top of high water, they were nonsuited; but such was the lenity of the court, that upon their paying all costs, they were allowed to begin again, *de novo*.—*Western Patriot and Republican*.

WOMEN VS. OXEN.—A certain clergyman once addressing his audience in the northern part of New Jersey, had occasion to quote Luke xiv, 16—20: "A certain man had a great supper and bade many, and sent his servant at supper time, to say to them that were bidden. "Come, for all things are now ready." And then they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, "I have bought a piece of ground and I must needs go and see it; I pray thee have me excused." And another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them; I pray thee have me excused." And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I can not come." "Now," said the venerable clergyman, "you see the man that bought the land merely wished to be excused, the man that bought the five yoke of oxen merely wished to be excused; but the man that had married the wife said positively --" *therefore* (for this reason) I cannot come." So you see, my hearers, that a woman can draw a man farther from God than five yoke of oxen!"

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, August 23.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.



SPECIALLY INTERESTING TO ALL OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

For two years past we have been constantly importuned by great numbers of our subscribers, to add to this paper a "News Department." Say they, "We like your *Agriculturist* better than any other paper, and can not do without it—but we also want news, and now we must pay for two papers, which we are not all of us able to do."

We have felt the force of these oft-repeated requests, but have not heretofore yielded to them, for two reasons: *First*, we wish to make the *Agriculturist* peculiarly agricultural in its character; and fill its pages chiefly with such matter as will be of a high order, and adapted to binding or preserving; and, *Second*, we have ourselves little inclination for devoting the amount of time and thought to miscellaneous reading which would be required of us, in order to make up what we consider a well-digested miscellaneous newspaper; and we may add, as a third reason, that we consider the condensed column of items of news usually made up for religious and agricultural papers, as very dry and unsatisfactory, and little calculated to give correct and desirable views of the progress of the social and political world. To say a certain law was passed, a disaster happened, a battle fought, a riot occurred, a building was burned, &c., without the accompanying circumstances, is dry detail—it is the skeleton of a body without the living organs, the nerves, blood, muscles and color that give it animation.

These are some of the considerations which have deterred us from making the *Agriculturist* a general newspaper. But we think we have at last hit upon a plan, which will furnish our readers with just what they desire and need, viz: both an agricultural journal, of the first order, and a comprehensive newspaper, and that, too, at no greater price than is now paid for the *Agriculturist* alone. Our plan is this:

FIRST—The present volume closes with No. 104—two weeks hence—and at that time we propose to increase the *Agriculturist* to 24 pages, printing it on superior paper to that now used, and devote its pages exclusively to such matters as pertain strictly to rural life (see new Prospectus on last

page), and to issue it on the first of each month instead of weekly, and to reduce the price to *one dollar a year*—half its present rate. The size of the pages and style of the monthly paper will be uniform with the present weekly issue, and suitable for binding up with it. Several pages now devoted to prices current, markets, advertisements, and miscellaneous matters, will be omitted, and nearly the whole 24 pages be devoted to practical agriculture, gardening, stock raising, domestic economy, &c.

SECOND—To supply a full and complete newspaper, with an extensive department of reports upon produce and live stock markets and other agricultural news. We have arranged with Messrs. Raymond, Harper & Co., to print for us *weekly* an extra edition of the N. Y. WEEKLY TIMES, one of the largest newspapers in the country. This we shall mail each week to all our present unexpired subscribers, together with the monthly *AGRICULTURIST*, with no additional charge for the full term of their unexpired subscriptions.

The Agricultural matter of the TIMES, embracing recent agricultural intelligence, ample and detail reports of the produce and live stock sales, prices, &c., is prepared by Mr. Judd, who has for two years past been the chief Editor of the *Agriculturist*, and who will still continue to conduct its pages.

Any of our subscribers who may now be subscribers to the Weekly Times, or who do not wish to receive the Times in this manner, will please give us prompt notice, and to all such we will give a credit for the *Agriculturist* for twice the time now due them on subscription.

All subscribers whose time expires now, or in the future, who may wish to renew, can do so at half the former rates for the *Agriculturist* alone, or for the former rates for the *Agriculturist* and Weekly Times combined. That is, for the enlarged *Agriculturist*—

One copy one year.....	\$1 00
6 copies one year.....	5 00
10 copies one year.....	8 00
20 copies one year.....	15 00

Or, for the *Agriculturist* monthly and the Times weekly, mailed regularly at our office—

One copy of both papers 1 year..	\$2 00
3 copies of both papers 1 year..	5 00
10 copies of both papers 1 year..	16 00
20 copies of both papers 1 year..	30 00

We make the above arrangement in full confidence that it will be highly pleasing to all our readers, for in no other way can they, for the same money, obtain so large an amount or such a variety of the first order of agricultural matter, in a superior style, and adapted to preserving in a permanent form, and at the same time be supplied with a complete general newspaper, of a high order and comprehensive character.

As we shall print no larger edition of the Times than is required by our subscribers from week to week, we hope all expiring subscribers who wish to avail themselves of this arrangement, will at once renew their subscriptions, so as to receive the first num-

ber of the Times, which will be issued on the 13th of September, and thereafter weekly, and the first number of Volume XV of the *Agriculturist*, which will be mailed on the first day of October, and thereafter monthly.

PATENT OFFICE SEEDS.—The purity and value (!) of some of these seeds may be learned by referring to the last part of our report of the New-York Horticultural Society.

RECEIPTS FOR SAVING TOMATOES FOR WINTER USE.—Will our subscribers who understand an effectual, economical method of saving ripe tomatoes for cooking through the winter, oblige the public by communicating the best methods for insertion in the *American Agriculturist*.

HICKOK'S CIDER MILL.

We well remember when youngsters, the formal parade of cider making; how the heavy wooden nuts and the large open vat had to be scrubbed up after their year's exposure to every kind of hen and pigeon and rat nuisance; how the press alongside of them was associated in the general purgation; how the massive wooden screws had to be greased, a year's accumulation of scantling boards and rubbish, had to be put out of the way to allow old Dobbin to pace his solemn weary rounds; the long clean straw had to be provided, with all the other "pomp and circumstance" waiting upon an important annual foray; and all this had to be done whether there were two or two hundred barrels of cider to be made.

All this is now done away, and in the place of this cumbrous paraphernalia we have a small machine, less than three feet by four, with hopper grinders, crank or pulley, as desired, with a box to catch the juicy pulp, a lattice vat, follower, and iron screw, with which two men may grind and press more apples in a day than could be done with an equal number of hands, and old Dobbin to boot. And all this can be had for \$40, and when done with for the season, it can be cleaned up and put away in any garret or cellar, and not occupy the room of more than 4 or 5 flour barrels, instead of requiring a nicely covered area of 20 by 30 feet. For the information of those not accustomed to these machines, we suggest that the pulp, after grinding, requires to be exposed in shallow tubs for a few hours before pressing, as there is a chemical change required, which results from the union of the oxygen of the atmosphere, thus ripening it for a richer juice than would otherwise be made from the recently expressed fruit.

A western Exchange says that green beans or snaps, green peas and roasting-ears may be had every day in winter at a very trifling amount of trouble. They are all preserved by being packed away in salt. The salt is removed before cooking by steeping in warm water. He had on the table a fine dish of snaps on last Christmas day, and used them afterwards through the winter as desired.

ALABAMA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The first Annual Fair of this Society is to be held at Montgomery, October 23 to 26. To give an idea of the direction of Southern agriculture, we quote from the list of premium crops:

Upland cotton, pitcher, \$20; lowland cotton, \$20; pea vine hay, cup, \$10; native grass hay, \$10; foreign grass hay, \$10; upland corn, pitcher, \$25; lowland corn, \$25; wheat, \$15; rice, \$15; oats, \$10; rye, 5; turnips, \$10; ground peas or pindars, \$5; field peas, \$5; chewing tobacco, best box, \$5; cigars, best box, \$5; smoking tobacco, best sample, \$5.

Premiums are offered not only on pure Devon, Durham, Ayrshire, and Alderney cattle, but also on grades. We notice that the premium on the best stock horse is only \$20, while that on the best jack is \$15. The best saddle and harness horses are given premiums of but \$5, while that for the best single mule is \$10. For sheep, Saxons and Merinos, the best pen, \$10.

Manufacturers of wool, silk, and cottons, are liberally encouraged; and we notice a peculiar feature—that the individual who contributes the largest amount to the funds of the Society is to be entitled to a \$25 pitcher.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY (CONN.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This Society hold their fourteenth annual Fair and Cattle Show September 25 to 28. All articles for competition must be in before 4 o'clock on Tuesday, the first day of the exhibition.

On Wednesday, the awarding committee meet at 10 A. M., and the visitors will be admitted at 11. At 2 P. M., schools will be admitted free, and suitable addresses will be delivered. In the evening there will be public speaking, and a general conversational meeting of agriculturists.

On Thursday, the Cattle show and exhibition of Poultry will take place on the grounds. At 3 o'clock there will be speaking in the tent, and in the evening an address will be delivered.

On Friday, at 10 A. M., the plowing match occurs. At 2 P. M., the annual address will be given; after which the premiums will be announced.

A good band of music will be in attendance at the tent, and a good time is expected.

A LARGE FOWL.—As the intensity of the "hen fever" has passed, and we are in the "sweating" stage, it may be safe to suggest that the ideas of domesticated ostriches: of eggs as large as pumpkins; of selling poultry by the quarter, like beef; of using Shanghais as Barum uses his elephant, to plow with; and even of being compelled to ascend by a ladder to blow out their worthless brains—that all these ideas do not cover the extreme size of fowls. Old Burton, in his Anatomy of Melancholy, tells us of "a great bird that laid an egg so big that, by chance tumbling out of the nest, it knocked down three hundred tall cedars, and, breaking as it fell, drowned 160 villagers. This bird stood up to its knees in the sea, and the sea was so deep that a hatchet would not fall to

the bottom in seven years." There is yet a wide margin for breeders.

OUR CROW.—(Corvus Americanus.)

This bird inhabits the eastern and more agricultural portions of the American continent. It was at first supposed to be the European crow (*Corvus Corone*), and was classed as such by Wilson; but is considered by Audubon a distinct species. It is smaller than the European crow, and has a different voice and a peculiar shape of the tongue. It is gregarious, too, while European crows live in pairs, like our hawks.

It has also been mistaken for the raven, (*Corvus Corax*), which inhabits this continent from Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico, and is a much larger bird, nesting in rocks and inaccessible crags, while the crow builds in trees. The two races do not occupy the same regions peaceably, the raven living more to the north and west, in the wilder portions of the country. The raven is 24 inches in length, while the crow is only 16 or 17. The spread wings of the raven measure 48 inches, while those of the crow only from 35 to 37.

With the rook of the Eastern continent (*Corvus Frugilegus*), our crow has also been confounded. He resembles the rook, in living mostly in communities, and in feeding on seeds and grain, but never, like that bird, chooses any part of buildings for a habitation or lives in trees near the haunts of men. He is larger than the rook, and does not dig with his bill for worms.

Our crow, then, is, after all, no hybrid—no offshoot from any other race—but a genuine native American, the son of his own father. He holds the latter relation, too, in an especial sense, for his father took a share of the labors of incubation, helping to hatch him. He is omnivorous, feeding on fruits, seeds, grubs, worms, and even on snakes, frogs, lizards, and mice. He does not choose carrion, but prefers his food fresh, and takes it tainted only from necessity—his taste in this respect being very much like that of barn-yard fowls. He never pecks out the eyes of weak animals, after the manner of European crows, or feeds on any live animal larger than a worm. His weapon is his bill, and he uses it as adroitly as a Frenchman does a rapier.

When a boy, we had a tame specimen of this bird. He was obtained when leaving the nest, and kept for a few days in a cage, after which the feathers of one wing were clipped, and he was allowed to run about. Ralph, as he was called, soon became very tame, hopping around and even lighting on the arm or shoulder, though not easily caught, as he preferred not to be handled. The feathers of the short wing soon grew out, so that he flew about the village wherever he pleased. He took up his residence in a large English cherry tree, near the house, to which he retired at night, and to a cavity in which he carried and hid, at different times, a piece of soap, the colored woman's thimble, one of the tips from the carriage-top, and other articles. On one occasion he stole a cake of curds from the

buttery window and buried it. When we were digging it up, he remonstrated by fluttering around, cawing and pretending to bite.

But Ralph liked best to join in our sports at the mimic saw-mill we were building. To show his skill as a carpenter, he would hold a piece of pine shingle with one foot, and bringing down his bill, strike between his toes so powerfully as to perforate the wood at a single blow. When the mill was finished, he delighted in seeing it run. If the saw was not moving, he would sometimes attempt to set it in motion by lifting at it with his bill. During the summer the little mill was frequently set running in an unaccountable way, and the suspicion that rested on neighboring boys was only relieved by detecting Ralph in the act of raising the gate. Though he frequently set the mill going for his own amusement, he was never known to stop it, so that a new fastening was required to elude his ingenuity. This crow had not more than one or two vocal notes, so that if his tongue had been cut, after the manner that is commonly supposed to confer the power of articulations, his vocal powers must yet have been very limited. His intelligence was such, that he distinguished readily between different members of the family, being the special pet of a younger brother. At first he seemed disposed to be courteous to the hens, and to take food with them, but at this they made such an ado that he soon gave it up. He never caught chickens, however, nor stole eggs; transfixing them at a blow, and carrying them on his bill, as the European crow is said to do. He never showed any disposition to join his relations in the woods, although he might have become inclined to as he grew older. Poor fellow! he extended his excursion one day beyond his acquaintance, and lighting on the roof of a house, was taken by a stupid rustic for a wild crow and shot.

Audubon, at the time of writing his great work, had never seen a domesticated specimen of this bird.

Wilson says that, when tamed, it becomes very much attached to its master, and even opens doors by the latch. He tells of a gentleman, residing on the Delaware River, who had a tame one, and missing it, supposed it had been killed. Eleven months afterwards, while entering a boat with some friends, a flock of crows flew over, one of which, leaving its fellows, came down and lit upon his shoulder. He recognized the bird as his former pet; but it avoided all attempts at capture, and in a few minutes flew away to rejoin the flock. He never saw it again.

The American crow breeds in April or May, and it is at this time that, stimulated by the necessity of providing for the mother of his family and his offspring, he is so destructive to the newly planted corn. The insects and reptiles on which he feeds a month later, have not yet crawled out; there are no fruits or seeds to be obtained, and so he pulls the young corn for the grain at its root. When on these foraging expeditions crows do not go in flocks, but in companies

of three or four. They make no noise, and station one on the branch of some high tree to give the alarm in case of danger. A man may at such times get near enough to them to see their proceedings, if he have no gun, but should he have one, the alarm is given before he is within shooting distance, and the bevy rise.

Various devices are continually employed for protecting the corn, one of the cheapest and most successful of which is, stretching twine around the field on poles, in imitation of a net. The sagacity of this bird is so great that he can be cheated only in a sagacious way. From the difficulty of approaching him with a gun, it is popularly believed that he can smell powder, and a plan for protecting corn-fields with a mixture of sulphur and lamp-oil is now making the tour of the exchanges. But Audubon has proved that vultures are not endowed with even ordinary powers of smell, and there is no greater reason to believe that the crow is. Stuffed figures of men intimidate him for a little time, but he soon discovers the cheat. Steeping seed-corn in tobacco, hellebore and various other poisonous solutions, is said to prove most effectual.

Wilson speaks of catching crows with a clap net and stool crow, as pigeons are caught; but, whatever may have been the simplicity of crows in those days, Young America can be caught by no such clap-trap.

The king bird is the mortal enemy of the crow; he soars above him, and dives down upon him with murderous aim. Nutall says that a single pair of these brave little birds are sufficient to clear an extensive corn-field of the black depredators; so that we have another reason for preserving the king birds.

Our crow breeds in the northern States but once a year, though farther South it is said to raise two broods. The nest, on which the male and female sit alternately, "is formed externally of small twigs, coarsely interlaced together, plastered and matted with earth, moss, and long horse-hair, and thickly and carefully lined with large quantities of the last material, wool or the finest fibers of roots, so as to form a very comfortable bed for the helpless and naked young. The tree they select is generally lofty, and preference is often given to some black and concealing evergreen, marked with numerous blotches and streaks of blackish brown or olive."

Audubon regards common crows as birds of passage, but they make their appearance in this State at any time during the winter when the temperature is above the freezing point, where there is anything to be obtained for food. They are popularly believed to crawl into rotten stumps and hollow logs for shelter, though during seasons of prolonged frost they are frequently found frozen to death.

Wilson says they come down into the valley in winter, and roost in the bushes near streams. He mentions an island in the Delaware River, covered with reeds, called the "Pea Patch," where they winter in great numbers; and says that a sudden rise

in the river during the night once drowned them in such numbers that the adjacent shores were blackened with their bodies.

This bird goes to roost silently and stealthily, in long straggling lines. Burns alludes to this habit in the verse,

"The black'ning line of crows, to their repose."

Sitting by the window just before dark one afternoon in winter, we saw a crow fly into the top of a small spruce tree in front of the house. The branches were covered with a light snow that had been falling during the day, and though quite concealed, yet he jarred a little of it down at intervals as he arranged himself to roost. Unfortunately, after he was apparently settled for the night, a man approached the tree with sled and oxen, when our sable visitor took alarm and sought some other lodging.

We confess to a partiality for the crow, to a love for his really native American blood; to a respect for his hardy, take care-of-himself habits; to an admiration of that wonderful sagacity God has given him; and we should be glad to have him become as familiar with men as are the rooks of England and our own barn swallows. And yet, Mr. Crow, if your acquaintance can only be made at the expense of the corn crop, you must excuse us if we decline all intimacy. We have often been told that your lady, Mrs. C., prefers her own children to those of other people, and so we are sure you will allow us the privilege of feeding our own children in preference to yours. So beware of the twine.

MEDITERRANEAN WHEAT AND THE WHEAT MIDGE.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

My Mediterranean wheat has this year been infested with a small orange-colored worm, which consumes the grain while in the milk. Within each husk of the heads affected, one, two, or three of these rascals could be found. They were of the appearance of chestnut-worms, of a uniform orange color, dull in their motions, of the size of half the head of a very small pin, or not much larger than a grain of sand. The ridges across them could only be seen with a magnifier. They were to be found in about one-third the heads of wheat, and consumed the upper half or two-thirds of the heads they occupied. The lower grains of the same heads were small and shriveled.

I do not know the usual name of this pest, nor can I find it described in any thing I have access to. Whatever its name, the important fact is, that this is *Mediterranean* wheat, the seed of which has not been changed for five years. This is the first time any insect has injured it sufficiently to attract notice.

A fly, a little smaller than the house-fly, with black, hard wings, and an orange-colored head, was observed here and there while the wheat was in blossom.

A field of Fife spring wheat standing next to this, was affected in the same way.

Southside Staten Island, Richmond Co.

[Our correspondent will find a description of the above insect in an article entitled the "Destroyers of our Grain."]

For the American Agriculturist.

A GREAT HAIL STORM.

We have often read vivid and thrilling accounts of hail storms, in various sections of our country, and often shuddered, as we read the account of the hail storm, recorded by Moses, Exodus ix, 22—32; but, we never saw nor read of a more severe hail storm than the one which passed, yesterday, over the northern part of Tompkins County, and the southern part of Cayuga County. There was a tremendous storm of rain, and the wind blew a furious gale. On my farm, the hail did but little damage, for the heaviest part of the storm passed me, on the north. But, where the storm was the most furious, it is almost impossible to compute the damage done to grain, and trees, on large farms. It is truly discouraging to farmers, to see their labor so quickly prostrated in the dust. One of my neighbors told me to-day, that his loss is not less than one thousand dollars. Where I was, the water fell, in less than half an hour, over two inches on a level. The hail stones were of immense size; but the most part of them were about the size of hen's eggs. Think, for a moment, of men and boys, for one hour, after the storm had ceased, picking up hail stones, with a shout, "there is another, larger than my first!"—think of splendid houses, with their neat, smooth sides, all marred and bruised, and the neat blinds broken to splinters, and every pane of glass shivered to atoms—think of large fields of golden grain, oats, barley, and spring wheat, just ready for the cradle, beat, in a few moments, into the ground, and appearing as if they had been a place of daily resort of ten thousand turkeys, geese, ducks, and "shank-highs," innumerable—think of corn stalks standing stripped of their leaves, with the large ears plucked off by huge hail stones—think of choice fruit trees, and beautiful shrubs and ornamental trees, threshed to a stub—think of poor dumb brutes, running and dodging this way and that way, to shun the pelting storm that fell upon them, and which, to-day, appear quite sore and lame—think of almost every farmer hastening to the store, and calling for one, two, and three boxes of window glass, to repair his windows with—and you will have something of an idea of the hail storm, which passed over here yesterday.

S. EDWARDS TODD.

LAKE RIDGE, Tompkins Co., N. Y., Aug. 17.

ONE WAY TO COOK CHICKENS.—The following is highly recommended: "Cut the chicken up, put it in a pan and cover it over with water; let it stew as usual, and when done make a thickening of cream and flour, adding a piece of butter and pepper and salt; have made and baked a pair of short cakes, made as for pie crust, but rolled thin and cut in small squares. This is much better than chicken pie and more simple to make. The crusts should be laid on a dish, and the chicken gravy put over it while both are hot."

PROGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

	1800.	1850.
Population	5,305,925	23,191,876
Area of Territory	820,660	2,936,166
Exports	\$70,971,780	\$171,898,720
Imports	\$91,252,768	\$178,138,318
Tonnage	972,492	3,535,454
Seamen	60,000	140,000
Commercial treaties with	5 nations.	19 nations.
Revenues of government	\$10,624,997	\$43,375,798
Expenses of government	\$7,411,370	\$43,002,168

"ONE POOR CREETUR."—The delicacy of these two lines, in Burns's "Address to the De'il," has been often remarked :

"O! wadye tak' a thought au' men,
Perhaps ye might, I dinna ken."

Yet we do not think the sentiment equal to that of a good old christian woman of our acquaintance, who was in the habit of going regularly, through rain and mud, to night prayer-meetings. Some wild boys in the neighborhood entered into a plot to "scare her out of it." So they dressed up one of their number in a hideous disguise, with a tail and ears and a cloven foot, and stationed him by the side of the road where she was to pass on her return, while the rest of the young rascals hid themselves behind the fence to see the sport. After meeting, as old Sarah came plodding along through the dark, the apparition stalked into the road in front of her.

"And who be you?" said the little woman.
"I'm the Devil!" said the figure.
"Ah, well," calmly returned the simple christian, "then you are *one poor creetur*," and so she passed him and went on home.

LIGNEOUS PAPER MILL.—Mr. Beardslee is constructing a mill at Little Falls, New-York, for the manufacture of paper from bass wood, with spruce, pine, hemlock, whitewood, buckeye, &c. The mill will go into operation in October, and Mr. Beardslee is confident that he can supply the printers with a good article and cheap.

NATIONAL METEOROLOGY.—Lieut. Maury, whose services to commerce in ascertaining the winds and currents of the ocean have been so valuable, makes a proposal that a system of observations be established on land with a view to agricultural matters, similar to that which he established on the sea with a view to navigation.

THE ARTESIAN WELL in Charleston, S. C., has reached a depth of 1,250 feet, and yields 64,800 gallons in 24 hours. From 17 to 20 wells dug, yielding from 50,000 to 60,000 gallons, would be ample for the supply of Charleston, which requires 1,000,000 of gallons for every 24 hours.

AN INCIDENT OF TRADE.—We were told last week of an operation which occurred about sixteen years since, and which is worth relating, to show the value of property in this city at the present time, compared with its esteemed worth when the trade was made. A man then living in Danville, Vermillion county, owned some property in Chicago, and offered a friend to exchange it for a house in Danville, and pay in money the difference of value—the building being then considered the most valuable. The trade was made, papers drawn, the difference in value paid in cash, and the Danville man was much elated with the operation. That house is still standing and can be bought for \$600. The property received for it is located in the heart of this city, and it is to-day worth *one and a half millions of dollars!* Those who want to moralize on speculations can do so in their own words.—*Chicago Tribune.*

NEVER SATISFIED.—The Chattanooga, (Tenn.) Advertiser of Saturday last, says: Every day for several weeks we have had

rain. The fears now entertained by the farmer are that the corn will be so large that he can not gather it.

"Skimmed milk," or other milk greatly diluted, with a fair sprinkling of arrow-root, sugar, and a very little "essence" of vanilla, strawberry, &c., compose the "ingrejents" of modern ice-cream.

HORRIBLE DEATH.—*Gored by a Bull.*—On Saturday morning, about eight o'clock, a Mrs. Ackerman, about sixty years of age, came to her death in the following horrible manner: The deceased resided on a farm owned by Mrs. Bailey, in Upper St. Clair township, nearly opposite this city. On Saturday morning her son was absent from the farm serving his city customers with milk, and the other members of the family were busily engaged in the fields harvesting. On returning about nine o'clock the son discovered his mother lying on the ground a short distance from the house. A bull which was kept on the farm had attacked and completely disemboweled her. The animal had a portion of the deceased's entrails hanging on his horns, which indicated the savage brutality with which the attack was made.—*Pittsburgh Chronicle.*

EXTRAORDINARY MARRIAGE.

Our readers will remember that some time since we stated that it was very usual for ladies to institute suits for breach of marriage promise but that no instance of such a suit in which the gentleman was the plaintiff had fallen within the range of our observation or reading. The following facts may lead to such a denouement:

'Squire John Bradsher of Pearson County, N. C., had been a widower for only a few months. After the loss of his partner he was left sadly oppressed with the unwonted loneliness of his situation, and naturally fell into the habit of visiting a Miss Franky Lea of the neighborhood by way of dispelling his gloom. It is not in human nature for two persons of different sexes, with warm impulses and throbbing hearts, to associate constantly and intimately without becoming strongly attached the one to the other. The thought at first, perhaps, entered the brain of neither. But Miss Franky, as is the saying, had the quills. Twelve thousand was her dowry. This, with other attractions, (for, mind you, she was only 57,) operated like magic on the ardent nature of the squire, who, though in his seventieth year, was rejuvenized by the inspiration of Miss Franky's smile. He therefore found no difficulty in making up his mind to marry her if he could. He proposed—she accepted. The morning of Saturday, the 14th July just passed, at 8 o'clock, was fixed on for the marriage. The 'squire procured his license, paid an extra price for it in view of the expected accession to his wealth, employed a parson, rigged himself off in a suit of black, and made every other imaginable preliminary arrangement for the ceremony which was to consummate his bliss.

The daughters of Mr. Samuel Johnson, another widower of the neighborhood, were invited to the wedding. Johnson was only 57—Miss Franky's age exactly. They had been children together; and while they were both quite young they had loved. He was not satisfied that she and the squire should marry. On Friday evening, the day before the expected wedding, seeing a neighbor passing his house he hailed him. The neighbor found Johnson very much excited and disturbed. Johnson stated to him that he could not bear the thought of Miss Franky's marrying 'squire Bradsher, and that he want-

ed him to go to Miss Franky at once and say to her for him that if she preferred marrying him to Squire Bradsher she could do so. The neighbor insisted on his writing to her a letter to this effect, offering to deliver it. "No," says he, "I am entirely too nervous to hold a pen. You must go and deliver the message." Finally he consented and repaired to Miss Franky's residence, charged with his message of love. Miss Franky, in reply, authorized him to say to Mr. Johnson that if he would get ready to marry her at sunrise the next morning she would marry him.

It was then late in the afternoon. Having no time to spare, he put off under whip and spur to Roxborough, the county seat, for his license, and at the same moment started off a servant to Leasburg for a parson. The servant took care not to inform the minister what it was his master wanted of him but only said that his services were imperatively required at sunrise the next morning.

Mr. Johnson, the minister who had been engaged to officiate, and the friend who had borne the messages of love between Miss Franky and the bridegroom, were at their post at the appointed hour. The marriage rites were performed, and Miss Franky Lea became Mrs. Franky Johnson.

An hour afterward 'Squire Bradsher and his retinue were to come. Accordingly the bride hastily addressed a note to the 'Squire, informing him that she was no longer Miss Franky Lea but Mrs. Franky Johnson, and that he need not trouble himself any further about her.

The astonished yet incredulous 'squire could not believe the note authentic, but regarded it as a hoax attempted to be practiced upon him by some of the wild young men of the neighborhood. To settle the matter he hastened over to see his inamorata. Arrived in her presence he presented the note to her and inquired if she wrote it. She replied in the affirmative. Incensed at her faithlessness, he indulged (who that is mortal would not!) in bitter complaints of her ill-treatment. (Johnson meantime in the next room, reclining on a sofa, cosily smoking his pipe, and listening with more of merriment than resentment to the imprecations heaped upon his bride.) Indeed, having foiled his competitor while in the very act of plucking the fruit for which he so much yearned, he could well afford to endure the pain of a few bitter reproaches.

After a free ebullition of his indignation, the 'squire retired, resolved, as our informant tells us, upon a resort to the law to staunch his heart wounds, and heal, as far as possible, his bruised and lacerated affections.

Having derived these facts from undoubted authority, they may be regarded as true to the letter.

A NOBLE GIRL.—The body of Miss Elliott, the young lady who was drowned with her father while bathing at Coney Island, N. Y. harbor, has been recovered; her lover swam to her assistance, but finding that from her additional weight both were likely to drown, she loosed her hold of his garments, and perished, although he entreated her to cling to him to the last. She was of great personal beauty and superior mind, and proved herself a heroine, choosing death to risking the life of her affianced partner. A monument of the purest marble should be erected on the shore to her memory.—*Lowell Journal.*

Lord Byron's partiality towards America is well known, but, perhaps was never more strongly expressed than in a letter to Tom Moore, when he observes, "I would rather have a nod from an American than a snuff box from an Emperor."

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

THREE IN A BED.—Emigration to the State of Michigan was so great during the year 1835-36, that every house was filled each night with travelers wanting lodging. Every traveler there at that time will remember the difficulty of obtaining a bed in any of the hotels, even if he was willing to put up with two or three strange bedfellows.

The Rev. Hosea Brown, an eccentric Methodist minister, stopped at one of the hotels in Ann Arbor, and inquired if he could have a room and a bed to himself. The bar-keeper told him he could, unless they should be so full as to render it necessary to put another in with him. At an early hour the reverend gentleman went to his room, locked the door, and soon retired to his bed, and sunk into a comfortable sleep. Along towards midnight he was aroused from his slumbers by a loud knocking at his door.

"Hallo, you, there!" he exclaimed, "what do you want *now*?"—particular stress on the last word.

"You must take another lodger with you, sir," said the landlord.

"What! another yet?"

"Why, yes—there is only one in there, is there?"

"One! why here is Mr. Brown, and a Methodist preacher, and myself, already, and I should think that was enough for one bed, even in Michigan!"

The landlord seemed to think so, too, and left them to their repose.

DRAWING AN INFERENCE.—A certain notable housewife had observed that her stock of pickled walnuts was running remarkably low, and she spoke of it to the cook, who alone had access to them. The cook's character was at stake; and, unwilling to give warning, with an imputation on her self-denial, not to say honesty, she nevertheless felt that all confidence between her mistress and herself was destroyed. One day, the jar of pickles standing as usual on the dresser, while she was busily preparing dinner, she happened to turn suddenly round, and saw a favorite magpie, remarkable for his conversational powers, standing by the jar dipping his beak down into its treasures, with evident satisfaction. The mystery was explained—the thief detected. Seizing a dish of scalding grease, with which she was basting a joint, the indignant cook dashed its whole contents over the hapless pet, exclaiming:

"Oh, you thief! *you've* been at the pickled walnuts, have you!"

Poor Mag, of course was dreadfully burnt; most of the feathers come off, leaving his little round pate, which had caught the principal part of the volley, entirely bare. The poor bird lost all its spirits, inoped about, and never spoke, for a whole year. At length, when he had pretty well recovered, and was beginning to chatter again, a gentleman called at the house, who, on taking off his hat, exhibited a very bald head. The magpie, who happened to be in the room, appeared evidently struck by the circumstance; his reminiscences were powerfully excited by the appearance of the gentleman's skull. Hopping upon the back of his chair and looking him hastily over, he suddenly exclaimed, in the ear of his astonished visitor:

"Oh, you thief! *you've* been at the pickled walnuts have you!"—*Graham's Mag.*

Truth is a gem of worth.

ONE BY ONE.

One by one the sands are flowing,
One by one the moments fall;
Some are coming, some are going,
Do not strive to grasp them all.

One by one thy duties wait thee,
Let thy whole strength go to each,
Let no future dreams elate thee,
Learn thou first what these can teach.

One by one (bright gifts from Heaven)
Joys are sent thee here below,
Take them readily when given.
Ready, too, to let them go.

One by one thy griefs shall meet thee,
Do not fear a thronging band;
One will fade as others greet thee,
Shadows passing through the land.

Do not look at life's long sorrow;
See how small each moment's pain,
God will help thee for to-morrow,
Every day begin again.

Every hour that fleets so slowly,
Has its task to do or bear;
Luminous the crown and holy,
If thou set each gem with care.

Do not linger with regretting,
Or for passion hours despond;
Nor, the daily toil forgetting,
Look too eagerly beyond.

Hours are golden links, God's token,
Reaching Heaven, but one by one
Take them, lest the chain be broken
Ere the pilgrimage be done.

LIVING BY ONE'S WIT.

Nine persons sailed from Basle down the Rhine. A Jew, who wished to go to Schalampi, was allowed to come on board and journey with them on condition that he would conduct himself with propriety, and give the captain eighteen kreutzers for his passage.

Now, it is true, something jingled in the Jew's pocket when he struck his hands against it; but the only money there was therein was a twelve-kreutzer piece, for the other was a brass button. Notwithstanding this he accepted the offer with gratitude; for he thought to himself, "something may be earned, even upon the water. There is many a man who has grown rich upon the Rhine."

During the first part of the voyage, the passengers were very talkative and merry, and the Jew, with his wallet under his arm—for he did not lay it aside—was the object of much mirth and mockery, as alas! is often the case with those of his nation. But as the vessel sailed onward, and passed Thurington and St. Veit, the passengers, one after the other, grew silent and gazed down the river, until one spoke out:

"Come, Jew, do you know any pastime that will amuse us? Your fathers must have contrived many a one during their long stay in the wilderness."

"Now is the time," thought the Jew, "to shear my sheep!" And he proposed that they should sit round in a circle, and propound very curious questions to each other, and he, with their permission, would sit down with them. Those who could not answer the questions, should pay the one who propounded them a twelve-kreutzer piece; and those who answered them pertinently, should receive a twelve-kreutzer piece.

The proposal pleased the company, and, hoping to divert themselves with Jew's wit or stupidity, each one asked at random whatever entered his head.

Thus for example, the first one asked: "How many soft-boiled eggs could the giant Goliath eat upon an empty stomach?"

All said that it was impossible to answer

that question, and the others paid him twelve kreutzers.

But the Jew said, "One; for he who has eaten one egg can not eat a second one on an empty stomach." And the others paid him twelve kreutzers.

The second thought, wait Jew, and I will try you out of the New Testament, and I think I shall win my piece.

"Why did the Apostle Paul write the second epistle to the Corinthians?"

The Jew said: "Because he was not in Corinth, otherwise he would have spoken to them." So he won another twelve kreutzer piece.

When the third saw the Jew was so well versed in the Bible, he tried him in a different way.

"Who prolongs his work to as great a length as possible, and yet completes it in time?"

"The rope-maker, if he is industrious," said the Jew.

In the meanwhile they drew near to a village, and one said to the other, "That is Bamlach." Then the fourth asked, "In what month do the people of Bamlach eat the least?"

The Jew said, "In February, for that has only twenty-eight days."

The fifth said, "There are two natural brothers, and still only one of them is my uncle."

The Jew said, "The uncle is your father's brother, and your father is not your uncle."

A fish now jumped out of the water, and the sixth asked, "What fish have their eyes nearest together?"

The Jew said, "The smallest."

The seventh asked, "How can a man ride from Basle to Berne, in the shade, in the summer time, when the sun shines?"

The Jew said, "When he comes to a place where there is no shade, he must dismount and go on foot."

The eight asked, "When a man rides in the winter time from Berne to Basle, and has forgotten his gloves, how must he manage so that his hands shall not freeze?"

The Jew said, "He must make fists out of them."

The ninth was the last. This one asked, "How can five persons divide five eggs so that each man shall receive one, and still one remain in the dish?"

The Jew said, "The last must take the dish with the egg, and can let it lay there as long as he pleases."

But now it came to his turn, and he determined to make a good sweep. After many preliminary compliments he asked, with an air of mischievous friendliness, "How can a man fry two trouts in three pans, so that a trout may lay in each pan?"

No one could answer this, and one after the other gave him a twelve kreutzer piece.

But when the ninth desired that he should answer it himself, he frankly acknowledged that he knew not how the trout could be fried in such a way.

Then it was maintained that this was unfair in the Jew, but he strongly affirmed that there was no provision for it in the agreement, save that he who could not answer the questions should pay the kreutzers, and he fulfilled the agreement by paying that sum on the ninth of his comrades, who had asked him to solve it himself. But they all being rich merchants, and grateful for the amusement which had passed an hour or two very pleasantly for them, laughed heartily over their loss and at the Jew's cunning.

TRUTHFUL SIMPLICITY.—One of our physicians, making his morning calls, in passing the residence of one of his families, saw a piece of crape attached to the door-knob. Naturally interested in the circumstance, and

seeing a little five-year old girl belonging to the family standing on the walk, he reined in his horse and asked:

"Mary, who is dead at your house?"

"Sister."

"Ah! what doctor did you have to attend her?"

"Oh, we didn't have any; sister managed to die without one."

HALF AN HOUR TO SOON.

THE EXCITED YANKEE.

The hour was approaching for the departure of the New-Haven steamboat from her berth at New-York, and the usual crowd of passengers, and friends of passengers, newsboys, fruit-venders, cabmen, and dock loafers, were assembled on and about the boat. We were gazing at the motly group, from the foot of the promenade deck stairs, when our attention was attracted by the singular actions of a tall, brown Yankee, in an immense wool hat chocolate-colored coat and pantaloons, and a fancy vest. He stood near the starboard paddlebox, and scrutinized sharply every female who came on board, every now and then consulting an enormous silver bull's eye watch, which he raised from the depths of a capacious fob, by means of a powerful steel chain. After mounting guard in this manner, he dashed furiously down a gang plank and up the plank and up the wharf, reappearing on board almost instantaneously, with a flushed face, expressing the most intense anxiety. This series of operations he performed several times, after which he rushed about the boat wildly, and hopelessly ejaculated: "What's the time of day? Wonder if my repeater's fast? Whar's the cap'n? Whar's the steward? Whar's the mate? Whar's the boss that owns the ship?" "What's the matter, sir?" we ventured to ask him, when he stood for a moment. "Han't seen nothin' of a gal in a blue bonnet, with a white Canton crape shawl, (cost fifteen dollars,) pink gown, and brown boots, hey? come aboard while I was looking for the cap'n at the pint end of the ship—have ye? hey?" "No such person has come aboard." "Tormented lightning! she's my wife!" he screamed. "Married her yesterday. All her trunks and mine aboard, under the pile of baggage, as tall as a Connecticut steeple. The darn'd black nigger says he can't hand it out, and I won't leave my baggage, any how. My wife—only think on it—was to come aboard at half-past four, and here it's most five. What's become of her? she can't have eloped. We han't been married long enough for that. You don't think she's been abducted, do ye, mister? Speak! answer? won't ye? O! I'm ravin' distracted! What are they ringin' that bell for? Is the ship afire?" "It is the signal for departure—the first bell. The second will be rung in four minutes." "Thunder! you don't say so? Whar's the cap'n?" "That gentleman in the blue coat." The Yankee darted to the captain's side. "Cap'n, stop the ship for ten minutes, won't ye?" "I can't do it, sir." "But ye must, I tell you. I'll pay you for it. How much will ye tax?" "I could not do it." "Cap'n I'll give you two dollars," gasped the Yankee. The captain shook his head. "I'll give you five dollars and a half—and a half—and a half!" he kept repeating, dancing about in his agony like a mad jackass on a hot iron plate. "The boat starts at five precisely," said the captain shortly, and turned away. "Oh, you stunny-hearted heathin!" murmured the Yankee, almost bursting into tears. "Partin' man and wife, and we just one day married." At this moment the huge paddle-wheels began to paw the water, and the walking beam descended heavily, shaking the huge fabric to the center. All who were

not going to New-Haven went ashore. The hands began to haul in the gang plank: the fasts are already cast loose. "Leggo that plank!" roared the Yankee, collaring one of the hands. "Drop it like a hot potatoe, or I'll heave you into the dock!" "Yo—yo!" shouted the men in chorus, as they heaved on the gangway. "Shut up you braying donkeys!" yelled the maddened Yankee, "or there'll be an ugly soot of work!" But the plank was got aboard, and the boat splashed passed the pier. In an instant the Yankee, pulled of his coat, flung his hat beside it on the deck, and rushed wildly to the guard "Are you drunk or crazy?" cried a passenger, seizing him. "I am goin' to fling myself into the dock and swim ashore!" cried the Yankee. "I musn't leave Sairy Ann alone in New-York city. You may divide my baggage among ye—let me go—I can swim!" He struggled so furiously that the consequences of his rashness might have been fatal, had not a sudden apparition changed his purpose. A very pretty young woman, in a blue bonnet, white Canton crape shawl, pink dress, and brown boots came towards him. The big brown Yankee uttered one stentorian shout of "Sairy Ann!" clasped her in his arms in spite of her struggling, and kissed her heartily, right before all the passengers. "Where did you come from?" he inquired. "From the ladies' cabin," answered the bride. "You told me half-past four, but I thought I'd make sure and come at four." "A little to punctual!" said the Yankee. "But it's all right now. Hallo, cap'n, you can go ahead, now, I don't care about stopping. Come nigh losin' the passage money and baggage—come nigh getting drowned, Sairy, all along of you—but it's all right now. Go ahead, steamboat! Rosin up, there, firemen! Darn the expense!" When the sun set, a loving couple were seen seated on the upper deck, the big brown Yankee's arm encircling the slender waist of the young woman in the blue bonnet and pink dress. We believe they reached their destination safe and sound.

A YOUNG TOBACCO CHEWER CURED.—On board ship, one day, we were stowing away the hammocks, when one of the boys came with his hammock on his shoulder, and as he passed, the first lieutenant perceived that he had a quid of tobacco in his mouth.

"What have you got there?" asked the lieutenant, "a gum-boil? Your cheek is much swollen." "No sir," replied the boy, "there's nothing at all the matter." "O! there *must* be, perhaps it is a bad tooth.—Open your mouth, and let me see."

Very reluctantly, the boy opened his mouth, which contained a large roll of tobacco leaf. "I see, I see," said the lieutenant; "poor fellow! how you must suffer! your mouth wants overhauling, and your teeth cleaning. I wish we had a dentist on board; but as we have not, I will operate as well as I can. Send the armorer up here with his tongs." When the armorer made his appearance with his big tongs, the boy was compelled to open his mouth, while the tobacco was extracted with his rough instrument.

"There now!" said the lieutenant, "I'm sure you must feel better already; you never could have any appetite with such stuff in your mouth. Now, captain of the after-guard, bring a piece of old canvass, and some sand, and clean his teeth nicely.

The captain of the after-guard came forward, and, grinning from ear to ear, put the boy's head between his knees, and scrubbed his teeth well with sand and canvas for two or three minutes.

"There, that will do," said the lieutenant. "Now, my little fellow, take some water and rinse out your mouth, and you will en-

joy your breakfast. It was impossible for you to have eaten anything with your mouth in such a filthy condition. When you are troubled in the same way again, come to me, and I will be your dentist."—The lad was completely cured, by the ridicule of this occurrence, of the habit of tobacco chewing.—*Capt. Marryat.*

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, August 22.

During the past week the lower grades of flour have declined about 25 cents per bbl., while the middle, and higher grades have advanced 25 to 50 cents per bbl. There has, as yet, very little Western flour come into market—not enough to supply the demand for home consumption and for export. The prices have changed almost daily. As soon as they lower 25 to 50 cents per barrel it pays to ship flour to Europe, and all in the market to be had at the reduced prices is at once bought up by shippers. This raises the price, the shippers cease buying, and a fall again takes place, to be recovered by the same process. The foreign demand, will keep prices very near the present figure, until the crops in Europe is gathered, or till a sufficient quantity comes in from the country to more than supply that demand. If the European crop is not abundant, it will take some time to meet the foreign demand, and under this stimulus prices may for a short time even rule higher here. In regard to the yield of wheat in this country, we find no reasons for changing the opinions given somewhat at length last week. If anything, the reports are still better than they were one week ago. From the newer States, Illinois, and especially from Wisconsin and Iowa, the reports are very favorable.

The Corn crop is maturing, and under favorable circumstances, though warmer weather than generally prevails would add to the growth of ear. The price has declined in some qualities a few cents per bushel.

Oats are not materially changed—a little lower than last week.

Cotton, and Sugar, are without change.

Rice is 25 cents better.

The Weather for the entire week past has been delightfully cool and pleasant. No rain has fallen, and we have had no scorching hot sunshines. In this respect this month has thus far been remarkable. The "heated term" seems to have exhausted the fountains of caloric.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, Aug. 21, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The over supply of Potatoes last week depressed the market below its level. There was a slight reaction the fore-part of this week, with a more moderate supply.

Tomatoes of the very best quality are from 12½ to 25 cents per basket, and strange as it may seem the "Middle Men" asserted, are still "pointing downwards." Nobody asks more than twenty-five cents.

There is a plentiful supply of apples and a decline in prices from last weeks quotations.

Melons are plenty and the price still continues good. The market continues flooded with unripe Jersey Peaches at nominal prices. The Delaware's are still in good demand, though at slightly reduced rates.

Poultry is declining a little in price. Turkeys in demand at good prices.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island Whites....	♣ basket	\$—56@	65
Do. do. Mercers.....	do.	60@	65
New-Jersey, Dyckman's.....	♣ bbl.	2 00@2	23
Do. Mercers.....	do.	1 50@	—
Onions—Red.....	♣ bbl.	1 50@1	75
Do White.....	♣ bask.	1 00@	—
Do Silver Skins.....	do	81@	—
Corn—sweet.....	♣ 100	75@	—
Cabbages.....	♣ 100	2 00@2	50
Cucumbers.....	do	31@	—
Squashes—White.....	♣ bas.	25@	—
Yellow.....	do	37@	—
Blackberries.....	♣ bush.	2 50@3	50
Whortleberries.....	do.	3 50@	—
Tomatoes.....	♣ bask.	12@	25
Beans—Lima.....	♣ bask.	88@	—
Do String.....	do	25@	37
Beets.....	♣ doz.	25@	37
Carrots.....	do.	25@	—
Turnips.....	♣ bush.	37@	50
Plums—Blue Gages.....	do.	2 00@2	50
Apples, Sour.....	♣ bbl.	\$1 50@1	75
Sweet Bow.....	do	2 —@2	50
Common.....	do	50@	75
Pears, Bell.....	do	3 25@3	50
Common.....	do.	2 —@2	50
Watermelons.....	♣ 100	10 @12	—
Musk Melons.....	do.	1 75@2	—
Butter Orange County.....	♣ lb.	—@25c.	
State.....	do.	15@23c.	
Western.....	do.	—@16c.	
Cheese.....	do	6@9c.	
Eggs State.....	♣ doz.	—@16c.	
Jersey.....	do.	—@17c.	
Poultry—Spring Chickens.....	♣ pair	50@68c.	
Fowls.....	do.	66@75	
Ducks.....	do.	—@68c.	
Turkeys.....	♣ lb.	13@14c.	
Geese.....	♣ pr.	1 —@1	12

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY August 22, 1855.

N. B.—The rates in these reports refer to the estimated weight of the beef in the quarters.

Prices still continue nominally the same. Sales are dull—though the average quality of cattle is a shade better. Fewer sold to-day for 11c. than last week, though a few Durham grades sold by Hurd, Culver & Co. did we believe reach that figure. The prevailing rate for good beeves is 10c. There is a very evident increase in numbers this week, and average rates are a little lower than our last quotations. A number of droves went back into the country from Browning's for want of room.

The total supply for the city during the week is 4,246, besides 400 sold at Bergen.

At Allerton's there has been during the week.....2,466

There is to-day.....2,446

Of these, 591 were in the New-York Drive Yards, south side of 4th-st.

There came by the

Harlem Railroad—Beeves.....	79
Cows and Calves.....	23
Veals.....	185
Sheep and Lambs.....	1061
Swine.....	15

Hudson River R'd.—Beeves.....	535
Swine.....	151
Sheep and Lambs.....	218

Erie Railroad.....	Beeves.....	1422
Hudson River Boats.....	Beeves.....	400

There were from	
New-York.....	288
Ohio.....	1278
Illinois.....	384
Indiana.....	333
Kentucky.....	103

Browning reports 840 grass fed cattle, from New-York and Ohio, selling at 7½@10c.

O'Brien reports 396, selling at 7@9c.

Chamberlain, 544, selling at 8@11c.

Cows and Calves.—The total supply is 324, at prices generally from \$20 to \$40.

Veals—Total supply 578, selling at 5@6c. The best bring 7c.

Sheep and Lambs.—Total Supply 9,877. A large part of these were sold for Store Sheep, at from \$1 50 to \$3 25 ♣ head. Fat Sheep from \$3 25 to \$4 50. Lambs from \$1 25 to \$4. Sales slow.

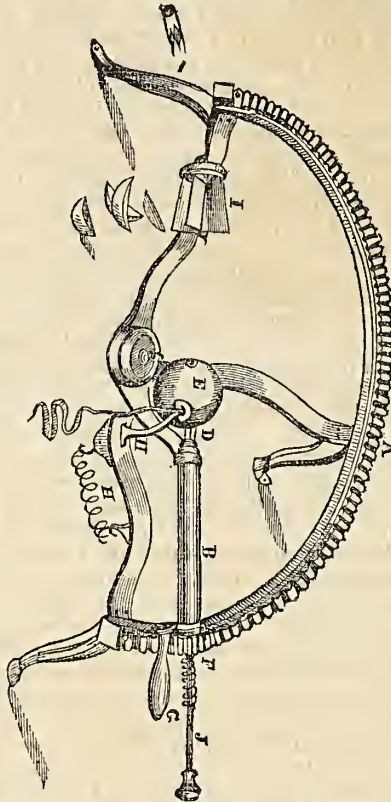
Swine—At Allerton's 166 from Indiana, milk-fed, 7c. to 7½c. live weight.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

Smith & Fenwick's Machine for Paring, Coring and Quartering APPLES AND OTHER FRUIT.



THIS VERY INGENIOUS AND USEFUL MACHINE is now ready for sale, and will be on exhibition at the next FAIR of the American Institute, at the Crystal Palace. It received a SILVER MEDAL at the New-York State Fair, and is considered by every one who has seen it in operation as "THE MACHINE." It works on the right principle, and performs with astonishing precision. The paring taken off is very thin, the core removed nicely, and the apple quartered, or divided into smaller pieces if desired, and all so quickly that a girl of a dozen years can complete from SIX to EIGHT in ONE MINUTE.

The machine being made of iron, and very simple, is not in any way liable to get out of order.

The Scientific American says—"This machine presents manifold advantages over anything of a similar nature, it being capable of performing almost double the amount of work in a given time that can be done by any other."

A sample MACHINE will be sent to order for FOUR DOLLARS (which includes cost of packing), and Rights for States or Counties will be sold on liberal terms, and machines furnished, when desired, to purchasers of said Rights, at low rates.

Apply to COLMAN & WILLIAMSON, 102-104n1222 No. 6 Wall-st., New-York.

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurrey.

Red and White Clover, Lucerne, Saintfoin, Alske Clover, Sweet-scented Clover, Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including all the best varieties of WINTER SEED WHEAT, such as WHITE FLINT-SOULE'S—BLUE-STEM, White and Red MEDITERRANEAN.

Winter Rye, Oats, of several choice kinds, Corn, of several varieties, Spring and Winter Vetches, PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed.

CIDER MILLS—Of the best and latest improvements, occupying a space less than four feet square, and capable of grinding the apples and pressing several barrels of Cider per day with only two hands. For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS: EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power. ALLEN'S do. BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses. TRIMBLE'S do. do. for one to four do. WARREN'S do. do. do. do. TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

THRESHERS—ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot. do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot. EMERY'S overshot. EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil. Lock Coulters, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock. BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grab Hoes, Spades, Cultivators, Seed and Grain Drills, Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightening Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests, Clover Hullers, Shingle Machines, Apple Parers, Hay and Manure Forks, Picks, Wheelbarrows, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones, Garden Engines, Cotton Gins, Gin Gear, Wire Cloth, Belting for Machinery, &c. R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT.)



The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Miners, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Copper-smiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c. Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewelers, Dentists, Chemists, &c. Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping. Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

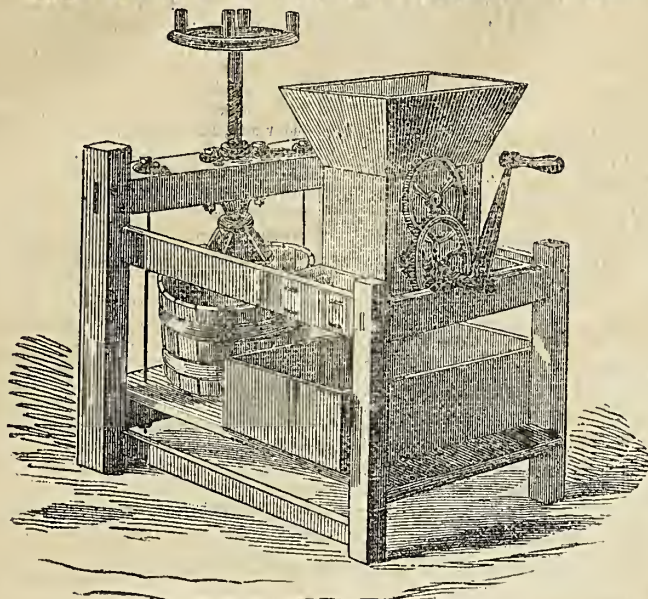
FREDERICK P. FLAGLER, Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York. 85-136n1190ew

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—

Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, on sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT, 95-120n1212 Pelham Westchester Co., N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUANO.—A full and min u description of the different crops and soils to which Peruvian Guano is adapted, with full directions for its application, a pamphlet of 96 pages, and can be sent through the mail. Price 25 cents. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-

HICKOK'S PATENT IMPROVED



CIDER MILL,
AS ARRANGED FOR 1855.

MANUFACTURED SOLELY BY
THE LEWOS,
W. O. HICKOK, Agent, Harrisburg, Penn.
Warranted if Directions are followed, and not otherwise.
PRICE \$40.

THIS IS THE FOURTH YEAR THAT THIS MILL HAS BEEN BEFORE THE public, and, as in all similar cases, improvements have been added, as it has been found necessary. Some of the following are the most important:

- 1.—The Mill has been increased in size, so that we can put under, a tub that holds nearly three bushels of apples after they are ground.
 - 2.—Instead of a solid bottom board, or one covered with cloth, to go under the tub, I have a bottom board grooved in a peculiar manner, and both it and the tub, after repeated and severe trials, have been found the best for the purpose—as they will always let the cider out clear and free from pomace.
 - 3.—The bottom or floor is constructed entirely different from the former ones; and the pomace box has been much increased in size, by passing behind and below the floor.
 - 4.—The castings have been made much heavier (about one-fifth;) and the shafts run in iron boxes bolted together.
 - 5.—Heretofore great trouble has occurred in getting cylinders that would not swell and get out of place. That difficulty has now been overcome, by making them of IRON altogether.
- On examination of the whole, I am satisfied that you will agree, that nothing is wanting or omitted, to make it a good, durable and perfect machine. All these improvements have, of course, cost much; and indeed they will stand me over 25 per cent. above the cost of them two years ago.
- I am often asked how much cider can be made in them in a day? and I generally answer, from ten to twelve barrels. But we have made four barrels per hour on them. To do this, I should put about two hands on it, with enough attendants to bring the apples and carry away the cider and pomace; and should run it by steam power—with the understanding that I would not use over a 3/4 inch belt, nor run it faster than a man could turn it, nor use more power than a good sized boy would exert on the crank. The pressing would be done by hand, and the pomace be shoveled into the tub. Sixty bushels an hour can well and easily be ground on it, and of course, the Mill would stand idle one-third of the time.
- The following are but a small portion of the premiums that have been granted to this Mill:
- A MEDAL from the World's Fair, New-York.
 - SILVER MEDEL at the Fair of the American Institute, New-York, October 1852.
 - 2 SILVER MEDALS from Baltimore. A DIPLOMA at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia.
 - FIRST PREMIUM at the State Fair, at Utica.
 - FIRST PREMIUM at the Rensselaer County, N. Y., and also at the Columbia County, N. Y., Fairs.
 - A DIPLOMA at the Westchester County Fair, 1852.
 - FIRST PREMIUM at the Pennsylvania State Fair, at Pittsburg, 1853.
 - FIRST PREMIUM at the Ohio State Fair, at Dayton; Michigan State Fair, at Detroit; Indiana State Fair, at La Fayette; and a large number of County Fairs, too numerous to mention.
- Massachusetts Charitable Association, Boston; and wherever this mill has had an actual and fair trial at Fairs it has carried the first Premium.
- In one or two instances the committees have refused a trial, and given Premiums to other mills, they GRINDING TURNIPS ONLY, and not going into fair and honorable competition in making cider.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

W. O. HICKOK: Sir—I have one of your Improved Cider Mills; I used the Mill last October, and on trial I ground fifty bushels of apples per hour. I keep the ground apples twelve hours, and I can press out two barrels of cider per hour with two men. I can recommend your Improved Cider Mill to all fruit growers, for speed and a saving of labor. I can make thirty-five gallons of cider from nine and one-half bushels of common apples. The cider can be pressed from the pomace without using water now. Cider will keep one year when water is not used at the press.

JACKSTOWN, June 15, 1854.
JOHN M'COMBE.

WISCONSIN FARM TO BE SOLD—

Containing 320 acres, within two miles of the rapidly-increasing village of Beloit. 100 acres are under the plow, 60 acres are natural Meadow, and the remainder is timber-land, consisting of white oak, red oak and hickory. The Land is of first-rate quality for Winter Wheat, the owner having grown, the two last seasons, thirty bushels per acre. The whole is new land, in a high state of cultivation. A stream of running water passes through the farm for three-quarters of a mile. The House stands in a beautiful grove of Locusts and Balm of Gilead trees—some bearing Apple trees. In fact, it is all a person can desire for a large Farm. If sold this Fall, there is 30 acres of corn, estimated at 80 bushels (shelled) to the acre, can go with the Farm. The Stock and Implements can be purchased at a valuation. For further particulars, apply by letter to the owner,
HENRY KNILL,
Beloit, Rock Co., Wisconsin.

A GOOD FARM FOR SALE VERY

CHEAP.—A good Farm of 104 acres, situated in the town of Liberty, Sullivan County, N. Y., can be bought for \$3,000—a part of which may remain on mortgage. There is a good, new FARM-HOUSE, which cost more than half the price asked for the whole. There is also a good Barn, Out-buildings, &c. For further particulars apply to
JAMES HORTON,
Liberty Falls, Sullivan Co., N. Y.

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is

requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

T A F E U,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs. or bags of 125 lbs. Price \$35 per tun, or 1 1/2 cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York. For further particulars address
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price \$1.50 per bbl. for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99—121n1152

RHODE-ISLAND HORSE AND CAT-

TLE EXHIBITION.
THE RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY,

Will hold an Exhibition of
HORSES AND CATTLE,
AT THE
WASHINGTON TROTTING PARK,
PROVIDENCE,

To commence on TUESDAY, September 11th, and to continue through the week.

The premium list amounts to FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS. Competition is open to all States and the British Provinces. Judges will be appointed from other States as far as practicable. The Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, and the Plowing and Drawing Matches, will take place on Tuesday, and an Auction Sale will be held. EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums. An Address will be delivered before the Society in the evening.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the several classes of Horses will be exhibited, and on the afternoon of each day there will be a grand trial of speed of Trotting Horses. On Saturday the Premium Horses will be exhibited, and an Auction Sale will be held. THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums on Horses.

In order to prevent the confusion which must necessarily arise from the entrance of too large a number of Trotting Horses, an entrance-fee of \$20 will be charged on those competing for \$200 premiums, and of \$30 to those competing for \$300 premiums, to be paid at the time of entering, which must be done on or before the 1st of September, at the office of the Society, Railroad Halls, Providence. The other entrance-fees are, \$5 for single Horses, and \$7 for matched Horses.

Arrangements have already been made with the New-York and Erie Railroad, and with the New-York Railroad and Steamboat line via Stonington, for the issue of Excursion tickets and for the transportation of stock at reduced rates. Such arrangements will be extended to other lines as far as may be practicable.

For further particulars reference is made to handbills, which will in all cases be forwarded on application to the Secretary.

JOSEPH J. COOKE, President.
C. T. KEITH, Secretary. 99—104n1217

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out

of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Searsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Searsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86—4fn1193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE

SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 167 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86—4fn1194

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HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS

Single Horse Power	\$85 00
Do. do. do.	116 00
Do. do. do., with Thresher and Separator,	160 00
Single do. do. do.	128 00

Belts \$5 and \$10 each.

R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York.
189 and 191 Water-street.

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SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—

The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.

SAMUEL THORNE,
"Thornedale," Washington Hollow,
Dutchess Co., N. Y.

100tfn1219

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Plants may be purchased of W M LAWTON,
83-108n1184 No 54 Wall-st., New-York

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has

removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86—6m

Publisher's Announcement

FOR THE FIFTEENTH VOLUME OF THE

American Agriculturist.

A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal. \$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be progressive in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subservise their private interests.

The American Agriculturist will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controlling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. JUDD, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the Agriculturist, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. ALLEN, LEWIS F. ALLEN, Rev. WM. CLIFF, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

- One copy one year \$1 00
Six copies one year 5 00
Ten copies one year 8 00
Twenty copies one year 15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.

Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with Messrs. RAYMOND, HARPER & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES, one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly American Agriculturist will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other department. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the American Agriculturist on the first of each month, and the Times on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers:

- One copy of both papers one year \$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year 5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year 16 00
Twenty copies of both papers one year 30 00

Back numbers of the Monthly American Agriculturist, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the Times cannot be supplied.

Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to ALLEN & CO., Publishers of American Agriculturist, No. 189 Water-st., New York. N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed, Editor of American Agriculturist.

New-York Horticultural Society.

LIST OF PRIZES

To be awarded at the Fall Exhibition, to be held on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, September 25th and 26th, 1855. The place of holding the Exhibition will be announced hereafter.

FRUIT.

- For the best general display of Fruit \$15
For the second best 10
Apples.—For the best 20 named varieties 5
For the second best 5
For best 6 named varieties of table apples, not less than 5 of each 5
For second best 3
Pears.—For best 20 named varieties 10
For second best 5
For best 6 named varieties of table pears, not less than 5 of each 5
For second best 3
Peaches.—For best 6 named varieties, not less than 3 of each 5
For second best 3
Plums.—For best 6 named varieties, 6 of each 5
For second best 3
Nectarines.—For best 12, in one or more varieties 3
For second best 2
Quinces.—For the best 12 3
For second best 2
Figs.—For the best 2 named varieties, not less than 12 of each 2
Foreign Grapes.—For best 6 named varieties, 2 bunches of each, no bunch to weigh less than 1 1/2 lb. 15
For second best 10
For best 3 named varieties, 2 bunches of each, no bunch to weigh less than 2 lb. 8
For second best 5
For best bunch of Black Hamburgh, not to weigh less than 2 1/2 lb. 3
For second best 2
For best bunch of Muscat of Alexandria, not to weigh less than 2 1/2 lb. 3
For second best 2
Native Grapes.—For best named varieties, not less than 3 bunches of each 3
For second best 3
For best new variety, superior to the Isabella or Catawba, one bunch 5
Melons.—For best 2 Watermelons 3
For best two Muskmelons 3
Cranberries.—For best half peck, cultivated. 2

CUT FLOWERS.

- Roses.—For the best general display 10
For second best 5
For best 20 named varieties, one of each 8
For second best 4
Dahlias.—For the best general display 5
For second best 5
For best 12 named, self-colored 5
For second best 3
For best 12 named, fancy 5
For second best 3
Verbenas.—For best and largest collection of named varieties 5
For second best 3
For the best Seedling A Certificate of Merit.
Carnations.—For best display \$5
For second best 3
General Display.—For the best general display of Cut Flowers 10
For second best 5

BOUQUETS, BASKETS, &C.

- For the best pair of Hand Bouquets 5
For second best 3
For best Parlor Bouquet 5
For second best 3
For best Floral Basket 8
For second best 5
For the best and second best Ornamental Design, evincing originality, neatness, and taste, a prize according to merit will be awarded.

PLANTS IN POTS.

- For best collection of 20 named Hot-house and Green-house Plants \$15
For second best 10
For best single specimen in flower 5
For second best 3
For best collection of 10 variegated leaved plants 5
For second best 3
Achimenes.—For best 3 named, in bloom 3
For second best 2
Gloxinias.—For the best 3 named, in bloom 5
For second best 3
Orchids.—For best 3 specimens, in bloom 5
For second best 3

VEGETABLES.

- Potatoes.—For best 3 varieties named, 1/2 peck of each. \$3
Beets.—For best 12 Long Blood Beets 2
For best 12 Turnip-rooted Beets 2
Carrots.—For best 12 Short Horn Carrots 2
For best 12 Long Orange Carrots 2
Parsnips.—For best 12 roots 2
Salsify.—For best 12 roots 2
Cabbage.—For best 3 heads of Savoy 2
For best 3 heads of any other variety 2
Cauliflower.—For best 2 heads 2
Brocoli.—For best 3 heads 2
Onions.—For best 1/2 peck 2
Celery.—For best 6 stalks 2
Tomatoes.—For best 1/2 peck, red 2
Egg Plants.—For the best 3 2
Beans.—For best 1/2 peck Lima Beans, in pods 2
Corn.—For best 12 ears for the table 2
Turnips.—For best 1/2 peck 2
Squashes.—For best 3 for the table 2
Pumpkin.—For the largest Pumpkin 2
Largest Display.—For the best general display of Vegetables 8
For second best 5

PETER B. MEAD, THOMAS HOGG, JOHN GROSHON, Dr. JAMES KNIGHT, ALFRED BRIDGEMAN, JOHN SUTTLE, ISAAC BUCHANAN, WILSON G. HUNT, Ex Off. 102n1224 Committee of Arrangements.

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XXXIV. Stephens's Book of the Farm; or Farmer's Guide. Edited by Skinner. Price \$4.
XXXV. Allen's American Farm Book. Price \$1.
XXXVI. The American Florists' Guide. Price 75 cents.
XXXVII. The Cottage and Farm Bee-Keeper. Price 50 cents.
XXXVIII. Hoare on the Culture of the Grape. Price 50 cents.
XXXIX. Country Dwellings; or the American Architect. Price \$6.
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Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
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VOL. XIV.—NO. 25.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 103.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

FARM AND GARDEN OF COL. M. P. WILDER.

Col. Wilder's residence is in the midst of his magnificent garden of about fourteen acres, which borders the old stage road leading from Boston through Dorchester. The grounds have been occupied by him for twenty-five years; and the most cursory observation is sufficient to convince one, that these have been years of intelligent and active supervision.

There are over one thousand distinct varieties of pear trees. This, of course, is a number very far beyond what any horticulturist would select or adopt for cultivation. But Col. W. has had another motive besides profit, in all his operations. He has had that commendable spirit of inquiry, which his intelligence and wealth have enabled him to carry out into successful results, that have proved, as he intended, far more beneficial to the public than to himself. With this view, he has imported every new variety of pear that had any reputation in Europe; and, in addition, has produced a great variety from his own experiments in hybridizing. By a summary process of testing the new kinds—placing the grafts from a yearling seedling upon a mature and vigorous tree—he is enabled to adopt or discard the new fruit at once, without waiting for years to determine its quality. Numerous experimental scions now employ the limbs of well-grown, healthy trees. Several acres of the ground are planted with seedlings and nursery trees, and larger ones in full bearing. All are compressed into the smallest appropriate space, being mostly on quince stocks, and at distances of 10 to 12 feet. Great attention is paid to trimming, most of them being of a beautiful pyramidal shape, and the older ones in full and magnificent fruit. Some of those on quince stocks, are over twenty-five years old, and full of vigor and health; and with the careful management observed here, they have uniformly proved successful.

The camelias, next to the pears, are the most engrossing subject of attention. These

Col. W. has cultivated with great success, and to a very large extent. Hundreds of these, of numerous varieties, of large size, and in the highest state of perfection, were arranged in the open grounds, including one choice fancy seedling, for which Col. W. paid \$250. He has produced a great number of varieties by hybridizing. This practice is quite a hobby with him. We hope for some highly beneficial results from this system.

A great variety of other fruits, embracing almost every approved sort; also flowering shrubs and plants, and all under the nicest cultivation, are to be found on the grounds.

The farm, which is a mile or two distant, and only of moderate size, we did not have time to examine. It gives support to some fine cattle, and exhibits, as we might confidently expect from the appearance of the garden, a nice and well-considered cultivation.

Col. Wilder has long occupied a prominent position before the agricultural and horticultural world. While for thirty or forty years he has been an active member, he was for eight years President of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, within which time a splendid Hall was erected in the heart of Boston, for its weekly and monthly exhibitions, and the funds had accumulated to the amount of \$40,000.

Of the Norfolk County Agricultural Society, he has been the only President, and that for six successive years, during which period a large Hall has been built for the use of the Society, and ample funds accumulated for its future wants.

He is the only President yet elected to the National Agricultural Society, of which he has held the office some four years. Under his management the Society has been eminently successful, and has held several highly meritorious exhibitions. It proposes another, to be held adjoining Boston, in October next, for which the patriotic citizens of Boston have already guaranteed \$20,000, to be expended in premiums and arrangements of the grounds. We hazard nothing in predicting for this a very successful exhibition.

He also held the office of President of the American Pomological Convention since its first organization, some four or five years ago. In the formation and subsequent support of all these Societies, he was one of the earliest and most efficient movers; and has since contributed largely of his time, exertions, and means, to their success. In these and numerous other patriotic enter-

prizes, which our circumscribed limits do not allow us more fully to particularize, has Col. Wilder commended himself to the approbation of his countrymen as eminently the friend of the American farmer.

HOW MUCH CORN SHALL WE PLANT?

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In making our experiments public, we are apt to give only the successful ones, though the unsuccessful ones sometimes teach truth more clearly.

In the season of 1852 I put the manure of one horse and three cows on five-eighths of an acre of land, and planted it with corn. The crop harvested from this piece in the fall was about one hundred bushels of ears.

The next season (1853) I put the manure of the same stock, increased by some additional muck, on an adjoining part of the same field, but of twice the size—being ten-eighths of an acre ($1\frac{1}{4}$) in extent—and planted this with corn. The crop harvested was only some 65 or 70 bushels of ears.

These measurements may not be exact—as they were made by pacing the land, and by measuring the corn with a basket—yet the margin is wide enough to cover many times the chances of error in drawing certain conclusions. The management of the two pieces was the same, and there was no apparent difference in the productiveness of the two seasons; so that I can only attribute the discrepancy in the two crops to spreading the manure of the second season over too much surface; and I am strengthened in this opinion, by the fact that the natural soil of this field would not produce corn without manure, as was evident whenever the planting extended beyond the barn-yard dressings. It appears that in this case the greatest amount of corn was raised from a given amount of manure, by having a crop heavy enough to yield at least fifty bushels of shelled corn to the acre.

But the labor that was expended on the surplus half of the second piece was wasted, or worse than wasted, as it was none the better for being tilled. Or, to look at it in another light, the same labor would have raised a green crop on that surplus half and turned it under, so that it would have been in good condition for either fall or spring use.

As it was, the five-eighths of 1852 was in good order the next spring for a crop of carrots and turnips, while the ten-eighths of 1853 was left by the corn in such condition that it was not considered advisable to ex-

pend the amount of labor on it necessary to the profitable production of roots.

From these observations I apprehend that the aggregate amount of corn raised in those portions of the Union where the crop depends on manure, would be made greater by planting less and cultivating it more highly; and that, by generally adopting a succession of roots, the quantity of stock kept in the country may be much increased, at less than a corresponding expense. The well known importance of the corn crop—second only to that of hay—and the increasing attention bestowed upon roots as articles of feed, render such policy worthy of consideration.

A YOUNG FARMER.

DAIRY STATISTICS.

How much milk does it take to make one pound of butter?

We have gathered answers to this question, from the correspondence of the London Agricultural Gazette, to the following purport:

In Blarney Cork, Ireland, it takes "2 gallons 6½ pints in summer, and 2 gallons 3½ pints in winter. Average, 2 gallons 5 pints of milk, or 2½ pints of cream. This is the well bred Irish cow. Crosses of the Dutch and Durham produce good cows, but the Durham is better adapted to the butcher than to the dairy. The Ayrshire is not only good for the dairy, but has also every tendency to fatten, and is best adapted to light soils. Pure Devons are very pretty stock, and give milk rich in quality but much smaller in quantity than any of the others."

In Dorsetshire, it takes, for the season, "2 gallons 6½ pints, or 2 pints of cream. The average produce of butter from a cow, in the course of a year, is about 13 dozen (156) pounds. Some dairies have produced 19 dozen (228) pounds per cow—but this is a rare occurrence."

In Cheshire, "In a general way, we have found, from the large Yorkshire cow, it takes 3 gallons for a pound of butter; Ayrshire less; and an Alderney still less. A cow gives much more butter when she has calved 3 or 4 months, and the quantity of milk is diminished; also, a great deal will depend on the quality of the food. We churn by steam; and last summer we tried the shortest time we could do it in; it was a hot day, and we accomplished it in five minutes and a-half—the engine making 300 revolutions per minute, and the quantity 80 gallons of milk. We have also found that it pays very well in hot weather to put American ice into the milk before churning, to reduce the temperature to get out more butter; the result of the same quantity of milk without ice, 15 pounds of butter; with ice, 20 pounds."

In Suffolk, it takes "3 gallons and 3 pints. Our cows were feeding in our best piece of pasture, so that I conclude we never make more butter from the same quantity of milk."

In Gloucestershire, it takes "3 gallons and 6 pints, or about a quart of cream. It is certainly not a good time to make an average trial, as the weather has been so very warm during the past week, and the flies have been extremely troublesome to the cattle."

In Guernsey, "I have had that quantity from 2 gallons, and have been assured that 1½ gallons have sufficed in some cases. I believe about 11 quarts to be a fair average. Our pound is the old Norman, and with the over-weight with each pound prepared for

market, I should think it was over 18 ounces English weight."

"Additional returns, representing the produce of over 1,000 cows, show a general average of 1.24 of an ounce of butter from 1 quart of milk."

How much do these quantities differ from those necessary to the same result in American dairies?

IRRIGATION.

The following article from the Agricultural Gazette, contains several interesting and instructive hints upon an important subject. The mineral manure advocates, will please give special attention to the statement, that it is not to the quality or the ingredients in the water used, but to the quantity, that the good effects of irrigation are due.

The subject of Irrigation is one of such great moment in some parts of England as to render it unnecessary to apologise for occupying a portion of our journal with notes upon the following points connected with it. We refer to:

- 1st. The nature of soil and circumstances best adapted for irrigation.
- 2d. The mechanical means necessary to its due accomplishment.
- 3d. The nature of the changes in vegetation effected by irrigation.
- 4th. The advantages to be derived from the practice where it can be properly carried out.

1st. A principal requisite in the formation of irrigated meadows is an unlimited supply of water, as it would appear that the quantity of this fluid has more influence than quality, as when water has percolated through one meadow it is not impaired for being conducted on to another. This is a consideration of some importance, as it does not appear that the efficacy of irrigation depends so much on the chemical constituents the water contains as might at first be thought; it seems rather to effect its good by a free percolation among and between the grass roots.

If therefore, water can be commanded in sufficient abundance for the process, the next point to ascertain is the capability of the land for favoring a steady even flow of water—not over the surface, as this is mere flooding—but by slow yet unceasing filtering through every part of the crop, for if the water be stagnant the usual effect of want of drainage will be observed in the growth of "sour grasses" and other weeds which mark wet land. A gravelly or sandy subsoil recommends itself as being best adapted for irrigation, and brooks or rivers usually flow in valleys of denudation, the worn-down rocks of which nearly always form a substratum of loose materials of greater or less thickness; in all such cases, therefore, the two most important adjuncts in irrigation, namely, water and a favorable soil, are usually combined.

2d. When these are present the next subject for consideration will be the best method to be adopted in conducting the water over the different surfaces to be irrigated, in the due performance of which it is necessary to consider, not only how to conduct water to any part of the field, but how to cause it to flow off again; for without the latter part of the system be as perfect in its action as the former, a fatal stagnation will be the result, and hence it follows that any system which will secure these important ends with the least expense in the three following particulars will be the best to adopt; these particulars are:

- a. The first outlay in the preparing the works,

- b. The annual cost of repairs, and of necessary periodical attendance.
- c. The amount of land taken up in the construction of the channels.

Of course these are points which can not be dwelt upon at length, as they must vary with the locality, position of the meadow, light to which the water has to be carried, and a variety of ever-changing circumstances, but the principles are in themselves simple, and require no less simple arrangements for securing their due development.

3d. The changes effected in the herbage of an irrigated meadow are a no less curious subject in relation to vegetable physiology than they are interesting in an agricultural point of view; these consist of the two following:

- a. Change of quality.
- b. Increase of quantity.

A meadow observed upon the bank of the Churn, in the neighborhood of Cirencester, which, from its slope could be only half covered with water, presented particulars which are tabulated below. It is necessary to remark that the meadow had a subsoil of oolitic gravel, and its pasture was that of a poor upland. The table will supply information on the following points:

- 1st. The names of the natural Grasses.
- 2d. The proportions of these observed in the meadow before irrigation.
- 3d. The changes effected in two years of irrigation.
- 4th. Those on the fourth year.

TABLE I.*
Representing the changes of Grasses under Irrigation.

Botanical Name.	Common Name.	Proportionals.			
		Before Irrigation.	After 2yrs Irrigation.	After 4yrs Irrigation.	After 4yrs Irrigation.
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> . . .	Meadow foxtail-grass	1	2	3	4
<i>Poa pratensis</i> . . .	Field meadow "	2	3	3	4
<i>Poa trivialis</i> . . .	Roughish meadow "	2	2	1	0
<i>Briza media</i> . . .	Quacking grass	2	2	1	0
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i> . . .	Dogtail-grass	1	0	0	0
<i>Aira caspiflora</i> . . .	Hassock-grass	1	2	3	3
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> . . .	Marsh bent grass	1	2	2	3
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> . . .	Cocksfoot-grass	1	2	3	3
<i>Avena flavescens</i> . . .	Yellow Oat-grass	2	3	3	3
<i>Avena pubescens</i> . . .	Soft Oat-grass	1	1	1	1
<i>Hordeum pratense</i> . . .	Meadow Barley-grass	1	2	2	2
<i>Lolium perenne</i> . . .	Perennial Rye grass	2	4	4	6

This field has trebled in value in four years.

This table shows that all the good grasses have increased in quantity, while the unfavorable kinds have decreased, and this may always be noted in pastures—they improve by increasing good herbage, which consequently smothers the bad; the opposite produces a reverse result.

Nor is it only with those plants of the natural order *Gramineæ* that changes occur; herbs of other families present the same facts, which may be gathered from:

TABLE II.
Representing the changes of Herbs formed with the Grasses.

Botanical Names.	Common Names.	Proportionals.		
		Before Irrigation.	After 2yrs Irrigation.	After 4yrs Irrigation.
<i>Ranunculus acris</i> . . .	Upright meadow cro'-ft	1	3	1
<i>bulbosus</i> . . .	Bulbous crowfoot	3	1	0
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> . . .	Narrow-leaf'd Plantain	3	1	1
media . . .	Broad-leaved "	3	0	0
<i>Trifolium repens</i> . . .	Dutch Clover	2	0	0
" pratense . . .	Brood Clover	1	2	2
<i>Anthriscus vulgaris</i> . . .	Com'n beaked Parsley	1	2	1

Hence, then, irrigation exerts great influence on vegetation; not, it would appear, all at once, but by degrees, and that this change is for the better, may be gathered from the following:

TABLE III.
Representing increase in Money value under Irrigation.

1st year of Irrigation,	25s. Rent the acre.
2d do. do.	35s. do.
3d do. do.	50s. do.
4th do. do.	60s. do.
8th do. do.	100s. do.

* This table and the succeeding one are taken from the Journal Royal Agricultural Society, vol. xv., part ii.

It is further worthy of remark, as respects the meadow observed upon, that although only a part of it could be irrigated, yet from the animals depasturing thereon having range over the whole meadow, the *unirrigated* portion has been also much improved, so that where all of a meadow can not be brought under the influence of this agent, it might be well to consider if only a portion can be so cultivated.

4th. This necessarily leads to a consideration of the advantages to be derived from the practice, for if a whole meadow be improved by the irrigation of a part, so may we not consider the utility of such meadows to the farm in general. This will become evident by a glance at the following facts:

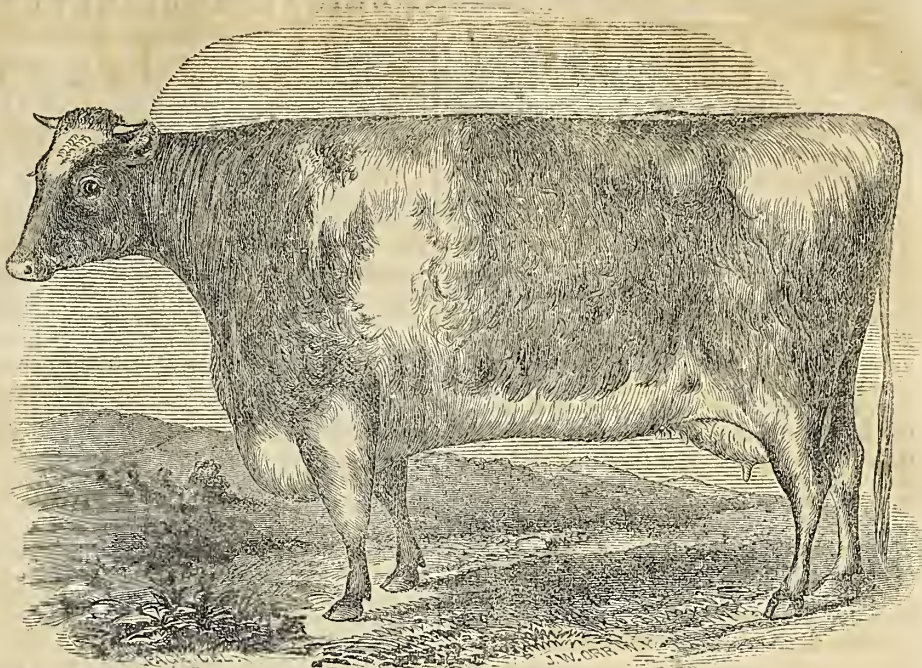
- a. Irrigation produces earlier pasture.
- b. It always secures a good late herbage—lattermath.
- c. Its yield of hay is much more certain where plenty of water can be commanded.

Hence, then, this portion of our subject will need no comment; but if this be so in ordinary cases, how much more so in a district like the Cotteswolds, where the great breadth of the land is on uplands of the porous oolitic rock. Such meadows in the valleys assist sheep farming in an extraordinary manner, as they enable the farmer in a not very genial climate still to have pasture for his early lambs, and thus to compete with those under more favorable circumstances as to climate. It is on this account that irrigated meadows are so carefully managed in the neighborhood of Cirencester, and we shall, therefore, devote another paper to a detailed account of their management.

CREOLE BUTTER.—The neighbors of a certain lady in the Fourth District in New Orleans, has recently discovered the nature of something that has seemed a miracle, for months past. They knew the lady had but one cow, (says the *Crescent*,) and they knew also that the lady's two little negroes peddled as much Creole butter daily as could be produced by half a dozen common cows. Inquisition got so high on the subject at last, that the lady has let out the secret, and in its travels it has reached us. She told a friend that her cow was only a common cow, and did not produce any butter, but yielded milk enough in which to re-churn any quantity of strong Goshen butter, which the boys purchased by wholesale at the groceries, and converts by the said re-churning in new milk, to that pale, sweet delicacy known as the Creole butter, which always commands the highest of prices. She added, also, that by this process she had made a clear profit, since June last, of *twelve hundred dollars*? One cow is not much, but one cow and Yankee ingenuity together, are considerable. Our authority in this matter is indisputable, and the speculation is worth imitating.

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 for 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.

Speaking of strawberries, a sapient friend says that, as a chemical analysis shows them to be ninety per cent water, he thinks it will be cheaper to use water only. He can obtain an imaginary taste of the fruit by sucking the water.



NYMPH 2d.

Roan; calved July 16, 1850. Bred by Col. Sherwood. Sire imported 3d Duke of Cambridge (5941); dam Nymph, by Bertram 2d, (3144); gr. dam Nannette, by Patriot (2412); gr. gr. d. Nonpareil, by Young Denton (963); gr. gr. gr. d. Arabella, by North Star (460);

gr. gr. gr. gr. d. Aurora, by Comet (155); by Henry (301); by Danby (190).

Winner of the first prize in the class of heifers at the American Institute and Queens County Fairs in 1852.

For the American Agriculturist.

GUANO ON WHEAT—THE CROPS.

Last year I got Mr. Allen to send me a tun of guano, as an experiment to try if it would pay on the wheat land of Seneca County; and I am now convinced that, so long as wheat keeps from \$1 75 to \$2 per bushel, guano will pay well. It acts differently from any other manure I ever saw, for although the wheat, both in fall and spring, looked very dark and grassy—just as if it had been over highly manured with barnyard manure—yet, on coming to maturity, the straw, in place of being soft and moldy, was stiff and of a golden hue.

I have this year procured 6,832 pounds of guano from your city, which I shall apply on 30 acres of fallow for wheat. Last year I sowed the guano with Seymour's broadcast sower, then plowed it under six inches, and immediately sowed the wheat. I shall do so again this year.

I am sorry to say that the farmers in western New-York have met with a serious loss, by the great rains that commenced at the beginning of harvest and continued for some eighteen days. The wheat was so often swollen and dried during that time, and so much weather-beaten, that little is left of value. I think, on an average, it will fall short in weight as much as from 8 to 11 lbs. per bushel; and some of my neighbors who have had new wheat ground, say they only get 27 to 30 lbs. of flour per bushel. If all the wheat not secured before the rains in the different States is as bad as that around here, the loss to the farmers will be immense. Almost all the *Soule's* wheat is more or less sprouted; at least such is the case with mine and all in this neighborhood.

From loss of weight, and shelling by being over-ripe, we certainly lose from 35 to 40 per cent of our wheat crop, and there are very few to sympathise with farmers when they meet with losses.

On all dry land corn looks well, but is late. On wet land it is worthless for any thing but fodder. Oats are very good, and potatoes could not be better. There is no appearance of rot. Had our wheat crop been preserved, every crop would have been excellent.

JOHN JOHNSTON.

Near GENEVA, Aug. 20, 1855.

TRIAL OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

AT THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

Horace Greely, Esq., editor of the Tribune attended a trial of Plows and Mowers on the 7th July last, at Guignem, the "Imperial" College of Agriculture, some twenty-five miles west of Paris. He says:—"A great number of Plows were taken from the Exhibition and tried here, and that of the Messrs. Howard, Bedford, England, was pronounced the most effective. I understood Mr. James Howard, one of the makers, to state that, as carefully tested by the dynamometer, on clover sod, being drawn by two smartly-walking horses, it turned a furrow ten inches wide and six and a half deep, with a medium draft of only 182 pounds, or a little more than half its own weight. There are a good many men who could draw this plow at that gait, and almost any two men could easily do it. There was no plow entered from our country, (we have none in the Palace,) but one from Canada was tried and did good work. Most of the ploughs entered from the continent proved beneath contempt, as was to be expected. Some of them required over quadruple the power to propel them that was exacted by the winner, and one from Austria, that was confidently bragged on before the trial, actually twisted round, broke off, and gave up the ghost, in

light clover soil free from root or stone, and with but a single span of horses before it!

We all went out in the afternoon to a large clover-field, where quite a cluster of the farmers of the vicinage had assembled to witness the operation of Mr. McCormick's Mower—one of the very few (I regret to say) Yankee farming implements on exhibition. There was no competition at this time, but the machine worked admirably, cutting very smoothly, closely and clearly, a swath five feet wide as fast as the span of horses drawing it could walk, and evidently making very moderate demands on their muscles. The ground was quite uneven, and at one place the grass was vigorously stamped down by the spectators, in order to test the machine under the most adverse circumstances. In this way some stalks were made to escape cutting, but the machine was nowise choked nor impeded. The most satisfactory feature of the performance was the entire absence of Mr. McCormick's agent, after the first round, leaving the machine to be operated entirely by French laborers who never saw it before that day. There was a general and hearty manifestation of delight from the assembled farmers, and I trust that not this only, but American machines also will be tested again, and put in competition with those of Europe, under the eye of a critical committee. If the Exhibition is to be any thing better than a novel show, here is (in fact) its proper element.

MOWING MACHINES AND STEAM PLOWS.

Rev. H. W. Beecher, in the Independent of last week, thus speaks of these great labor-saving implements.

* * * * *

But if a Mower had taken a notion about the time we did to come to Lenox, what a world of work would have been spared to human muscles! Here are thirty-five or forty acres of grass, over which, in half circles, advancing four or five inches at a clip, the men have crept, shuffling along with their feet, crouched and sweating, hot, and tired in the small of the back. Two men will mow say four acres a day, besides looking after that which was cut yesterday. Here are ten days work. But throwing out the Sabbaths and throwing in the rainy days, (which this year have striven to wipe out the memory of every day of last summer's drouth,) and there will be at least ten days more, or full three weeks of haying; *i. e.*, mowing, watching the barometer, (that is my part of the work,) dodging showers, or nesting in the dry hay, with the showery West coming down upon us with black banners flying and thunder trumpets sounding. However, these occasional matches between the storm and the farmer's whole family, are not the least interesting and exciting of country sports. There is no game of ball like it, no rowing match can be compared to it. As for a horse-race, it is a mere piece of vulgar cruelty in comparison.

Let us see; how did we get to this spot? Ah, we started with a mowing-machine. Well, we wanted to say that if instead of these slow but peaceful scythes, we had had one of these mowers with iron sinews, that is never hurt or tired, or sweaty, but rolls quietly along over twelve acres a day and then tucks up its knives at night as if it had been out walking for a little sport in the grass—how much time would have been gained, how much struggle saved, how easily, on the few fair days, fair but hot, might we have cut and cured the whole crop without being chased out of the field by storms.

In that case we should have had our barley all harvested before this. Now it is crinkled,

and will require twice the labor to secure it. Our wheat too, spring wheat, would have been attended to before this. Now it is all down. Maybe it is sprouted. Perhaps it will mildew, or it may rust.

We are accustomed to regard the improvements in machinery chiefly in their relations to manufacturing and locomotion. But nowhere else will a greater change be wrought by machinery than upon the farm. We are in the infancy of agriculture.

The knowledge of the elements with which we deal, and which compose rocks, soils, plants and animal fiber, that organic chemistry puts into our hands, gives direction and accuracy to our processes, but does little to abridge manual labor. Mechanics step in at this point, and promise to set men free, and to make a servant of iron that will toil for him without fatigue and with quadruple speed.

Great as is the saving of labor achieved by reapers, mowers, threshers, etc., they are all as nothing in comparison with that which must come before long—THE STEAM PLOW! What a revolution would take place when a gang of five or six plows, cutting from fifteen to twenty-four inches deep, shall plow from thirteen to fifteen acres a day! A farm of twenty acres will then be equivalent to a hundred acres now. A hundred acres so cultivated will yield unexampled crops. It will be better for small farmers than it would be to make every man a present of four times as much land as he had before.

Then, too, large farming could be carried on without the drawbacks which now hinder it. A thousand acres plowed, tilled and reaped by machinery, could be handled as easily by the proprietor as now he handles a hundred acres.

As yet we have only scratched the surface of the earth. We have never fairly harnessed mechanics, or made a farmer of science.

The man who invents a steam-plow that will turn twelve or fifteen acres a day, two feet deep, will be an emancipator and civilizer.

Then labor shall have leisure for culture. Thus working and studying shall go hand in hand. Then the farmer shall no longer be a drudge; and work shall not exact much and give but little. Then men will receive a collegiate education to fit them for the farm as now they do for the pulpit and the forum, and in the intervals of labor, gratefully frequent, they may pursue their studies; especially will books be no longer the product of cities, but come fresh and glowing from nature, from unlopped men, whose sides branches, having had room to grow, give the full and noble proportions of manhood from top to bottom. God speed the plow!

YERBA AMARILLA, OR THE YELLOW HERB.—

We make the following extract of a letter from the correspondent of the Patent Office, treating a new dye-stuff, dated Rudyville, Texas, June 25, 1855:

"I have obtained from Mexico the seeds of an herb used among the peasantry to dye yellow, green, and its corresponding changes, called *Yerba Amarilla*, or the yellow herb, with copperas as a mordant; it is not the plant known as Weld, nor is it known out of Mexico, as far as I have been able to learn. I design sending some of it this fall to some woolen factory in the North for the purpose of making experiments. The colors produced by it are as fast as the blue obtained from indigo."

An Illinois paper says there is a man in Olney so dirty that the assessor puts him down as "real estate."

From the N. Y. Times, August 22.

NEW-YORK FARMERS' CLUB.

In another column we give a brief report of the proceedings of this Club yesterday. They were quite as miscellaneous as usual, since some dozen or more subjects were introduced. This is, however, not to be wondered at, since at these semi-monthly gatherings, gentlemen from various parts of the country, who chance to be in the City, come in to spend an hour or two; and each one brings forward any subject which he may happen to be interested in. Letters from various parts of the country are now quite frequently addressed to the Club, which elicit remarks or discussions, so that under the present organization, it is next to impossible to confine the action of any meeting to a particular subject. Any one coming a hundred miles to hear a discussion upon the question set down for the day, will be quite likely to find it set aside, and a dozen others introduced. This is not by any means pleasant, but it is, perhaps, quite as well that it is so.

Let no one, however, pin his faith upon anything he may find reported from the Club. It is an irregular body, bound by no laws, and every person attending (everybody is invited,) is at perfect liberty to speak upon whatever topic and in whatever manner he may choose. If he has a machine to advertise, let him carry it to the Farmers' Club and tell his own story. If the gentlemen present on that day are in a proper mood, he may get an endorsement, and this will do to fill out his handbill. If any one has a special manure to sell, and can plead well himself or get others to do it for him, he secures the benefit of an advertisement.

Owners of new implements or manufacturers of special manures, however, should be careful to secure a good advocate to accompany their wares. If you have a fruit you wish named or puffed, be sure and send along a large supply for members (?) to taste of—not forgetting the reporters, for they, too, have *tastes*—and ten to one you will have the fruit named as you wish it, *nem. con.*, and puffed to your liking. The extent of the gratis puffing will depend upon the amount and sweetness of the eatable specimens you furnish.

But notwithstanding these objections to this (*in*) organization, it has many redeeming traits, and we would by no means see it annihilated, even to please our friend of the Buffalo Commercial. Together with much chaff are some grains of pure Wheat. Many good ideas are suggested and new topics introduced at these gatherings, which are in themselves valuable. The business of the reporters for most newspapers is to record the actual sayings and doings, and it is only necessary for the reader to sift out the grain for himself and let the chaff go to the winds. With these gentle warnings, we advise all who have leisure while in the City to drop into the Club; and for those who can not come we will furnish as good a report as possible.

A LONG DRIVE.—A paper in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, chronicles the passage through the town of Indiana of Mr. J. Grinder of Armstrong county, with a drove of several hundred head of cattle for the eastern markets, which he had bought in Texas, and driven over-land a distance of fifteen hundred miles. They looked remarkably fine, considering that they had been on the road since the first of April, a little over four months from the time of being started. In view of our numerous steamships and sail vessels plying between New-Orleans and the North, and of the various lines of railway leading to the West and South-west, it is singular that these cattle should be taken such an over-land route.

RECLAIMED MEADOW LAND.

I was invited a short time since, to visit a lot of reclaimed meadow land, belonging to Mr. Silas Ball, and Timothy Putnam, of Long Plain, Leverett. The lot contains about thirty-six acres, and is situated at the upper end of the plain, a high mountain bluff arising on the north, and the road from Montague to Amherst, bordering it on the south. Long Plain brook runs through the northern part of the whole premises. Six years ago it was almost worthless, bearing a little sedge grass, Mush Squash weed and clumps of bushes. It was worth from eight to sixteen dollars per acre. It was so wet that it could not be plowed, nor could any team be driven on the ground without sinking into the mud. What could be done with it, that was the question. Messrs. Ball and Putnam were not long in solving the problem. They found on examination, that the mud, or muck, was from two to fifteen feet deep, and black and rich, and extremely fertilizing. We will reclaim it, said they, and set themselves about in this way. Beginning half a mile below, in the bed of the brook, they dug down and lowered it the whole length, nearly three-fourths of a mile, more than three feet. This did the business in part, for it enabled them to ditch the remainder, and to dig it up, and plow it in time, as you will shortly see. They began to cultivate and subdue by digging up a portion with the bog hoe and hook. The sods were turned over and after sprinkling on a little horse manure, in rows about three feet apart potatoes were planted, about one foot being left between each potato. In fact the potatoes were sowed in rows. They were covered with the shovel and hook, making ridges and trenches in regular order. The crop came up finely. It required no hoeing. The growth of vines was enormous, being when extended, seven or eight feet long. And the yield was great, eight or ten hills making a bushel of potatoes. Corn, oats, vegetables &c., have also been tried as the land grew drier, and yielded well. These were never planted or sowed at first, potatoes always being the first crop. After the land was subdued, it was seeded down with herdsgrass. The yield of grass has been, and continues to be great. I can safely say that I saw one piece that would yield more than three tons to the acre, of excellent hay. What has it cost you, gentlemen, to reclaim this land, I asked? Nothing, they answered! The muck and crops have more than paid us for all the labor we have done.

They value their land at from fifty to one hundred dollars per acre, which is probably a very moderate valuation.

Now, there are thousands of acres of similar land in Massachusetts, that might be reclaimed with the same results. Will the farmers be wise and do it, rather than dig away on the dry, rocky, barren soils of the highlands, spending their strength and labor, without an equivalent return.—R., in *Farmer*.

TO KEEP MILK SWEET.—A Boyd, a correspondent, informs us, that he has practiced a peculiar method with much success of preserving milk sweet in the pans. It simply consists in placing a piece of new hammered iron, or three twelve-penny nails in each tin pan, then pouring the warm milk on them. He believes that electricity has something to do with producing the result. He had tried many experiments before he hit upon this one, which he found to preserve the milk sweet for a longer time than other plans tried by him.

[The above, from the *Scientific American*, has a taste of iron if not of "fish."—Ed.]

LAWNS.

The smooth uniform evergreen "velvet turf," which constitutes the chief beauty of the English lawn, is rarely found in this country. For this there are several reasons; our variable climate, our hot suns, the frequent drouths of our summers and our dry soils, are serious difficulties in the way, when we attempt to form a lawn. But these natural obstacles may be overcome, in a great measure at least, by skill and attention. Nothing valuable can be accomplished without these in any department of industry. Even in the moist climate, and clayey soils of England, a good lawn can not be made without labor and skill. In many of our public and private grounds, attempts are made to form lawns where the soil is wholly unsuitable for the purpose. An uneven surface is leveled down, on the more elevated parts, the ground is cut down perhaps several feet, the soil is carried off to fill up the hollows and depressions, and nothing but the dry gravelly subsoil is left. Not unfrequently the whole plat which it is desired to cover with a thick smooth turf, is of this character. Would a farmer expect to raise a good crop of hay or anything else on such a soil? Perhaps an inch or two of mold and a slight dressing of manure are spread over the surface, and a mixture of *Phleum Pratense*, (*Timothy*) *Trifolium Pratense* (*Red Clover*), and *Agrostis Vulgaris*, (*Red Top*) is sowed and harrowed or raked in. Others will sow some variety of the *Lolium* (*Rye Grass*) or *Dactylis*, (*Cocks-foot*) in addition to these, and along with them a crop of barley or oats, to shade the grasses from the sun.

A worse plan, or one more unlikely to succeed, could not well be devised. If the seeds take root, the coarse grasses, the timothy and clover choke out the red top, the only one of them that is capable of making a firm turf. When the herds grass and clover are mowed, instead of the velvety surface, we have a stubble field. The coarse grasses are wholly unfit for this purpose. Their roots are too coarse, and they are disposed to grow in bunches. They belong to vegetables of too large a growth. We need for a smooth lawn finer and more delicate plants.

In forming a lawn that will be smooth and even, and retain its greenness through the season, and bear to be frequently shaven—these things must be attended to—First, the preparation of the soil; second, the kind of seed to be sown, and the third, time and manner of sowing it. Such a lawn as we have described can be formed only on a deep rich soil. When the surface on which we would have such a turf formed is made artificially, if it consists mostly of gravel and sand, or clay even, it must be covered at least nine inches deep with good black loam; a foot will be still better; a good dressing of fine compost manure should be spread upon this, and the whole well mixed with the harrow or a light plow, and well raked until it is perfectly fine and smooth. The next step is to select the seed. We have already said that the coarse grasses do not answer well for the purpose, and one essential reason is, that they do not bear frequent mowing, well. Their roots and especially those of the clover, depend so much upon the leaf for their nourishment and growth, that three or four cuttings in one season will kill them out. The best seed we can find in this country is the common red top or bent grass. That which we find at the seed stores usually consists of several varieties mixed together. Often the poa or meadow grass is found mixed with it.

But if the grasses are all of the fine kinds there is no objection to the mixture. They have similar habits of growth, and none is

sufficiently luxuriant in its growth to root out the rest. If we examine the product of a handful of the common red top seed of the shops, we shall find perhaps a dozen kinds of grass. Some of these grow larger in the season than others. Some bear the drouth better and some the frost. So that if they have the same habit of growth, the mixture is an advantage.

The best time for sowing the seed is about the middle of August. The seed should be evenly sowed, and well worked in with a rake, and the land thoroughly and evenly rolled. If the autumn is mild, there will sometimes be quite a luxuriant growth, but it should not be cut. It should be left to protect the roots from the frost. The rolling is very important to prevent the ground from being washed by the winter rains. If the subsoil is moist the roots will sometimes be thrown out by the frosts of winter. When this is the case, the roller should be again applied as soon as the frost is out, in the spring, and the whole surface rendered even and compact. Even if the subsoil is gravelly or sandy, it will be found advantageous to use the roller in spring, to render the surface smooth and even.

Unless the season is very moist, the grass should not be cut more than twice the first year, as the roots need the aid of the leaf to acquire their full growth and strength. The use of the roller for two or three succeeding springs, will assist in giving firmness and compactness to the turf. A lawn formed by carefully observing these directions, and dressed with wood ashes, plaster or fine compost, as soon as the frost is out in the spring, will soon possess a thick turf that will preserve its greenness through the entire season.—R., in *Country Journal*.

OPERATION ON A HORSE WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CHLORIFORM AND SULPHURIC ETHER.—The subject of this operation was a bay gelding, the property of Messrs. Prince, Express Agents, in this city. He was laboring under a form of vacuolous tumor in the region of the joint of the left elbow, on the off fore leg. The operation was performed by Dr. G. H. Dadd, V. S., assisted by S. M. Burnham of this city.

The patient being cast in the usual manner and etherised by Dr. B., (which occupied about three minutes,) an incision was made over the region of the tumor; on exploring the same it was found to be an enlarged fibrous sac, containing half a pint of a thick straw-colored fluid, mixed with coagulums of albumen. The whole of the foreign matter being evacuated, the parts were dressed in the usual manner. The skin being very pendulous, forming a sort of pouch, a portion of the same was amputated, for the purpose of preserving the former symmetry of the parts.

On the interior of the cavity was found a large nervous ganglion, a sort of solar net work, emanating apparently from a branch of the ulnar nerve.

The pressure on the same by so large a tumor must have been a source of great pain and annoyance to the noble animal. The wound was finally sutured by means of a needle of silk. An orifice at the lower end of the sac was left for the subsequent discharge of pus, &c.

The rationale of cure is this: Adhesive inflammation takes place between the interior surfaces—granulation follows, and thus the cavity is obliterated. The external textures finally unite as in the case of a common wound.—*Chicago Democrat*.

A certain Secretary of State being asked why he did not promote merit, aptly replied, 'because merit did not promote me.'

AN INTERESTING HORSE LAW-SUIT.

A case was tried before Arbitrators in this place last week which presented some novel features and excited considerable interest. Mr. Emanuel Detrich, of Antrim township, owned a fine Cobham Horse a year ago, valued by all the witnesses at \$1,000. In August, 1854, the horse was taken ill—said to be foundered, and either Mr. Detrich or one of his neighbors bled him to the tune of four gallons in two or three bleedings with very brief intervals. The depletion, however, did not relieve the horse sufficiently to satisfy the owner, and he sent for Dr. Shiffert, a veterinary surgeon, residing a few miles from this place, and he undertook to treat the animal. He bled him, according to the testimony, some five gallons more the first day; two gallons the next day, and one gallon the third day—making an aggregate of twelve gallons taken from the horse in four days. The horse died some eight or ten hours after the last bleeding, and the declaration of the plaintiff set forth that Detrich had charged Dr. Shiffert with having been paid by other parties, who were supposed to be interested in the destruction of the horse, to maltreat him, and that he had accordingly killed him intentionally. On this declaration in action for slander was based and damages claimed in the sum of \$1,000. The defense put in the plea of "not guilty, with leave to justify," meaning that Mr. Detrich had not charged Dr. Shiffert with killing the horse maliciously, but that he had said the horse was killed by unskillful treatment and would justify the charge.

The arbitrators not being skilled in the law, of course allowed the testimony to take the widest range within the bounds of reason, and some thirty or forty witnesses testified on the various points raised during the trial. The plaintiff's attorneys urged that the trial should be confined to the single point in the declaration that of malicious mischief with which they alleged they had been charged; and they denied the right of the defense to raise the question of unskillful treatment as it was not relevant to the issue. The defense urged that they denied having charged malicious malpractice upon the plaintiff, but they admitted having charged mal-practice and proposed to justify. The evidence was admitted, and the case covered nearly every important feature of veterinary practice. The plaintiff first offered testimony to sustain the slander set forth in the declaration, and the defense justified by proposing to prove that twelve gallons of blood had been taken from the horse in three or four days, and that death was caused by excessive depletion. Several persons who had opened the horse—all non-professional gentlemen however—testified that the horse had little or no blood in him when opened—that the flesh was as free from blood as that of a butchered steer. This called up nearly all of our physicians to testify as to the amount of blood in such an animal. They all agreed that the best authorities on the subject warranted them in stating that such a horse, weighing nineteen hundred pounds, could not have had less than from forty-five to fifty-five gallons of blood in him: and they also agreed that one-sixteenth of the whole weight of the animal, if in health, could be abstracted from him in blood before death would ensue from depletion, and that in cases of high inflammatory action, even more than that proportion might be taken without causing death. They stated that a man of average weight had about three and a half gallons of blood in him, and that animals generally had about the same proportion according to their weight; but they agreed that there could be no rule as to the amount of bleeding in any particular disease, as

where bleeding is required they must continue until the desired effect is produced, and different quantities will produce that in different patients. After a hearing of two days an award was made in favor of the defendant. The arbitrators in the case were Messrs. Grove, Trostle and McClure; the attorneys were Messrs. Robinson and Kennedy for plaintiff, and Messrs. Nill, Reilly, Crooks, Sharp, and Rankin, for defendant. We learn that an appeal has been taken and the case will accordingly now be tried again in Court—just where it should have been tried at first.—*Repository and Whig.*

FLIES.

Tempus fugit—or, as the Latin scholar translated it, "A time for flies." Those little pests of social comfort are now upon us in swarms. They come up, like the frogs of Egypt, into our houses, and into our bed-chambers, and into our ovens, and into our kneading-troughs. The very air is full of them, and they multiply with astonishing rapidity. In the morning, they disturb our slumbers by crawling up our nostrils, or whizzing and buzzing and fussing in our ears. At meal times, they must taste every dish that we do, but their prelibations would be forgiven, if their bodies were not left, too frequently, as a token of their greediness.

But let us not fret too strongly against even this pest. It is a well known fact that the flies always seek in greater numbers, the irritable and fretful. They have a curious instinct in that particular. The more we notice their irritations, and the more peevish we are in driving them off, the more numerous are the throngs around us. Let us not fret then. Nothing was made in vain, and even flies answer some important part in the economy of the world. We can certainly see that they were intended as trials to our patience, and therefore serve a useful purpose in the formation of character. The more trifling the cause that calls forth our irritability, the more deleterious its effect on our depositions. To overcome this propensity to fretfulness, and to permit patience to have her perfect work, may be one benefit to be derived from the plague of flies. He who rules his spirit in little things will be the better prepared for the greater and more important contests of life.

Flies act an important part in our social condition. They consume in and around the house, the extra moisture which might otherwise contaminate the air. They seldom touch pure water. The fluids they feed upon are of animal or vegetable origin, which, by mingling with the water, vitiate the air in a dwelling. In the larva or maggot state, they are the great scavengers of nature, and soon consume that which would otherwise poison the air, and create sickness. A small number of flies and other insects is an indubitable sign of a sickly season.

When flies or other animals of the like class become too numerous, they become the prey of other animals in turn, the whole apparent object of whose creation is to feed on the insects and keep their numbers within the limits of usefulness. There is, in all the arrangements of the Creator, this compensation of purpose in the existence of all animals, all being in subserviency to the well being of man on this earth, and all intending to point out to him that this world is only a stage of trial.

Did you ever, fretful reader, examine a fly through a large microscope? That sight ought to cure you of your loathing and irritability, and teach you how beautiful are all the works of God, and how wonderfully adapted to the purposes designed. Even the despised fly is clothed with beauty—even this ephemeral pest, so much abhorred, is

dressed in gay robes of gauze and gold which art would in vain attempt to imitate. It is a perfect wonder—its contrivances for suction—its eyes immovable, eyes so contrived with numerous distinct lenses as to receive impressions from all directions without change of place; the nicely balanced, gauze-form wings, with the little mallet that strikes upon them to produce the buzzing noise, (for no insect has a voice, or makes any sound through the throat,)—the power of exhausting the air possessed by the mechanism of the bottom of the foot, by which the fly can suspend itself from the ceiling and thus overcome gravity—all these repay the investigator into the construction of the common fly, and manifest the wisdom of the Creator.—*Hartford Courant.*

ORIGIN OF TEA.—The Chinese have the following tradition, relating to the origin of tea: Darma, a very religious prince, and son of an Indian king, came into China about the year 519, purely to promulgate his religion; and, with the hope of alluring others to virtue, by his example, pursued a life of unvaried mortification and penance, eating only vegetables, and spending most of his time unsheltered by any dwelling, in the exercise of prayer and devotion. After continuing this life for some years, he became worn out with fatigue, and at length closed his eyes, and fell asleep against his will; but, on awaking, such was his remorse and grief for having broken his vow, that, in order to prevent a relapse, he cut off his eyelids, as being the instruments of his crime, and threw them on the ground. Returning to the same spot, on the ensuing day, he found them changed into two shrubs, now known by the name of Tea. Darma, eating some of the leaves, felt such vigor imparted to his mind, that his meditations became more exalted, and the lethargy which had previously overpowered him entirely disappeared. He acquainted his disciples with the wonderful properties of the shrubs, and in time the use of them became universal.

THE CALIFORNIA CONDOR.—The high mountains of California are frequented by a species of condor which, although somewhat inferior in size to the condor of the Andes, is probably the largest bird to be found within the confines of the Golden State. A full grown California condor measures upward of thirteen feet from tip to tip of its wings, and when in its favorite element, the air, is as graceful and majestic as any bird in the world. They make their homes upon the ledges of lofty rocks, or in the old deserted nests of hawks and eagles, upon the upper branches of lofty trees. Their eggs are each about twelve ounces in weight, and are said to be excellent eating. The barrels of the wing-feathers of the condor are about four inches long and three-eighths of an inch in diameter, and are used by the inhabitants of Northern Mexico to keep gold dust in.

TOMATO PRESERVES.—Take the round yellow variety as soon as ripe, scald and peel; then to seven pounds of tomatoes add seven pounds of white sugar, and let them stand over night. Take the tomatoes out of the sugar and boil the syrup, removing the scum. Put in the tomatoes and boil gently fifteen or twenty minutes; remove the fruit again, and boil until the syrup thickens. On cooling, put the fruit into jars and pour the syrup over it, and add a few pieces of lemon to each jar, and you will have something to please the taste of the most fastidious.

Why did Job always sleep cold? Because he had miserable comforters.

Horticultural Department.

BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This Society is making extensive preparations for their regular Fall Exhibition, on the 19th and 20th days of September. A full and very complete list of premiums is announced in our advertising columns, to which we invite special attention. From what we know of the past of this Society, of the men engaged in the enterprise, and of the efforts now being put forth, we feel confident that the forthcoming exhibition will be a magnificent one, well worthy the attention, not only of the citizens of Brooklyn, New-York, and the cities and towns in the immediate vicinity, but also of horticultural gentlemen at a distance.

RAISING ROSES FROM SEED.

BY AN OLD PRACTITIONER.

In recent numbers of the Floricultural Cabinet, I have with pleasure noticed the observations on hybridizing various plants, with a view to the increased improvements of the various genera of ornamental plants. I have for several years directed my attention to raising Roses from seed, and my efforts have been successful in raising some of the finest new Roses which now grace our best collections.

During the months of September and October, I repaired to several first-rate nursery collections of Roses, in order to see which kinds, in each class of Roses, bore fruit the most freely, and ripened the earliest; and I then procured several of each class, which I planted at the proper season. These bloomed the following summer, and having a very extensive collection of nearly all the finest double Roses, I carefully selected from the best of the double flowers, and impregnated the fruit-bearing kinds therewith. The fruit-bearing flowers are generally not quite double, and I found it to be of use to thin out the larger trusses of flowers, so as to leave about half a dozen in a head of the plumpest buds.

In the process of impregnation, just as the flowers to be impregnated are expanding, I cut away the anthers therein by means of a small pointed penknife or scissors, this prevents natural seedlings being produced from the kind. Where I had a specific design in the impregnation of any two kinds, after the operation had been effected, I tied a piece of fine gauze over the head of bloom, to prevent access of bees, etc.

In autumn, as soon as the seed was ripe, I had it gathered and placed in gauze bags, and so kept in the seed-vessel till required for sowing. Early in spring I sow the seed thinly in boxes, and place them in a gentle heat in a common frame, keeping the soil moist, not wet, till that portion which then pushes appears to have done entirely for that season. When the plants can be safely transplanted I have them carefully taken up, and planted in a rich soil and warm situation in the open garden, where they remain to bloom. The general quantity of the seed does not come up the first season, but remains to the second. I therefore have the boxes kept just moist, till the end of the summer, and then remove them into a dry place during winter. Early in spring place them in a gentle heat, and all the good seeds soon push forth plants, which are treated as before named. Seed may be quite successfully treated by sowing in the open border, having it in a warm situation, and keeping it moist by covering the bed over with moss, etc.

Two years are required here, as in the former named instance, to get up the whole. During winter I usually spread dry leaves between the plants that come up, and remain in the seed bed, so they are secured from injury by frost, being yet tender; this protection is removed at the spring. Moss or tanners' bark may be substituted for dry leaves, where the latter are objected to.

I have paid particular attention to crossing the most distant classes, as well as to obtain kinds which will bloom the longest period, and to get fine-colored, fragrant, and very double Roses.—London Floricultural Cabinet.

HINTS ON GRAPE GATHERING.

BY A COUNTRY GARDENER.

The grapes once ripe some care must be bestowed in keeping them in good condition, that is, free from damp, which would soon cause the berries to turn moldy and decay; take means, therefore, to prevent this. A low temperature at this stage will not hurt the grapes, and therefore large quantities of air can safely be admitted; but while air may thus be given freely, rain must be excluded; and therefore, if not already provided with ventilators at the back wall of the vinery, or false lights over the sliding sashes (see page 281 of last year's Florist), you must adopt some such plan, as by such rain will be effectually excluded, and at the same time the current of air which is continually passing through the house will tend most materially to preserve the atmosphere dry and airy—both essential conditions for keeping grapes; indeed, I consider this so important, both for the vines when growing and for preserving the fruit when ripe, that I have again alluded to it, and strongly recommend its adoption. In very damp or wet weather a little fire should be put on by day, especially if the grapes are required to be kept for any time. By these means Hamburgs will keep fresh and plump till after Christmas, and St. Peter's and Muscats till February; but these latter will require more fire heat at the period of ripening, and altogether a warmer temperature to preserve them, particularly the Muscats; in other respects the same precautions of well ventilating the house and excluding damp are necessary.

As it often happens that one decayed berry will damage the whole bunch, they should be looked over two or three times weekly for the purpose of removing any berries which show indications of decay with the thinning scissors, and as the leaves change color remove them when you find them break off easily when touched; this will admit more light in the house, and help to keep the air drier. I observed that a low temperature would not injure grapes when ripe, a temperature so low as only a degree or two above the freezing point may therefore be allowed without entertaining any fear about them; but generally speaking from 40° to 45° or thereabouts is the safest point, as they are much more liable to damp at a very low temperature than the medium one laid down, and Muscats will certainly shrink and not keep by any means well in a low temperature—I should say not less than 45° to 50°.

The grapes cut, pruning should take place immediately afterwards, cutting each spur back to the lowest eye, when the same routine must be followed as I have laid down for the present season's culture.—Florist.

RASPBERRY VINEGAR.—To every pint of vinegar put three pints of raspberries. Let them lie together two or three days; then mash up and put them in a bag to strain. To every pint, when strained, put a pound

of crushed sugar. Boil it twenty minutes, and skim it. Bottle it when cold.

THE CULTIVATION OF PEAR TREES.

Having been for a few weeks among the fruit growers of Massachusetts, I notice that an error prevails among them in the treatment of their dwarf pear trees, particularly in planting them, and to so great an extent that many persons have almost abandoned their culture; although they are really the most valuable trees.

In planting, it should be borne in mind that the Anger's Quince will not endure the winters of New-England, and that it is the only variety on which the pear succeeds; in all Quinces the borers work, and this variety is even more subject to them than the fruit bearing kinds, but if the trees are planted deeper than the place of grafting, these difficulties are all obviated, and another advantage attained, which is all important: that is, the production of fibers above the place of grafting which will spread plentifully through the ground, and sustain the tree to a great number of years, even if the Quince roots were entirely removed, and will give them a more vigorous growth and double or treble the amount of their production.

The proper depth of planting is about three inches deeper than the place of grafting. A mound of earth thrown around the tree will not be of any avail, as it loses its own moisture from the roots underneath, and a mound will not often bring out the roots from the pear. Another matter almost always overlooked is the cutting back of trees; when first planted they should be cut back to three or four buds of the last year's growth, and this continued for three years, by which a stocky tree of good form is obtained, which will often produce more fruit, and of better quality, than standard trees.

The ground for pears is never too rich, and two bushels of coarse stable manure put about the tree each spring, and left to decay through the summer and dug in, and repeated the next spring, will not, on many of the best varieties, fail to bring forth an abundant crop of melting buttery fruit, of honeyed sweetness, and of size and beauty that would feast the eye and palate of an epicure.—M. W. STEVENS, in *Boston Journal*.

SALT RIVER.—Salt River, where it debouches into the Ohio River, is not more than fifty or sixty yards in breadth, but very deep. It is never fordable, even in the driest seasons; and, being navigable for fourteen miles above its mouth, has not been bridged at this point. We descended its steep and difficult banks, embarked our carriage upon a flat ferry-boat, and were conveyed across. The view looking up the river was very beautiful. Tall elms and sycamores clothed the banks, dropping their boughs almost to the water, forming a vista of foliage through which the stream curved out of sight between wooded hills. I longed to be rowed up it. While on the spot, I took occasion to inquire the derivation of the slang political phrase, "Rowed up Salt river," and succeeded in discovering it. Formerly there were extensive salt-works on the river, a short distance from its mouth. The laborers employed in them were a set of athletic, belligerent fellows, who soon became noted far and wide for their achievements in the pugilistic line. Hence it became a common thing among the boatmen on the Ohio, when one of their number was refractory, to say to him, "We'll row you up Salt River"—where of course the bully salt-men would have the handling of him. By natural figure of speech, the expression was applied to political candidates, first, I believe, in the Presidential campaign of '40.—*Bay'd Taylor*

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last thirteen years. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, August 30.

This paper is never sent where it is not considered paid for—and is in all cases stopped when the subscription runs out.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

Agricultural exhibitions have become one of the fixed institutions of this country. For a dozen years past, they have grown rapidly into public favor, and each year has witnessed a great increase in their numbers and diffusion, and in the higher character and more extended field of operations embraced by the industrial associations getting them up. The annual publications containing the transactions of single societies now rival, in size and variety of information, the comprehensive reports from the different Departments of our Federal Government.

From all parts of the country we hear of unusual preparations for the Agricultural Exhibitions, Fairs and Shows to be held during the months of September and October. Nearly every State will have a general gathering, while through all the Northern States, and in some of the Southern, a majority of the counties and many of the towns have local organizations, which have quite spirited agricultural exhibitions every Autumn.

At almost all of these an address from some "distinguished speaker" is considered an essential part of the proceedings, and as speech-makers are more easily obtained from among those who are politicians by profession, politics are quite apt to supplant the discussion of such topics as deep plowing, manuring, selecting seed, improving the breed of domestic animals, &c. Last year we received printed copies of these speeches by the hundred, but not one in ten contained a single page of practical agricultural information. Long words, flowery sentences and poetic quotations upon the "dignity," "the nobleness" of the farmer's profession, form the chief staple out of which these speeches are manufactured. We once stood in a crowd listening to one of these harangues by a third-rate lawyer, and could not but be amused at the discomfiture produced by an old farmer singing out, "Waal, if farm-in' is so fine, why don't you go into it?" We thought the question quite pertinent.

There are, however, quite a number of agricultural men, of sound practical common sense and extensive experience, who are sometimes called upon on these occasions, and who would more frequently take part in them, were the exercises of a different character. We have seen a plan followed by several societies which we think an excel-

lent one, and worthy of universal adoption. Instead of a single meeting, and one speech, let there be a series of meetings for discussion, hearing reports, &c. As soon as any committee is ready, let an officer announce that the report will be read, and let the remarks of the committee be followed by discussions. Such a course would lead to a further and more minute examination of the animals, implements, or produce reported upon. The committees themselves would decide more carefully, if knowing that time and opportunity would be given for criticising their decisions. At all events, reports from committees previous to the final hour of such exhibition are desirable, and especially so is the practice of holding a number of conversational meetings, even if the exhibition continue but one or two days. Those men capable of giving the most reliable information would talk at such a meeting, while not one of them would mount the rostrum and make a speech.

FAIR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Fair of this Institute will open, at the Crystal Palace, on the 3d of October, and continue through the month.

The Cattle Show and Plowing Match are omitted this year, out of compliment to the State Fair, so that the whole effective force of the Institute is to be turned to Agricultural productions and manufactures.

Steam power is to be furnished for running machinery, and a more than common representation of steam engines is anticipated.

Rare mineralogical collections are invited for exhibition, and especial attention, we see, is to be bestowed on building stones. Natural and artificial specimens of the ores and metals which abound in this country are anticipated.

Specimens of painting and sculpture will form a prominent feature of the exhibition.

The ladies are invited to contribute specimens of household industry, and \$500 is to be distributed in premiums among apprentices.

The Managers desire strongly to impress Exhibitors with the necessity of furnishing early information of the articles they intend to exhibit, and the space that will be required.

EXPLANATION.—Several inquiries indicate that at least some of our subscribers did not read through our notice of the contemplated change. We therefore give it again, on page 396, and here repeat that, after next week, the *Weekly Times* will be mailed on the same day as the weekly *Agriculturist* has been heretofore mailed, and the enlarged *Agriculturist* on the 1st of each month. Both of these papers will be sent to all our present subscribers, without any charge for the full time now credited to them as paid for in advance. For terms of one or both of the papers, to new subscribers or renewers, see last page.

Those having paid in advance, and not wishing the *Times* will be credited with

the *Agriculturist* for double the time paid for, if they will give us prompt notice of such desire.

MAKING A GOOD MEADOW FROM POOR PASTURE LAND—DEVON CATTLE.

One of the most successful experiments of this kind, which we have seen, is at Mr. Edward G. Failes, Woodside, near Morrisania. Four years ago, this field was a miserable, worn-out pasture, thickly sprinkled with daisy and other weeds, and did not produce over half a ton of grass to the acre—and a very poor quality at that.

Being desirous of turning this pasture into meadow land, without going through the tedious and expensive process of plowing, planting, and seeding, Mr. Faile got up a scarifier, after the model of an engraving of one which he found in an English work, called the Complete Grazier. With this implement he went over the pasture lot early in the spring, and then top dressed it with a compost of 250 lbs. of Peruvian guano to the acre, mixed with four parts of good earth, lying about three weeks under cover before being used. He then sowed four quarts of Timothy and four pounds of Red Clover seed per acre, and brushed in. When finished the pasture lot looked ragged enough; but the grass began to appear shortly, and it was soon the greenest field of the farm.

The first season after this process, many of the weeds disappeared; the second season scarce any were to be found. That year he gave it another top dressing, though not more than half as rich with guano as the first.

When we looked at this field, in July last, transformed thus cheaply and easily to a meadow, there was a large burthen of grass upon it just ready for the scythe, or rather the *Mowing Machine*. Its yield we judged, at the lowest, would not be less than two and a half tons to the acre, of the best quality of Timothy and Clover hay. The whole cost of this beneficent change of a poor and almost worthless pasture, to a valuable meadow, could not have been more than \$12 to \$13 per acre; and the grass this season alone will be worth thrice that, standing.

DEVON CATTLE.—Mr. Faile has one of the finest Devon herds in the United States; several of which are imported, and nearly all are from good milking families. His stock bull, Exeter (198), he imported two years ago from the herd of Mr. James Quartly of England. He is of large size, imposing in his appearance, and thus far proves an excellent getter. We noticed a superb bull calf, dropped the 6th of last March, got by the above, out of the beautiful imported cow Bowley (42), from the herd of Mr. George Turner of England. Another of Exeter's bull calves, was dropped the 9th of May, out of Moss Rose (304), also from Mr. Turner. She is a great and rich milker. The calf is extraordinarily fine, and being so well descended, and from such a good milking family, he will make a highly valuable animal. It is Mr. F.'s intention to keep him as his own stock bull.

Mr. F. has another very superior bull, a

yearling, got by Mr. Morris's Frank Quartly, out of one of his choicest imported cows. We do not mention the herd of cows more particularly, in consequence of having noticed them in a previous volume of our journal. Mr. F. expects to add several more Devon heifers to his herd, to arrive from England next month. His son is now there to select for him.

RINGBONE.

From a late article on this subject by Mr. Percival, a distinguished Veterinary Surgeon, we learn that this affection, for which there are so many "sure cures," arises from a weakness of the pastern joint, and what is called ringbone is a *callus* formed around it for its protection and support. If we could succeed in removing this enlargement by the cross incisions with a chisel, or by binding on live toads, or by cutting out little bladders—which, *bursa*, by the way, belong there and have nothing to do with the ringbone—or by compelling the horse to wear a bar of lead to drive the bone down through the hoof, we should do—Well, what? Why, we should remove the splint with which nature supports the weakened joint.

In process of time this joint, too weak for its duties, is mended by being made stiff, yet more or less of the temporary apparatus for its support always remains. So the imperfect use of the foot that follows, is not due to the bony tumor, but is a consequence of the stiff joint.

This disease is more likely to occur in colts of a peculiar formation of foot and of weak constitution, and as both these matters are transmitted in breeding stock, ringbone is a hereditary disease, and so horses or mares affected with it should not be used for reproduction. The practice of American farmers of breeding from mares so heavy, spavined and ringboned and otherwise diseased as to be worthless for any other purpose, will soon deteriorate the best imported blood. Mr. Percival, on the causes of this affection, says:

A coarse or half bred, fleshy or bony-legged horse, with short and upright pasterns, is the ordinary subject of this disease; and there exist satisfactory reasons why we should expect him to be so. The pastern and coffin bones constitute the nethermost parts—the pedestals—of the column of bones composing the limbs, and being so, they receive the entire weight and force transmitted from above. The pastern, being long and oblique in position, receives the superincumbent weight in such an indirect line, that, bending towards the ground with the fetlock, nothing like jar or concussion follows. The very reverse of this, however, happens every time the foot of a limb having a short, upright pastern, comes to the ground. In such, instead of the weight descending obliquely upon the *sessamoids*, (two small bones at the posterior and inferior part the fetlock joint,) and the fetlock bending therewith, it descends directly, or nearly so, upon the pastern, making this bone entirely dependent on one beneath it—the coronet—for counteracting concussion; and should any thing occur to diminish this, or to throw more weight on the bones beneath than they can counteract, jar of the whole apparatus ensues; and an effort of nature to strengthen the parts, by investing them with *callus* and

ossification, is likely to be the ultimate result. *For we would view ringbone, disease though it must assuredly be called, as frequently, in young horses, a recourse of nature to strengthen weak parts—the bones being unequal to the exertions or efforts required of them.*"

To the last sentence of this quotation we wish to call special attention. It is worthy of being written in letters of gold, as an exemplification of a grand general principle that pervades all the works of animated nature.

Most of the so-called diseases that horse and cattle doctors amuse themselves by curing, are only *symptoms*—mere steps by which nature is restoring or attempting to restore a diseased part. Thus a boil is nothing but an operation by which a little piece of dead flesh, called the core, is separated and expelled from the living flesh that surrounds it; a felon is the opening of a passage through the thick tendonous sheaths of the fingers, for a like purpose. Again we say, disease is not a *thing*, it is a *process*.

We have seen ringbones treated in many different ways, yet with no more benefit than arises from the relief of internal inflammation by counter irritation. From what is stated above, it follows that, rest is of the first importance; that, if the animal be young, it should be better fed; should not be incited to any undue exertion; that an irritating liniment, or even a blister, should be applied to the foot for the relief of the joint, and that, after the disease has existed for some time and the joint has become stiff, all treatment must prove unavailing—and it should be let alone.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—We have just received a letter from Col. Wilder, the President of this Society, in which he says, that the beautiful site, recently selected for the forthcoming show, is rapidly assuming its appropriate shape for the occasion by grading, inclosing, &c. The premium list is in press and will soon be issued, and will be such as to tempt the owners and lovers of fine stock and agricultural products and implements, to one of the finest displays ever made in this country.

SALE OF DEVON CATTLE.—We desire to call attention to the sale of Devon cattle, of Mr. George Vail, advertised at Page 398 of this number of our paper. We believe this is the first Public Devon sale attempted in this country, but we see no reason why it should not be as successful as those of Short Horns. Mr. Vail is said to have a fine herd, and the bull is considered an excellent getter. We hope there will be a full attendance by the breeders and amateurs of these beautiful cattle.

EXCELSIOR.—After our next issue we shall have the time and thought of a whole month, instead of a single week, to devote to each number of the *Agriculturist*, and we hope to greatly improve its pages in the amount of practically useful matter. The household or domestic department is set down for more special attention than we have heretofore been able to bestow upon it.

No CHANGE REALLY.—A subscriber writing from Delaware, says "he shall sadly miss the weekly visits of the *Agriculturist*." Not so, friend. All the present and past editorial force of the *Agriculturist* will still be expended upon the two papers which you will receive for the same money. We shall write no less, but by supplying another weekly paper whose agricultural matter we prepare ourselves, we get rid of the extra labor of getting up a weekly paper, the work being done by the publishers of the *Times*, and we are at leisure to labor more upon the editorial matter of the two papers.

The *Agriculturist* will be no less valuable, but much more so, while the *Times*—to say nothing of its other news—will also furnish a large amount of agricultural matter in addition to that of the *Agriculturist*. Our subscribers will be greatly the gainers by this arrangement. We shall have less likelihood of making money, but a greater chance to do what we most wish to do, viz: to get up a better paper.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—We have on hand a number of favors not yet attended to. Long letters on crops, &c., from New-Jersey and Delaware, came just as we are finishing this number, which will be late for notice next week.

For the American Agriculturist. HOLLOW WALLS.

Following the advice of the late A. J. Downing (see 'Downing's Country Houses,' pp. 57-8), I built my residence, two years ago, with hollow walls, wetting the brick as they were laid.

The method of laying the brick may be seen at a glance, by consulting Mr. Downing's work; and may be varied at pleasure to suit any kind of brick or stone building. The following are some of the advantages of this very superior mode of construction:

1. A saving of one-fourth to one-eighth in the amount of brick and mortar required.
2. As the joints are continually broken, each brick acting as a binder, and every third or fourth brick being a tie-brick, a much stronger wall is the result. A trial experiment—conducted under my supervision—showed the hollow wall capable of resisting a shock more than double as great as did a wall built in the ordinary manner.
3. The prevention of all dampness on the inside wall.
4. Coolness in summer and warmth in winter, the stratum of air confined between the outer and inner wall acting as a non-conductor in both cases.
5. The saving of lathing and studding; as it is perfectly safe to plaster against the wall.
6. The hollow spaces may be used, as I use them, as a means of ventilation for every room in the house, by leaving out one or two brick, in the proper flue, in the external wall near the roof.
7. "Mainly," to quote Mr. Downing, "in the great security afforded against fire. Four-fifths of our houses are still built with hollow wooden partitions, and walls with

inside furring. The inevitable consequence is, that when a fire breaks out, it spreads with incredible rapidity through these hollow spaces lined, with wood, which extend from basement to attic, and all hope of extinguishing the flames is at once abandoned. On the other hand, a house built at no more cost, with hollow brick walls and brick partition, is nearly fire-proof. In a country house, built in this way, nine times out of ten a fire would never spread beyond the room where it originated; and, in almost all cases, it could be extinguished with but little effort, by the inmates alone, since all the means of rapid communication, actually provided in the usual and most careless mode of building, is wanting in a house built with hollow walls." E. EMERSON.

Greencastle, Penn.

THE RICE CROPS.—The Southern journals represent that the rice crops are unusually flourishing, and that the indications promise more than an average yield this season.

FINE OATS.—Three farmers in one of the towns of Penobscot county, Maine, have their oats sowed in such a manner as to form a continuous field three miles long. It is estimated that the crop of the three will reach six thousand bushels.

TO PREVENT BOTS IN HORSES.—A person of much experience in veterinary science, is never troubled with this disease in horses. His simple practice during the fall months is, to keep a greasy cloth in the stable, and once a week rub with it such parts of the animal as may have been attacked by the nifty. Grease destroys and prevents the eggs from hatching.

FLEAS, BED-BUGS, &c.—A writer in Gardner's Chronicle recommends the use of oil of wormwood to keep off the insects above named. Put a few drops on a handkerchief or a piece of folded muslin, and put in the bed haunted by the enemy. Neither of these tribes can bear wormwood, and the lint is especially commended to travelers who are liable to fall among the toppers of blood.

PROLIFIC COW.—Mr. Benjamin P. Pryor, one of the city watchman residing on French Garden Hill, owns a milk cow that has dropped four live and healthy calves within the past thirteen months. Last spring she dropped twins, and on Wednesday last she performed the same remarkable feat. Three of these four calves are now alive and doing well. The cow, it is said, will give three gallons of milk per day.

From a measurement made in Syracuse, for the past eighteen years, it appears that fifty per cent. more rain has fallen since the first of May than for the same period in any previous year during that time.

A CAPITAL SUGGESTION.—The Scientific American says that if builders fill up spaces between every wall and flooring with sea sand, no fire could communicate from one apartment to another. The staircases, if constructed of iron, on the geometrical principle, would prove non-conductors, space would be economized, and the chambers enlarged. Balconies running from house to house, on every floor, are the most desirable of all fire escapes.

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

SPECIMENS OF SYDNEY SMITH'S TABLE TALK

Specimens of Sydney Smith's table-talk are given in his Life, though not so liberally as might have been expected. We give some extracts from them and from the most characteristic passages of his correspondence, as illustrative of his "own peculiar" wit and humor, his proper individuality of thought and phrase.

Some one asking if the Bishop of — was going to marry? "Perhaps he may," said the Canon; "yet how can a Bishop marry? How can he flirt? The most he can say is, 'I will see you in the vestry after service.'"

"It is a great proof of shyness to crumble bread at dinner," in his opinion. "Oh, I see you are afraid of me," said he to a young lady who sat by him,— "you crumble your bread. I do it when I sit by the Bishop of London, and with both hands when I sit by the Archbishop."

Of the Utilitarians in general, and one in particular, he says: "That man is so hard you might drive a broad wheeled wagon over him and it would produce no impression; if you were to bore holes in him with a gimlet I am convinced sawdust would come out of him. That school treat mankind as if they were mere machines; the feelings or affections never enter into their calculations. If everything is to be sacrificed to utility, why do you bury your grandmother at all? why don't you cut her into small pieces at once, and make portable soup of her?"

"Dear Bobus," he writes to his brother in 1813, "pray take care of yourself. We shall both be a brown infragant powder in thirty or forty years. Let us contrive to last for the same, or nearly the same time."

To Lady Holland he writes in 1810: "We liked Mrs. —, It was wrong, at her time of life, to be circumvented by —'s diagrams; but there is some excuse in the novelty of the attack, as I believe she is the first lady that ever fell a victim to algebra, or that was geometrically led from the paths of discretion."

To Lord Murry, in 1821: "How little you understand young Wedgewood! [inventor of the Wedgewood ware.] If he appears to love waltzing, it is only to catch fresh figures for cream jugs. Depend upon it, he will have Jeffrey and you will enjoy an argillaceous immortality."

Arrived at Dover, soon after the construction of the "shaft," he mentions it as "a staircase, by which the top of the cliff is reached with great ease—or at least what they call great ease, which means the loss of about a pound of liquid flesh, and as much puffing and blowing as would grind a bushel of wheat."

"Mr. Jeffrey," he writes to the Countess Grey, "wanted to persuade me that myrtles grew out-of-doors in Scotland, as here. Upon cross-examination, it turned out they were prickly, and that many had been destroyed by the family donkey."

"Luttrell," he writes in 1829, from the Combe Florey parsonage, "came over for a day, from whence I know not, but I thought not from good pastures; at least, he had not his usual soup-and-pattie look. There was a forced smile upon his countenance, which seemed to indicate plain roast and boiled; and a sort of apple-pudding depression, as if he had been staying with a clergyman."

Alluding to the tumult at Jeffrey's election,

in 1830, he inquires of Murray: "Is Jeffrey much damaged. They say he fought like a lion, and would have been killed had he been more visible; but that several people struck at him who could see nothing, and so battered infinite space instead of the Advocate."

Jeffrey's *size* appears to have been an inexhaustible source of amusement to the "round, fat, oily" Priest of St. Paul's. Sydney tells Francis Broughman of having just returned from Portugal, where the inquisition, according to rumor, seized and singed him with wax-tapers as an Edinburg reviewer; "They were at first about to use flambeaux, conceiving him to be *you*; upon recurring to the notes they have made of your height, and error was discovered of two feet, and the lesser fires only administered." (1806) Again: "Magnitude to you, my dear Jeffrey, must be such an intoxicating idea, that I have no doubt you would rather be gigantic in your errors, than immense in no respect, whatever," &c. (1808.) Elsewhere:—"My dear Jeffrey, are we to see you?—(a difficult thing at all times to do.)" &c. (1809.) In 1829 he writes to Murray: "I can not say the pleasure it gives me that my old and dear friend Jeffrey is in the road to preferment. I shall not be easy till he is fairly on the Bench. His robes, God knows, will cost him little—one buck rabbit will clothe him to the heels." *Maximus minimus* was one of the appellatives wherewith Sydney loved to magnify the great little man.

In the same letter; "I think Lord Grey will give me some preferment, if he stays in long enough; but the upper parsons live vindictively, and evince their aversion to a Whig Ministry by an improved health. The Bishop of — has the rancor to recover, after three paralytic strokes, and the Dean of — to be vigorous at eighty-two. And yet these are men who are Christians!"

To Lady Holland, and from Combe Florey: "Philosopher Maluhus came here last week. I got an agreeable party for him of unmarried people. There was only one lady who had a child; but he is a good-natured man, and, if there are no appearances of approaching fertility, is civil to every lady."

To Dr. Holland, in 1835: "I am suffering from my old complaint, the hay fever, (as it is called.) My fear is, perishing by deliquescence; I melt away in nasal and lachrymal profuvia. My remedies are warm pediluvium, cathartics, &c., &c. The membrane is so irritable that light, dust, contradiction, an absurd remark, the sight of a dissenter, —anything, sets me sneezing; and if I begin sneezing at 12, I don't leave off till 2 o'clock, and am heard distinctly in Taunton, when the wind sets that way—a distance of six miles."

"Mr —," he tells Lady Davy, "is going gently down hill, trusting that the cookery in another planet may be at least as good as in this; but not without apprehension that for misconduct here he may be sentenced to a thousand years of tough mutton, or condemned to a little eternity of family dinners."

Here is yet another heaven after another man's ideal. To Sir Roderick Murchison he writes: "May there not be some one among the infinite worlds where men and woman are all made of stone? Perhaps of Parian marble? How infinitely superior to flesh and blood! What a Paradise for you, to pass eternity with a greywacke woman!"

In his last illness he writes to the Countess of Carlisle: "I am in a regular rain of promotion; from gruel, vermicelli and sago, I was promoted to panada, from thence to minced meat, and (such is the effect of good conduct) I was elevated to a mutton chop. My breathlessness and giddiness are gone—"

chased away by the gout. If you hear of sixteen or eighteen pounds of human flesh, they belong to me. I look as if a curate had been taken out of me."

So he wrote in the last letter but one in these volumes. Two or three months, and all was over; this jocular Canon had fired his last shot; this (Oxford) Fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy, had gone to the tomb of all the—Yoricks. He died on the 22d of February, 1845, of water on the chest, and was buried without show of any kind, in the cemetery of Kensal Green.

FUNNY RUSE OF A REVOLUTIONARY TORY LADY.—A gentleman residing in Kingston, R. I., writes the following revolutionary anecdote to the Boston Traveller:—"In 1778, while our country was at war with England, the tories, as they were called, unwilling to espouse their country's cause, 'left their country for their country's good.' Among the number who thus left for the British dominions in Nova Scotia, was my aunt F—, with her tory husband.—During the war, an American privateer was seen approaching L—, where my aunt and other Americans were located. At the approach of the ugly looking stranger, all the Americans fled except my aunt who kept a small store at the place of entry. Having secured what she could from her shop, she hastened to her house to secure her valuables there, also; but the officers were too close upon her heels to allow her to secrete much. They came upon her just as she was entering a chamber which had previously been left in some confusion. Seeing the officers so near her, she turned in an instant, and with her usual quickness of invention—for she was always ready for a turn—said to the leader, "I hope you will pardon the appearance of my room, as we have just had the small pox in it, and have not had time to put things to rights since the patients were carried off." It was 'a word and blow,' as we say. In his haste to escape, the officer turned upon his heel, and in turning fell over the staircase and rolled down two flights of stairs into the street, dropping from its scabbard an elegantly mounted sword, which he left behind as a prize to my aunt. Picking himself up as best he could he was joined by his comrades, and very soon the privateer had her sails spread, and was out of sight and out of danger, leaving my aunt to laugh over her well timed stratagem, and to hunt for her money box, which was found some months after among the current bushes in the garden, just where she placed it herself when she took it from the shop."

A VERY KNOWING DOG.—Nelson, of the Northern Gazette, says—"A gentleman in Audina, Conn., sends his dog on the arrival of the mail by the railroad train, for his Daily "Times," and the dog returns to his master with the paper in his mouth. The other day a New York "Herald" was handed him by mistake. The dog dropped the paper, and springing upon the counter, picked out a "Times," and wagging his tail in a can't-come-it sort of manner, departed." !!!

A dog of good judgement, too.

MORAL CHARACTER.—There is nothing which adds so much to the beauty and power of a man as a good character. It dignifies him in every station, exalts him in every period of life. Such a character is more to be desired than every thing else on earth. No servile foot, no crouching sycophant, no treacherous honor-seeker, ever bore such a character; the pure joys of righteousness ever spring in such a person. If young men but knew how much a good character would

dignify and exalt them—how glorious it would make their prospects even in this life; never should we find them yielding to the grovelling and base-born purposes of human nature.

THE MOUNTAINS.

BY REV. THOS. HILL, OF WALTHAM, MASS.

The mountains in Winter, the mountains I love;
Below the black forest, the white peaks above;
Along the calm valleys, the deep drifted snow,
While over the summits the winter winds blow;
The moose and the deer through the underwood roam,
And the chickadee finds in the fir trees a home.

The mountains in summer, the mountains I love;
Green birches below, and the grey peaks above;
Along the calm valleys the crystal brooks flow,
While the flowers on the summit are white as the snow,
And the dark forests ring, at the close of the day,
With the white throated Peverly's sweet roundelay.

The mountains in Autumn, the mountains I love;
All clothed in full glories, below and above;
With bright glowing maple, with beech in rich brown;
Bright forests below, and above a white crown.
Oh! the richness and beauty of all the long year
Are reserved for the hills in October to wear.

GENERAL WASHINGTON'S LAST VOTE.

Every incident in the life of Washington is all of interest. That plain, heroic magnitude of mind which distinguished him above all other men was evident in all his actions. Patriotism chastened by sound judgment and careful thought, prompted his public acts, and made them examples for the study and guidance of mankind. It has been said that no one can have the shortest interview with a truly great man, without being made sensible of his superiority. Of too many, who have some way earned the title of great, this is by no means true. Its applicability to the character of Washington is verified in the following interesting circumstance related by a correspondent of the Charleston Courier:

"I was present," says this correspondent, "when General Washington gave his last vote. It was in the spring of 1799, in the town of Alexandria. He died on the 11th of December following. The court-house of Fairfax County was then over the market-house, and immediately fronting Gadsby's tavern. The entrance to it was by a slight flight of crazy steps on the outside. The election was progressing—several thousands of persons were in the court-house yard and immediate neighboring streets; and I was standing on Gadsby's steps when the father of his country drove up, and immediately approached the court-house steps; and when within a yard or two of them, I saw eight or ten good-looking men, from different directions, certainly without the least concert, spring simultaneously, and place themselves in positions to uphold and support the steps should they fall in the General's ascent of them. I was immediately at his back, and in that position entered the court-house with him—followed in his wake through a dense crowd to the polls—heard him vote—returned with him to the outward crowd—heard him cheered by more than two thousand persons as he entered his carriage—and saw his departure.

There were five or six candidates on the bench sitting; and as the General approached them they arose in a body and bowed smilingly; and the salutation having been returned very gracefully, the General immediately cast his eyes toward the registry of the polls, when Col. Dencale (I think it was) said—"Well, General, how do you vote?" The General looked at the candidates, and said—"Gentlemen, I vote for measures, not for men;" and turning to the recording table, audibly pronounced his vote—saw it entered—made a graceful bow and retired."

MAKING A NEEDLE.

I wonder if any little girl who may read this ever thought how many people are all the time at work in making the things which she every day uses. What can be more common, and, you may think, more simple, than a needle? Yet, if you do not know it, I can tell you that it takes a great many persons to make a needle; and it takes a great deal of time, too. Let us take a peep into a needle factory: In going over the premises, we must pass hither and thither, and walk into the next street and back again, and take a drive to a mill, in order to see the whole process. We find one chamber of the shop is hung round with coils of bright wire, of all thicknesses, from the stout kinds used for codfish hooks to that for the finest cambric needles. A bundle has been cut off; the bits need straightening, for they came off from coils.

The bundle is thrown into a red hot furnace; then taken out, and rolled backward and forward on a table until the wires are straight. This process is called "rubbing straight." We now see a mill for grinding needles. We go down into the basement, and find a needle-pointer seated on his bench. He takes up two dozen or so of the wires, and rolls them between his thumb and fingers, with their ends on the grindstone, first one and then the other. We have now the wires straight and pointed at both ends. Next is a machine which flattens and gutters the heads of ten thousand needles an hour. Observe the little gutters at the head of your needle. Next comes the punching of the eyes; and the boy who does it punches eight thousand in an hour, and he does it so fast your eye can hardly keep pace with him. The splitting follows, which is running a fine wire through a dozen, perhaps, of these twin needles.

A woman, with a little anvil before her, files between the heads and separates them. They are now complete needles, but rough and rusty, and, what is worse, they easily bend. A poor needle, you will say. But the hardening comes next. They are heated in batches in a furnace, and, when red hot, are thrown in a pan of cold water. Next, they must be tempered; and this is done by rolling them backward and forward on a hot metal plate. The polishing still remains to be done. On a very coarse cloth needles are spread to the number of forty or fifty thousand. Emery dust is strewn over them, oil is sprinkled, and soft soap daubed by spoonfuls over the cloth; the cloth is then rolled hard up, and, with several others of the same kind, thrown into a sort of wash-pot, to roll to and fro for twelve hours or more. They come out dirty enough; but after a rinsing in clean hot water, and a tossing in sawdust, they look as bright as can be, and are ready to be sorted and put up for sale. But the sorting and the doing up in papers, you may imagine, is quite a work by itself.

LEARNING TO SWIM.—The teacher is supplied with a pole some ten feet long, to which a cord is fastened, which cord connects with a strap placed around the waist of the pupil. Thus the teacher, standing on the shore, or the wharf, can easily guide the movements of the swimmer; and the child acquires a mastery of the art much sooner, and gains self-confidence—which is the real secret of the swimmer's power—more readily than when supported on cork floats. Any mother could teach her child in a few days, with little inconvenience to herself, by this happy thought, an art that may save that child's life. Girls, by this method, will acquire that confidence which by any previously practiced mode it has been found so difficult to give the feminines.—*New-York Mirror.*

TROUTING.

BY REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

Where shall we go? Here is the More brook, the upper part running through bushy and wet meadows, but the lower part flowing transparently over the gravel, through the pasture grounds near the edge of the village. With great ingenuity, it curves and winds and ties itself into bow-knots. It sets out with an intention of flowing toward the south. But it lingers on its errand to coquette with each point of the compass, and changes its mind, at length, just in time to rush eastward into the Housatonic. It is a charming brook to catch trout in, when you can catch them; but they are mostly caught. Nevertheless, there are here in Salisbury, as in every village, those mysterious men who are in league with fish, and can catch them by scores when no one else can get a nibble. It is peculiarly satisfactory to one's feelings to have waded, watched, and fished with worm, grasshopper, and fly, for half a day, for one poor feeble little trout, and four *dace*, and at evening to fall in with a merry negro, who informs you, with a concealed mirth in his eye, and a most patronising kindness, that he has been to the same brook, and has caught three dozen trout, several of them weighing half a pound. We will not try that stream to-day.

Well, there is the Candy brook. We will look at that. A man might walk through the meadows and not suspect its existence, unless through the grass he first stepped into it!—The grass meets over the top of it, and quite hides it through the first meadow; and below, through that iron-tinctured marsh land, it expands only a little, growing open-hearted by degrees across a narrow field; and then it runs for the thickets—and he that takes fish among those alders will certainly earn them. Yet, for its length, it is not a bad brook. The trout are not numerous, nor large, nor especially fine; but every one you catch renews your surprise that you should catch *any* in such a ribbon of a brook.

It is the upper part of the brook that is most remarkable, where it flows through mowing meadows, a mere slit, scarcely a foot wide, and so shut in by grass, that at two steps' distance you can not tell where it flows, though your ear hears the low sweet gurgle of its waters down some pet waterfall. Who ever dreamed of fishing in the grass? Yet, as you cautiously spy out an opening between the red-top and foxtail, to let your hook through, you seem to yourself very much like a man fishing in an orchard. One would almost as soon think of casting his line into a hay-mow, or of trying for a fish behind winrows or haycocks in a meadow! Yet, if the wind is only still, so that the line shall hang plumb down, we can, by some dexterity, drop the bait between grass, leaves, and spikes of aquatic flowers. No sooner does it touch the invisible water than the line cuts open the grass and rushes through weeds, borne off by your speckled victim.

Still farther north is another stream, something larger, and much better or worse according to your luck. It is easy of access, and quite unpretending. There is a bit of a pond, some twenty feet in diameter, from which it flows; and in that there are five or six half-pound trout who seem to have retired from active life and given themselves to meditation in this liquid convent. They were very tempting, but quite untemptable. Standing afar off, we selected an irresistible fly, and with long line we sent it pat into the very place. It fell like a snow flake. No trout should have hesitated a moment. The morsel was delicious. The nimblest of them should have flashed through the water, broke the surface, and with a graceful but

decisive curve plunged downward, carrying the insect with him. Then we should, in our turn, very cheerfully, lend him a hand, relieve him of his prey, and, admiring his beauty, but pitying his untimely fate, bury him in the basket. But he wished no translation. We cast our fly again and again; we drew it hither and thither; we made it skip and wriggle; we let it fall plash like a blundering bug or fluttering moth; and our placid spectators calmly beheld our feats, as if all this skill was a mere exercise for their amusement, and their whole duty consisted in looking on and preserving order.

Next, we tried ground bait, and sent our vermicular hook down to their very sides. With judicious gravity they parted, and slowly sailed toward the root of an old tree on the side of the pool. Again, changing place, we will make an ambassador of a grasshopper. Laying down our rod, we prepare to catch the grasshopper. That is in itself no slight feat. At the first step you take, at least forty bolt out and tumble headlong into the grass; some cling to the stems, some are creeping under the leaves, and not one seems to be within reach. You step again; another flight takes place, and you eye them with fierce penetration, as if thereby you could catch some one of them with your eye. You cannot, though. You brush the grass with your foot again. Another hundred snap out, and tumble about in every direction. There are large ones and small ones, and middling sized ones; there are gray and hard old fellows; yellow and red ones; green and striped ones. At length it is wonderful to see how populous the grass is. If you did not want them, they would jump into your very hand. But they know by your looks that you are out a fishing. You see a very nice young fellow climbing up a steeple stem, to get a good look-out and see where you are. You take good aim and grab at him. The stem you catch, but he has jumped a safe rod. Yonder is another creeping among some delicate ferns. With broad palm you clutch him and all the neighboring herbage too.—Stealthily opening your little finger, you see his leg; the next finger reveals more of him; and opening the next you are just beginning to take him out with the other hand, when, out he bounds and leaves you to renew your entomological pursuits! Twice you snatch handfuls of grass and cautiously open your palm to find that you have *only* grass. It is quite vexatious. There are thousands of them here and there, climbing and wriggling on that blade, leaping off from that stalk, twisting and kicking on that vertical spider's web, jumping and bouncing about under your very nose, hitting you in your face, creeping on your shoes, or turning summersets and tracing every figure of parabola or ellipse in the air, and yet not one do you get. And there is such heartiness and merriment in their sallies! They are pert and gay, and do not take your intrusion in the least dudgeon. If any tender-hearted person ever wondered how a humane man could bring himself to such a cruelty as the impaling of an insect, let him hunt for a grasshopper in a hot day among tall grass; and when at length he secures one, the affixing him upon the hook will be done without a single scruple, with judicial solemnity, and as a mere matter of penal justice.

Now then the trout are yonder. We swing our line to the air, and give it a gentle cast toward the desired spot, and a puff of south wind dexterously lodges it in the branch of the tree. You plainly see it strike, and whirl over and over, so that no gentle pull will loosen it. You draw it north and south, east and west; you give it a jerk up and a pull down; you try a series of nimble twitches; in vain you coax it in this way and solicit it in that. Then you stop and look a moment,

first at the trout and then at your line. Was there ever anything so vexatious? Would it be wrong to get angry? In fact you feel very much like it. The very things you wanted to catch, the grasshopper and the trout, you could not; but a tree, that you did not in the least want, you have caught fast at the first throw. You fear that the trout will be scared. You cautiously draw nigh and peep down. Yes, they are, looking at you and laughing as sure as ever trout laughed! They understand the whole thing. With a very decisive jerk you snap your line, regain the remnant, and sit down to repair it, to put on another hook, you rise up to catch another grasshopper, and move on down the stream to catch a trout!

THE VICTORY.

Edward Norton is an obedient boy, is kind to his play-fellows, and usually gentle in his manners, he has one great fault which makes his mother very sorry. He has a quick temper. When angry he does not know what he is doing. His mother knows that if he grows up with this bad temper, he may do some wicked act, and then say, like the professor of a college who killed a man in his anger, that if his mother had conquered his temper when he was a boy, he should not have been a murderer.

Edward likes to read stories about the great conquerors of the world. His mother thought that he would know the meaning of king Solomon's words, "He that ruleth his spirit, is better than he that taketh a city." So she had him repeat the verse to her every morning for a week. Thus, you see, he could not forget it.

On Saturday as he played with some little boys, a difficulty arose among them, and one of them began to laugh at him. Edward grew very red in the face, his eyes gleamed with anger, and he was about to strike the boy, when he suddenly stopped. The boys did not know what it meant. Why do you think he stopped? He thought of king Solomon's words. He had to try hard to keep down his arm and not speak the angry words he felt. God helped him then, in the victory over his temper; for God will help us, if we truly seek his aid. Edward could not play any longer, but went back to the house, and ran to his mother, saying,

"I did it, mother, I did it," and burst into tears.

She was very happy when he told her all about it. Edward has been tempted since, but tries not to get angry; and in time, by the blessing of God, I think he will be always able to rule his spirit. If you have such a temper, and wish to rule it, you may not perhaps do as well as Edward the first time, but "try, try again," and if you sincerely seek help from the Savior, he will assist you in doing right. It will be easy for you to yield your heart and life to Christ; or, if you have done so already, will prevent the reproach of an ill-temper being cast upon you as a follower of Jesus.—HESPER, in *Child's Paper*.

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, August 29.

There has been a little depression in the price of Flour—quite as much as could be expected with the small arrivals from the west. It may be to some a matter of surprise to learn that with all the abundant supplies at the west, there is now scarcely as much flour received from that quarter as there was previous to harvest. The principal re-

receipts are from the south. So behind-hand are farmers with their work, and so loth are they from other considerations to sell their grain, even at the present high prices, that almost a famine still prevails among consumers. We have still to dread the results predicted by us two weeks since, viz: nothing to be realized by farmers now because they will not sell, and little to be realized when they do sell, because every body will be selling at the same time, and prices will sink so low. Another week's reports furnish no reasons for changing the opinions expressed during several weeks past, viz: that there is a superabundance of wheat in the country. Even allowing the wheat to be only an average yield, there is a prospect—now almost a certainty—that the corn crop is to exceed all former years. This enters so largely into consumption, that it will save a great amount of wheat.

Potatoes are coming in finely. So far as we can yet hear, the rot will be less prevalent this year than during several years past. Speculators have got up rumors of the rot on Long Island and elsewhere, but a sifting of these reports show them to be with small foundation. On Saturday last 2,000 bushels of potatoes were sold in Newburg on the Hudson river, by a single dealer, for 28 to 31½ cents per bushel.

Flour has fallen during the past week say 25 to 50 cents per barrel. Corn has fallen about 3 cents per bushel.

Potatoes rose at one time to 75 cents per bushel, but have got upon the descending scale, where they will probably remain.

Cotton is ¼ of a cent per lb. lower. In other southern products, no change worth recording.

The Weather has been quite cool—unusually so for this season. Large quantities of rain fell on Thursday and Friday of last week. Since that the weather has been generally fine.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, Aug. 28, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The price of the different qualities of Potatoes varies less than it did last week. All of them are worth about \$1 50 per barrel, though the price varies very much on different days, owing to the irregularity of the supply. To-day sales are dull.

The supply of Peaches is as abundant as last week, and the quality is improving. Delawares are out of the Market, and the Jerseys, of good quality, command a ready sale, though those of poor quality sell for almost nothing.

Tomatoes continue at prices such as barely to pay for bringing them to market.

Apples have their "ups and downs" from day to day. We quote them a little higher.

Watermelons continue in good demand at sustained prices, and Muskmelons are growing plentier and declining.

Sweet Potatoes are more plenty, though the price continues as last week.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Long Island Whites....	Φ basket	\$—50@	56
Do. do. Mercers.....do.		50@	56
New-Jersey, Dyckman's.....	Φ bbl.	1 75@	—
Do. Mercers.....do.		1 50@	—
Sweet Potatoes—Delawares.....do.		4 25@	—
Do. Virginias.....do.		3 50@	—

Onions—Red.....	Φ bbl.	1 50@	75
Do White.....	Φ bask.	1 00@	—
Do Silver Skins.....do.		75@	81
Corn—sweet.....	Φ 100	75@	—
Cabbages.....	Φ 100	2 00@	5 00
Cucumbers.....do.		31@	—
Squashes—White.....	Φ bas.	25@	—
Yellow.....do.		37@	—
Tomatoes.....	Φ bask.	12@	25
Beans—Lima.....	Φ bask.	75@	—
Do String.....do.		25@	37
Beets.....	Φ doz.	25@	37
Carrots.....do.		25@	—
Turnips.....	Φ bush.	25@	37
Plums—Blue Gages.....do.		75@	1 50
Green Gages.....do.		1 —@	25
Apples, Sour.....	Φ bbl.	\$1 50@	1 75
Sweet Bow.....do.		1 75@	2 —
Common.....do.		50@	75
Pears, Bell.....do.		3 25@	3 50
Common.....do.		2 —@	2 50
Peaches.....	Φ bask.	25@	50
Extra do.....do.		75@	—
Watermelons.....	Φ 100	10 @	12 —
Musk Melons.....do.		1 75@	2 —
Butter Orange County.....	Φ lb.	—@	25c.
State.....do.		18@	23c.
Western.....do.		—@	16c.
Cheese.....do.		6@	9c.
Eggs State.....	Φ doz.	—@	17c.
Jersey.....do.		—@	18c.
Poultry—Spring Chickens.....	Φ pair	38@	62c.
Fowls.....do.		68@	75
Ducks.....do.		—@	66c.
Turkeys.....	Φ lb.	13@	15c.
Geese.....	Φ pr.	1 —@	1 12
Egg Plants.....	Φ doz.	@	50c.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY August 29, 1855.

N. B.—The rates in these reports refer to the estimated weight of the beef in the quarters.

The total supply of beeves for the week does not vary much from our last report. The quality of the cattle in market is quite as good as then, but sales are dull, with a decline of full half a cent a pound admitted by owners.

The highest price realized to-day was, for most stock, not more than 10½c., and but very few reached that figure. The majority of sales were from 9 to 10c., while a few light cattle brought not more than 8c. Kentucky sends the best cattle this week.

At Allerton's there has been during the week.....2,284
There is to-day.....2,260
There came by the

Harlem Railroad—Beeves.....	109
Cows and Calves.....	4
Veals.....	203
Sheep and Lambs.....	1368
Swine.....	12
Hudson River R'd.—Beeves.....	536
Erie Railroad.....Beeves.....	1150
Swine.....	174
Hudson River Boats.....Beeves.....	458
Sheep and Lambs.....	799

There were from			
New-York.....	247	Ohio.....	623
Illinois.....	571	Indiana.....	104
Penna.....	44	Kentucky.....	369

At Brownings the receipts were, of
Beeves.....523.....at 8@10c
Cows and Calves.....55.....at 5@6½c
Veals.....55.....at 5@6½c

At O'Briens—
Beeves.....406.....at the
Veals.....84.....same prices as above.

The supply of Sheep and Lambs is:
At Allerton's.....1398
At Browning's.....7373
Sheep are better to-day than previously. More fat sheep in market and fewer store sheep. Good sheep sell from \$4 to \$5. Extra, \$6 to even \$9. Store sheep from \$1 25 to \$3.
Lambs range from \$3 50 to \$5.
Veals sell from 4 to 5½c. live weight. Extra, 6½c.
Swine.—Stock hogs are selling from 5 to 7c. Fat hogs, 6½ to 7½c. Pork, 8½@9½c.

Mr. Chamberlin reports—			
Beeves.....	612.....	at 7@	10½
Sheep and Lambs.....	6428.....	at 2@	6½c
Cows and Calves.....	94.....	at \$	25@60
Calves.....	204.....	at 6@	7c
Mr. Mortimore reports the Sheep market better this week than last. Sheep average \$3 25. Lambs, \$2 75.			

SPECIALLY INTERESTING TO ALL OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

For two years past we have been constantly importuned by great numbers of our subscribers, to add to this paper a "News Department." Say they, "We like your *Agriculturist* better than any other paper, and can not do without it—but we also want news, and now we must pay for two papers, which we are not all of us able to do."

We have felt the force of these oft-repeated requests, but have not heretofore yielded to them, for two reasons: *First*, we wish to make the *Agriculturist* peculiarly agricultural in its character; and fill its pages chiefly with such matter as will be of a high order, and adapted to binding or preserving; and, *Second*, we have ourselves little inclination for devoting the amount of time and thought to miscellaneous reading which would be required of us, in order to make up what we consider a well-digested miscellaneous newspaper; and we may add, as a third reason, that we consider the condensed column of items of news usually made up for religious and agricultural papers, as very dry and unsatisfactory, and little calculated to give correct and desirable views of the progress of the social and political world. To say a certain law was passed, a disaster happened, a battle fought, a riot occurred, a building was burned, &c., without the accompanying circumstances, is dry detail—it is the skeleton of a body without the living organs, the nerves, blood, muscles and color that give it animation.

These are some of the considerations which have deterred us from making the *Agriculturist* a general newspaper. But we think we have at last hit upon a plan, which will furnish our readers with just what they desire and need, viz: both an agricultural journal, of the first order, and a comprehensive newspaper, and that, too, at no greater price than is now paid for the *Agriculturist* alone. Our plan is this:

FIRST—The present volume closes with No. 104—one week hence—and at that time we propose to increase the *Agriculturist* to 24 pages, printing it on superior paper to that now used, and devote its pages exclusively to such matters as pertain strictly to rural life (see new Prospectus on last page), and to issue it on the first of each month instead of weekly, and to reduce the price to one dollar a year—half its present rate. The size of the pages and style of the monthly paper will be uniform with the present weekly issue, and suitable for binding up with it. Several pages now devoted to prices current, markets, advertisements, and miscellaneous matters, will be omitted, and nearly the whole 24 pages be devoted to practical agriculture, gardening, stock raising, domestic economy, &c.

SECOND—To supply a full and complete newspaper, with an extensive department of reports upon produce and live stock markets and other agricultural news. We have arranged with Messrs. Raymond, Harper & Co., to print for us weekly an extra edition of the N. Y. WEEKLY TIMES, one of the largest newspapers in the country. This we shall mail each week to all our present unexpired

subscribers, together with the monthly *AGRICULTURIST*, with no additional charge for the full term of their unexpired subscriptions.

The Agricultural matter of the *TIMES*, embracing recent agricultural intelligence, ample and detail reports of the produce and live stock sales, prices, &c., is prepared by Mr. Judd, who has for two years past been the chief Editor of the *Agriculturist*, and who will still continue to conduct its pages.

Any of our subscribers who may now be subscribers to the *Weekly Times*, or who do not wish to receive the *Times* in this manner, will please give us prompt notice, and to all such we will give a credit for the *Agriculturist* for twice the time now due them on subscription.

All subscribers whose time expires now, or in the future, who may wish to renew, can do so at half the former rates for the *Agriculturist* alone, or for the former rates for the *Agriculturist* and *Weekly Times* combined. That is, for the enlarged *Agriculturist*—

- One copy one year.....\$1 00
- 6 copies one year..... 5 00
- 10 copies one year..... 8 00
- 20 copies one year..... 15 00

Or, for the *Agriculturist* monthly and the *Times* weekly, mailed regularly at our office—

- One copy of both papers 1 year..\$2 00
- 3 copies of both papers 1 year.. 5 00
- 10 copies of both papers 1 year.. 16 00
- 20 copies of both papers 1 year.. 30 00

We make the above arrangement in full confidence that it will be highly pleasing to all our readers, for in no other way can they, for the same money, obtain so large an amount or such a variety of the first order of agricultural matter, in a superior style, and adapted to preserving in a permanent form, and at the same time be supplied with a complete general newspaper, of a high order and comprehensive character.

As we shall print no larger edition of the *Times* than is required by our subscribers from week to week, we hope all expiring subscribers who wish to avail themselves of this arrangement, will at once renew their subscriptions, so as to receive the first number of the *Times*, which will be issued on the 13th of September, and thereafter weekly, and the first number of Volume XV of the *Agriculturist*, which will be mailed on the first day of October, and thereafter monthly.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

- Ten cents per line for each insertion.
- Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less.
- Advertisements standing three months one-third less.
- Ten words make a line.
- No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

PEACH TREES.—The subscribers offer for sale from their RUMSOM NURSERIES, Shrewsbury, New-Jersey, PEACH TREES of the choicest varieties. Also OSAGE PLANTS, for hedges.

Having had long experience in the culture of the Peach Tree and Fruit, they feel confident in giving entire satisfaction.

N. B.—Post-office address, Red Bank, Monmouth Co., N. J. ASHER HANCE & SON. 103—11

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT, 95—120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

AUCTION SALE OF THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE.

The subscriber proposes to sell at Auction, his entire herd of thoroughbred "Herd Book" Devonshire Cattle, on WEDNESDAY, 17th OCTOBER next, at his farm, 2½ miles from Troy, N. Y., comprising 11 head of breeding Cows, and about 9 head of Bulls, Heifer and Bull Calves.

The originals of this fine herd, were selected with great care through importations from England, and purchases in this country, and they have been bred with equal care, and all will admit on examination, they are a splendid herd of this popular breed of cattle.

Among the herd is the beautiful, 3-year-old, imported bull MAY BOY, bred by John T. Davy, Esq., of South Moulton, Devonshire, England, Editor of the English Devon Herd Book. This bull, as will be seen by his pedigree, is descended from the highest strain of blood that England affords, and for perfection in symmetry, vigor and sprightly action, it will be difficult to find his superior. His get, as will be seen in the herd, will attest his superiority as a stock getter.

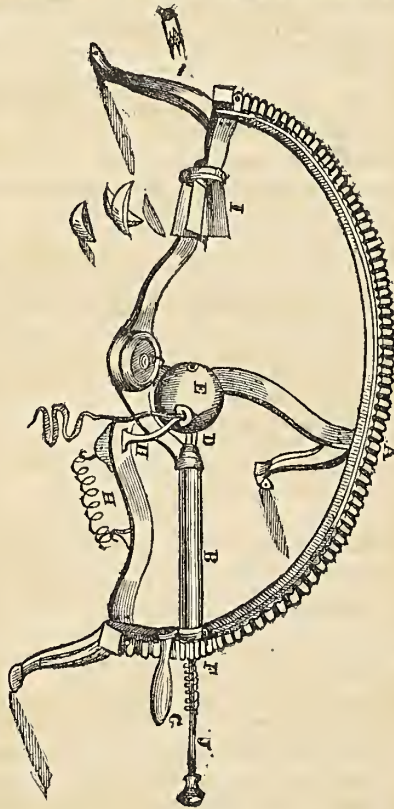
There is, also, among the herd, a beautiful 4-year-old Heifer and her Bull Calf. She was imported from the celebrated herd of Lord Leicester.

A credit of 12 months will be given for approved paper on interest. Catalogues of the animals will soon be issued, with pedigrees and further particulars, and may be procured at the offices which publish this advertisement, and of the subscriber. GEO. VAIL, Troy, N. Y.

100—5n1225

SHORT HORNS.—The subscribers offer for sale a few Bull and Heifer Calves, the get of ASTORIA, LORD, VANE TEMPEST 2d, imported 3d DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, and imported EARL VANE. Catalogues may be had from J. C. Jackson, Esq., No. 111 Water-st., N. Y., or the subscribers, at Elizabethtown, New-Jersey. B. & C. S. HAINES.

Smith & Fenwick's Machine for Paring, Coring and Quartering APPLES AND OTHER FRUIT.



THIS VERY INGENIOUS AND USEFUL MACHINE is now ready for sale, and will be on exhibition at the next FAIR of the American Institute, at the Crystal Palace. It received a SILVER MEDAL at the New-York State Fair, and is considered by every one who has seen it in operation as "THE MACHINE." It works on the right principle, and performs with astonishing precision. The paring taken off is very thin, the core removed nicely, and the apple quartered, or divided into smaller pieces if desired, and all so quickly that a girl of a dozen years can complete from SIX to EIGHT in ONE MINUTE.

The machine being made of iron, and very simple, is not in any way liable to get out of order.

The Scientific American says—"This machine presents manifold advantages over anything of a similar nature, it being capable of performing almost double the amount of work in a given time that can be done by any other."

A sample MACHINE will be sent to order for FOUR DOLLARS (which includes cost of packing), and Rights for States or Counties will be sold on liberal terms, and machines furnished, when desired, to purchasers of said Rights, at low rates. Apply to COLMAN & WILLIAMSON, 102—104n1222 No. 6 Wall-st., New-York.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

- EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
- ALLEN'S do. do.
- BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
- TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
- WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
- TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

THRESHERS—

- ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
- do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
- EMERY'S overshot.
- EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, \$40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at \$6 to \$25, and Burr-Stone at \$50 to \$250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which evenly large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS and WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW and STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS and MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would call attention to the following, among many others:

- VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.
 - BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.
 - Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels, Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows, Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones, Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.
 - Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.
 - Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins, Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear, Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth, Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.
- R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

GARDEN SEEDS.—A large and complete assortment of the different kinds in use at the North and South—all fresh and pure, imported and home grown expressly for my establishment.

GRASS SEEDS.—Timothy, Red Top, Kentucky Blue, Orchard, Foul Meadow, Ray, Sweet-scented Vernal, Tall Fescue, Muskit or Texas, Tall Oat and Spurry.

- Red and White Clover,
- Lucerne,
- Saintfoin.
- Alyske Clover.
- Sweet-scented Clover.
- Crimson or Scarlet Clover.

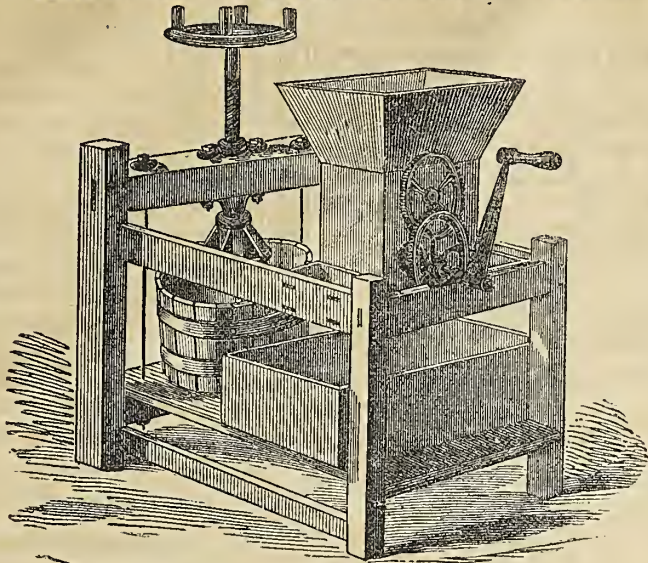
FIELD SEEDS.—A full assortment of the best Field Seeds, pure and perfectly fresh, including all the best varieties of WINTER SEED WHEAT, such as WHITE FLINT-SOULE'S-BLUE-STEM, White and Red MEDITERRANEAN.

- Winter Rye.
- Oats, of several choice kinds.
- Corn, of great variety.
- Spring and Winter Vetches.
- PEAS, BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS, and all other useful Seeds for the farmer and planter.

BUCKWHEAT—Choice and clean, for Seed.

CIDER MILLS—Of the best and latest improvements, occupying a space less than four feet square, and capable of grinding the apples and pressing several barrels of Cider per day with only two hands. For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

HICKOK'S PATENT IMPROVED



CIDER MILL,
AS ARRANGED FOR 1855.

MANUFACTURED SOLELY BY
THE EAGLE WORKS,
W. O. HICKOK, Agent, Harrisburg, Penn.
Warranted if Directions are followed, and not otherwise.
PRICE \$40.

THIS IS THE FOURTH YEAR THAT THIS MILL HAS BEEN BEFORE THE public, and, as in all similar cases, improvements have been added, as it has been found necessary. Some of the following are the most important:

- 1.—The Mill has been increased in size, so that we can put under, a tub that holds nearly three bushels of apples after they are ground.
 - 2.—Instead of a solid bottom board, or one covered with cloth, to go under the tub, I have a bottom board grooved in a peculiar manner, and both it and the tub, after repeated and severe trials, have been found the best for the purpose—as they will always let the cider out clear and free from pomace.
 - 3.—The bottom or floor is constructed entirely different from the former ones; and the pomace box has been much increased in size, by passing behind and below the floor.
 - 4.—The castings have been made much heavier (about one-fifth;) and the shafts run in iron boxes bolted together.
 - 5.—Heretofore great trouble has occurred in getting cylinders that would not swell and get out of place. That difficulty has now been overcome, by making them of IRON altogether.
- On examination of the whole, I am satisfied that you will agree, that nothing is wanting or omitted, to make it a good, durable and perfect machine. All these improvements have, of course, cost much; and indeed they will stand me over 25 per cent. above the cost of them two years ago.
- I am often asked how much cider can be made in them in a day? and I generally answer, from ten to twelve barrels. But we have made four barrels per hour on them. To do this, I should put about two hands on it, with enough attendants to bring the apples and carry away the cider and pomace; and should run it by steam power—with the understanding that I would not use over a 3/4 inch belt, nor run it faster than a man could turn it, nor use more power than a good sized boy would exert on the crank. The pressing would be done by hand, and the pomace be shoveled into the tub. Sixty bushels an hour can well and easily be ground on it, and of course, the Mill would stand idle one-third of the time.

The following are but a small portion of the premiums that have been granted to this Mill:

- A MEDAL from the World's Fair, New-York.
- SILVER MEDAL at the Fair of the American Institute, New-York, October 1852.
- SILVER MEDALS from Baltimore. A DIPLOMA from the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia.
- FIRST PREMIUM at the State Fair, at Utica.
- FIRST PREMIUM at the Rensselaer County, N. Y., and also at the Columbia County, N. Y., Fairs.
- A DIPLOMA at the Westchester County Fair, 1852.
- FIRST PREMIUM at the Pennsylvania State Fair, at Pittsburg, 1853.
- FIRST PREMIUM at the Ohio State Fair, at Dayton; Michigan State Fair, at Detroit; Indiana State Fair, at La Fayette; and a large number of County Fairs, too numerous to mention.

Massachusetts Charitable Association, Boston; and wherever this mill has had an actual and fair trial at Fairs it has carried the first Premium.

In one or two instances the committees have refused a trial, and given Premiums to other mills, they GRINDING TURNIPS ONLY, and not going into fair and honorable competition in making cider.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

W. O. HICKOK: Sir—I have one of your Improved Cider Mills; I used the Mill last October, and on trial I ground fifty bushels of apples per hour. I keep the ground apples twelve hours, and I can press out two barrels of cider per hour with two men. I can recommend your Improved Cider Mill to all fruit growers, for speed and a saving of labor. I can make thirty-five gallons of cider from nine and one-half bushels of common apples. The cider can be pressed from the pomace without using water now. Cider will keep one year when water is not used at the press.

JACKSTOWN, June 15, 1854.
JOHN M'COMBE.

WISCONSIN FARM TO BE SOLD—

Containing 320 acres, within two miles of the rapidly-increasing village of Beloit. 100 acres are under the plow, 60 acres are natural Meadow, and the remainder is timber-land, consisting of white oak, red oak and hickory. The Land is of first-rate quality for Winter Wheat, the owner having grown, the two last seasons, thirty bushels per acre. The whole is new land, in a high state of cultivation. A stream of running water passes through the farm for three-quarters of a mile. The House stands in a beautiful grove of Locusts and Balm of Gilead trees—some bearing Apple trees. In fact, it is all a person can desire for a large Farm. If sold this Fall, there is 30 acres of corn, estimated at 80 bushels (shelled) to the acre, can go with the Farm. The Stock and Implements can be purchased at a valuation. For further particulars, apply by letter to the owner,
HENRY KNILL,
102— Beloit, Rock Co., Wisconsin.

A GOOD FARM FOR SALE VERY

CHEAP.—A good Farm of 104 acres, situated in the town of Liberty, Sullivan County, N. Y., can be bought for \$3,000—a part of which may remain on mortgage. There is a good, new FARM-HOUSE, which cost more than half the price asked for the whole. There is also a good Barn, Out-buildings, &c. For further particulars apply to
JAMES HORTON,
101—4n1221 Liberty Falls, Sullivan Co., N. Y.

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS IS

requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

T A F E U,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price \$35 per ton, or 1 1/4 cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York. For further particulars address
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtland-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUURETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price \$1.50 per bbl. for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99—121n152

RHODE-ISLAND HORSE AND CATTLE EXHIBITION.
THE RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY,
Will hold an Exhibition of
HORSES AND CATTLE,
AT THE
WASHINGTON TROTTING PARK,
PROVIDENCE,
To commence on TUESDAY, September 11th, and to continue through the week.

The premium list amounts to FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS. Competition is open to all States and the British Provinces. Judges will be appointed from other States as far as practicable. The Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, and the Plowing and Drawing Matches, will take place on Tuesday, and an Auction Sale will be held. EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums. An Address will be delivered before the Society in the evening.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the several classes of Horses will be exhibited, and on the afternoon of each day there will be a grand trial of speed of Trotting Horses. On Saturday the Premium Horses will be exhibited, and an Auction Sale will be held. THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums on Horses.

In order to prevent the confusion which must necessarily arise from the entrance of too large a number of Trotting Horses, an entrance-fee of \$20 will be charged on those competing for \$200 premiums, and of \$30 to those competing for \$300 premiums, to be paid at the time of entering, which must be done on or before the 1st of September, at the office of the Society, Railroad Halls, Providence. The other entrance-fees are, \$5 for single Horses, and \$7 for matched Horses.

Arrangements have already been made with the New-York and Erie Railroad, and with the New-York Railroad and Steamboat line via Stonington, for the issue of Excursion tickets and for the transportation of stock at reduced rates. Such arrangements will be extended to other lines as far as may be practicable.

For further particulars reference is made to handbills, which will in all cases be forwarded on application to the Secretary.
JOSEPH J. COOKE, President.
C. T. KEITH, Secretary. 99—104n1217

IMPORTED MONARCH, by Priam, out of Delphine by Whisker, will stand the present season at L. G. Morris's Herdsdale Farm, 1 1/2 miles from Scarsdale depot, and 2 1/2 miles from New-York by Harlem Railroad. Terms, \$20 the Season for mares not thoroughbred, and \$50 for thoroughbred. Pasturage \$3 per month. Accidents and escapes at the risk of the owner. All business connected with the horse to be addressed to "Monarch's Groom, Scarsdale P. O., Westchester County, N. Y." A portrait taken from life, with performance on the turf, full pedigree, &c., will be forwarded by mail, by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y. April 24, 1855. 86—4n1193

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT PRIVATE SALE.—L. G. MORRIS'S Illustrated Catalogue, with prices attached, of Short Horned and Devon Bulls and Bul Calves, a few Horses, Southdown Rams, Berkshire, Suffolk and Essex Swine, will be forwarded by mail (if desired) by addressing L. G. MORRIS, Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., or N. J. BECAR, 167 Broadway, New-York. It also contains portrait, pedigree, and performance on the turf of the celebrated horse "Monarch," standing this season at the Herdsdale Farm. April 24, 1855. 86—4n1194

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE HORSE POWERS, THRESHERS and SEPARATORS
Single Horse Power \$85 00
Double do. do. 116 00
Do. do. do. with Thresher and Separator, 160 00
Single do. do. do. do. 128 00
Belts \$5 and \$10 each.

R. L. ALLEN Sole Agent for New-York. 189 and 191 Water-street.

B A G S.— NOYES & WHITTELEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip), New-York,

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97—109n1214

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—

The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.
SAMUEL THORNE,
"Thornedale," Washington Hollow,
Dutchess Co., N. Y.
100tfn1219

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.— Genuine Plant may be purchased of WM LAWTON, 83-108n1183 No. 54 Wall-st., New-York

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86—6m

Publisher's Announcement

FOR THE
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
OF THE

American Agriculturist.

A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal.
\$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality.

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be progressive in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subservient their private interests.

The *American Agriculturist* will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controlling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. JUDD, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the *Agriculturist*, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. ALLEN, LEWIS F. ALLEN, Rev. Wm. CLIFT, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

One copy one year	\$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00
Twenty copies one year	15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.

Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with MESSRS. RAYMOND, HARPER & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the *NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES*, one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country. The Agricultural Department of the *Times*, together with its full reports of sales and price of live stock, farm and garden produce, &c., is prepared expressly for that paper by Mr. JUDD, the Conducting Editor of this journal.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly *American Agriculturist* will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other department. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the *American Agriculturist* on the first of each month, and the *Times* on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers:

One copy of both papers one year	\$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00
Twenty copies of both papers one year	30 00

Back numbers of the Monthly *American Agriculturist*, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the *Times* can not be supplied. Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to

ALLEN & CO.,
Publishers of American Agriculturist,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
Editor of *American Agriculturist*.

Brooklyn Horticultural Society.

LIST OF PRIZES

To be awarded at the regular Fall Exhibition, to be held on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, September 19th and 20th, 1855, at the ATHENÆUM, corner of Atlantic and Clinton-sts.

FRUIT.

GRAPES.

For the best collection of Foreign Grapes, named varieties, one bunch of each	\$10
For second best	5
For best six bunches of Foreign Grapes, named varieties, one bunch of each	8
For second best	5
For best three bunches, do. do.	4
For second best	2
For best two bunches of White Grapes	3
For best two bunches of Black Grapes	3
For best six bunches of Native Grapes, one variety	4
For second best	2
For best three bunches, do. do. do.	2
For second best	1

PEARS.

For best collection of Pears, named varieties, 4 of each	12
For second best	8
For third best	5
For best 12 varieties do. do., six of each	4
For second best	2
For best 6 varieties do. do., 6 of each	3
For second best	2

APPLES.

For best collection, named varieties, 6 of each	12
For second best	8
For third best	5
For best 12 varieties do., 8 of each	4
For second best	2
For best 6 varieties do., 8 of each	3
For second best	2

PEACHES.

For best collection, named varieties, 6 of each	10
For second best	7
For third best	4

NECTARINES.

For best dish of Nectarines	2
For second best	1

PLUMS.

For best collection of Plums, named varieties	5
For second best	3
For best dish of Plums	2
For second best	1

QUINCES.

For best twelve Quinces	2
For second best	1

FIGS.

For best dish of Figs	2
For second best	1

MELONS.

For best 2 Watermelons	2
For second best	1
For best 2 Muskmelons	2
For second best	1
For best ornamental basket of miscellaneous Fruits	6
For second best	4

PLANTS IN POTS.

For best miscellaneous display of Plants	20
For second best	10
For third best	5
For best 3 specimens, in bloom	4
For second best	2
For best single specimen	2
For second best	1
For best 2 ornamental or variegated leafed specimens	1
For best single do	1
For best 4 Fuchsias	2
For second best	2
For best 3 varieties of Achimenes	1
For second best	1
For best 2 varieties of Orchids	3
For second best	2
For best single specimen do	1
For best collection of Coniferæ	4
For best collection of Ferns	3

CUT FLOWERS.

ROSES.

For the best display of Roses	6
For second best	4
For best 12 varieties do	2
For second best	1

DAHLIAS.

For best display of Dahlias	5
For second best	3
For best 12 self-colored varieties	2
For second best	2
For best 12 fancy varieties	3
For second best	2
For best 6 blooms, in variety	1

VERBENAS.

For best collection of Verbenas	3
For second best	2
For best 12 varieties	2
For second best	1
For best general display of Cut Flowers	4
For second best	2

BOUQUETS, BASKETS, &C.

For the best pair of Hand Bouquets	5
For second best	3
For third best	3
For best Parlor or Table Bouquet	5
For second best	3
For third best	2
For best Basket of Flowers	6
For second best	3
For third best	4
For best basket of Wild Flowers	3
For second best	2
For the best and second best Ornamental Designs, premiums according to merit will be awarded.	

VEGETABLES.

For best collection of named Potatoes	\$3
For second best	2
For best dish of Potatoes	1
For best 6 Blood Beets	1
For best 12 Carrots	1
For best 6 Parsnips	1
For best 12 Salsifies	1
For best 12 Onions, White	1
For best 12 Onions, Yellow	1
For best brace of Cucumbers	1
For best 12 Turnips, White	1
For best 12 Turnips, Yellow	1
For best 2 Egg Plants	1
For best 1/2 peck of Tomatoes	1
For best 1/2 peck of Lima Beans	1
For best 3 heads of Cauliflower	2
For best 3 heads of Brocoli	1
For best 3 heads of Cabbage	1
For best 6 heads of Celery	2
For second best	1
For largest and best display of Vegetables	5
For second best	3
For best and most correct Labeling of Plants	3
For second best	2

Seedlings of merit, and other specimens not mentioned in the schedule, will have the special notice of the judges and be rewarded accordingly.

All Plants must be in bloom except the collections of Hot and Green-house Plants, in which all those cultivated for their ornamental foliage will be admitted, besides the collections of Coniferæ, Ferns and Cacti.

Articles for competition in one class will be eligible to compete in any other.

Competition will be open to all, whether members of the Society or not.

Articles for competition must be brought in before 11 o'clock on the morning of the 19th September. Persons living at a distance are invited to bring their articles on the afternoon previous, as the Room will be ready for their reception.

J. E. RAUCH,
JNO. W. TOWT,
GEO. GAMGEE,
GEO. HAMLYN,
GEO. INGRAM, } Premium Committee.

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

CONDUCTING EDITOR,
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
ALLEN & CO., 189 Water-st., New-York

VOL. XIV.—NO. 26.]

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1855.

[NEW SERIES.—NO. 104.]

For Prospectus, Terms, &c.,

SEE LAST PAGE.

ALL letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. ORANGE JUDD, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to ALLEN & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

HINTS ON SOWING WHEAT.

The certainty of the wheat crop as compared with other staple farm productions; its universal adaptability as an article of food; the safety, ease and cheapness with which it may be transported to any part of the world where needed, and its being pre-eminently a cash-yielding material, all point out this crop as one worthy of the greatest attention of farmers in every section of the country, where its cultivation is not precluded by the circumstances of soil or climate. The uniform high, or at least remunerative prices for several years past, and the probability of a continued European demand, for a year or more after the establishment of peace—an event not prospectively near—are additional considerations which should prompt to sowing a large breadth the present Autumn. We will, therefore, throw out a few hints upon the methods of increasing the amount sown, and process of cultivation.

There are many acres upon every farm that may be sown to wheat, with a prospect of only half a crop—better than to lie in stubble or poor pasture. The opinion that all grass land must be plowed previous to harvest, and lie sometime as Summer-fallow, is erroneous. A meadow or pasture may be turned over in September, and wheat sown directly upon the inverted sod. Such land should be well harrowed after plowing, and if very poor, a light coating of rotted manure or guano be worked into the surface to supply the necessities of the plant until the decay of the underlying sods. Stubble land, whether of oats, wheat or barley, may also be sown profitably, if a coating of manure or guano be applied; and it is even better to obtain a half or two-thirds crop, than to let such ground lie idle for a whole year. Those who understand well the philosophy of manuring, find no difficulty in getting remunerative crops of wheat every year from the same field, though a rotation of crops is always advisable, where it can

be done without contracting the amount of the more important crop.

SELECTION OF SEED.

This should be attended to before as well as after threshing. The wheat ripening earliest should invariably be saved for seed. The manner of threshing is important. When wheat is crowded through a machine with close setting, sharp teeth, a great number of the kernels are broken, or crushed so as to destroy the germ, though the fracture may not be perceptible to the eye, at least without careful inspection. We have counted ten to twenty-five in a hundred kernels thus spoiled for seed. We have latterly recommended to place the whole sheaves upon the barn floor, and beat off with the flail the largest and best kernels for seed; and then lay aside the sheaves to be run through a machine, afterwards. Two men will readily beat off thirty to sixty bushels of seed in a day, if the threshing floor is adjacent to the wheat-mow, since a very little beating will take out half or more of the grain.

Select the largest, plumpest kernels for seed. To pass over the generally established principle that "like produces like," there is an important consideration that we have not seen referred to by writers on the selection of various kinds of seed. Every seed contains not only the germ of the future plant, but also a supply of nourishment for the first wants of the young shoot. The germ of the wheat seed is very small, and the great bulk of the kernel is composed of what must nourish the germ until it has sent forth roots into the soil and leaves into the air. If now the kernel be small or shriveled, the young shoot will lack for nourishment, will get a poor start, and for a long time have but a comparatively feeble growth; while from the full, plump kernel the shoot will derive a full supply of pabulum, will send forth vigorous roots and leaves, and will have a much better chance for a rapid after-growth. Three hundred pounds per acre of guano, intimately mingled with the soil, has been found to exert a powerful effect upon the wheat plants, and yet that amount of guano does not furnish to each cubic inch of soil as much nourishment as there is in a single plump kernel of wheat. This reasoning must appear obvious to every one; and to this we may add the fact that, in our own experience, as well as from extended observation, we have found the practice of selecting large seed to be highly profitable. Our method has been to run the wheat designed for seed over a coarse screen, which sorted out only about one

third of the largest kernels. After pursuing this method for a very few years, the general character of the wheat was so much improved that after selecting one-third of the plumpest kernels for seed and home use, what remained still commanded the highest market price. Another advantage of this course is, that we thus get rid of all "fou stuff."

Varieties of Seed.—Almost every section of the country has some particular variety of wheat which has been found best adapted to the locality, and no general rule can be given. Let every farmer be sure and get the best, and not sow a poorer variety because he happens to have it. He can usually exchange with a neighbor, giving wheat good for consumption or market, for that which is more valuable for seed. Better to expend a dollar more for good seed than sow poor, when \$10 to \$12 per acre is to be laid out in other expenses of cultivation. An additional yield of two or three bushels for the same labor in cultivating will well repay the difference between good and bad seed.

From nearly all accounts of the past and present year, the Red Mediterranean wheat has been found the most reliable, and wherever this seed is accessible we advise to procure it for a part or the whole of the next crop.

SOW WHEAT EARLY.

Every year's experience and observation show more and more plainly the importance of sowing wheat early. One half or more of the reports from the wheat crop during two years past contain in substance the following: "Early sown wheat is good, but late sown is Winter-killed," or "injured by the insect." Wheat should get well rooted before frosts set in. The long roots will be far less liable to be thrown out by frost. Nature is a good teacher; as soon as the old crop is ripe the seeds fall to the ground and commence growing again. North of latitude 42° it would be better if every grain of seed wheat were in the ground early in September. From 40° to 42°, wheat sowing should be finished by the first week in October.

METHOD OF SOWING WHEAT.

Every person raising twenty or thirty acres of wheat can well afford to purchase a seed-drill, unless he can join a neighbor in buying one. Some of the advantages of drilling-in wheat instead of sowing broadcast may be summed up as follows:

The seed is put into the ground at a uniform depth, the plants come up evenly, grow evenly, and ripen at the same time.

A much smaller quantity of seed is required, because no allowance need be made for portions left partially covered, or covered too deeply; nor for a large number of seeds falling together, as usually happens in broadcast sowing: nearly half a bushel of seed per acre may thus be saved, which, with the present high price of wheat, would pay the cost of a seed-sower the first year, upon a large farm, or where several small farmers unite in purchasing one.

Where the plants grow at uniform distances the light and air enter more freely, and a more vigorous growth is secured. Direct experiments have shown that where the heads of wheat stand well apart the kernels upon each head are plumper, and often more than double the number of those upon heads growing closely together.

With the plants at equal distances, the roots occupy the whole soil, and do not interfere with each other, and there is a greater certainty of using up all the fertilizer applied to the ground.

Next to drilling-in wheat we recommend plowing it in with shallow furrows. In this method the grain is covered more uniformly with the plow than it would be with a harrow; the plants come up in rows and admit light and air; and as they stand between the small ridges, the soil from these will crumble down with frost, and falling around the roots, will be partially equivalent to hoeing. Of course the ground should not be touched with harrow, roller or brush after the wheat is plowed in.

MANURES FOR WHEAT.

These must be varied to meet the condition of the soil. Where the ground is cold and wet, and consequently contains undecayed vegetable matter, alkalis, such as newly-slacked lime or unleached ashes, are highly valuable. In soils not abounding already in sulphate of iron or sulphuric acid in some form, plaster of paris is an excellent fertilizer, as it—so to speak—catches ammonia from the air and from rain water, and thus supplies wheat with one of its best stimulants. Barn-yard manures of all kinds are always good. We recommend less rotting or composting than is usually practiced; let the manure, even to long straw, be kept from fermenting, and get it *under* the surface soil, where it will without fail decay gradually and furnish just the nourishment needed. If this is done there will not be a waste of the greater part of the best elements which are usually lost in the rotting process. Clover plowed under when at its full growth, and while still green, is one of the very best fertilizers for wheat. When clover, or manure, or sod is once plowed under, whether before or after the harvest season, it should never be turned up again. Let the surface be thoroughly pulverized with a heavy, sharp harrow, or with a cultivator, but never use the plow a second time, at least not deeply enough to throw up to the surface the organic or vegetable substances buried at the first plowing.

Of all "*foreign manures*" yet tried upon wheat, there has none been found so *generally* beneficial as genuine Peruvian guano.

Wheat seems to delight especially in am-moia, and guano furnishes this in abundance at the cheapest rate. Much value has been claimed for super-phosphate of lime and other manufactured articles, but the benefit derived from these often lies *more* in the advertisement of the interested manufacturers, than in any observed valuable results. Comparatively good results have, indeed, been observed, but it is worthy of remark that these have always followed where guano, or some good substitute for it, has been added to the super-phosphate. The safer, cheaper plan for the purchaser is, to go to the fountain head and get the pure, undiluted guano itself.

MECHANICAL TREATMENT OF SOILS FOR WHEAT.

First of all, after making it dry, let it be stirred deeply; we do not say plowed deeply in the common acceptance of that word, for it is not always advisable to turn up to the surface a great depth of the sub-soil. This may be poisonous, or otherwise unfit for direct contact with the young plant. But it should at least be stirred below with a sub-soil plow to let in the air and allow water to drain off. If this is done the roots will strike down to a greater depth; they will derive more nourishment, as well as sap with which to appropriate the food collected from the air by the leaves; the frost will be less likely to heave them out; and the roots thus allowed by the deep cultivation to penetrate deep downwards, will be below the temporary effect of the sun in long drouths or hot weather.

Where under draining is not already done, wheat soil should in all cases be plowed in narrow lands, and the dead furrows between be left deep and well cleaned out, so that no water shall stand in the soil during freezing weather. A single illustration will show the importance of this. Dry or partly dry solid substances like soil, are but comparatively little expanded and contracted by heat and cold, while water expands and contracts about one-eighth of its whole bulk by a change of nine degrees of temperature, (40° to 31°.) Eight measures of water will produce nine measures of ice, and a soil saturated with water will swell and contract in freezing and thawing just as much as the same bulk of water itself. Now a wet soil by these alternate expansions and contractions, breaks and tears the roots of wheat, and if it is not Winter killed outright, it will be so much injured as to have a sickly, late growth in the Spring—a result not found where the soil is free from water during Winter. All Winter crops are in a similar condition. Hence, we repeat, let the best provision possible be made to keep the ground free from water during freezing weather.

KILLING STUMPS.—Mr. Howard of Islip, inquires if there is not some acid or other compound that could be used on stumps of trees, to prevent their sprouting so vigorously as they often do.

Either of the stronger acids, and especially nitric acid, if applied in sufficient quantities, would effect this, but the cost would be ten times as great as the frequent use of an ax for a dozen years. If no leaves or shoots

are permitted to grow for two or three years in succession the roots will die a "natural death." It is allowing a few shoots to remain every year that keeps alive some portion of the roots. No plant will long survive the entire deprivation of leaves, which are its lungs as well as feeders.

HYDROPHOBIA.

There are a number of recipes going the rounds of the newspapers, for the treatment of persons and animals bitten by mad dogs. One premises the existence of little vesicles or water blisters under the tongue, which are to be opened on a certain day, for the escape of the poison from the system. It can hardly be necessary to say, that all this is absurd as it appears to be; that this is an old story again in circulation, and that these vesicles have been looked for repeatedly but never found.

Another receipt for the cure of canine madness, recommends some mixture of calcined oyster shells, to be taken into the stomach at stated intervals; a medicine, of which the most that can be said is, that it would do no harm.

But all these receipts are productive of mischief, as any confidence that may be reposed in them leads to delay. When a person is bitten by a dog supposed to be mad, the proper course to be pursued is, not to kill the dog, but to confine him where he can do no further mischief. The latent period of the disease in the dog is only eight or nine days, so that, if this time elapse without any signs of madness, the person need feel no alarm. The longest period urged for keeping the dog in confinement is thirty days.

It is commonly supposed that if a dog bite a person during the time between having been bitten and running mad, on killing the dog all danger to the person is avoided; but there is no ground for this belief, and the practice prevents *knowing* whether the person is really in danger.

Experience has shown that of those bitten, but a small portion are affected with the disease. Hunter states an instance, in which twenty persons were bitten by one rabid animal, and only one had hydrophobia. Hence has arisen the multiplicity of "*sure cures*" that are going the rounds of the newspapers—receipts that are worthless; for we have yet to receive evidence of the first case, in which human intervention has delayed the progress of hydrophobia, when the disease had been once developed. There is a case reported by a Liverpool surgeon, under the name of *hydrophobic mania*, which ended in restoration to health; but the bite of a cat, to which it was attributed, occurred *ten or eleven years previously!*

The only treatment worthy of confidence is, preventive. It consists in removing, as far as may be, the poison from the wound, and then searing its surface. To this end, it should be immediately and repeatedly washed with water. If a limb has been bitten, a handkerchief should be tied around it between the wound and the body, and tight-

ened with a stick, so as to prevent circulation.

If the dog is known to be mad, the bitten flesh should be unhesitatingly removed with the knife, and the surface of the fresh wound afterwards destroyed with a hot iron. These are the only means worthy of confidence, and an energetic and timely use of them has been proved to be certain in preventing this horrible disease.

The scar is said to become swollen and tender just before madness takes place; and it is now a practice very well settled to cut it out at any time before disease occurs, if there should be just cause of apprehension.

If the wound for any reason can not be treated in so summary a manner, we must resort to continued washings, to suction with a cupping glass, or junk bottle from which hot water has been emptied, or with a tobacco-pipe, and the after application of caustic or hot iron. It is not safe to cleanse such a wound with the mouth, as cases are on record where the disease has been taken in this way. Finally, a poultice of flax-seed or bread and milk should be applied. The whole of this treatment is equally as applicable to animals as men.

We have been thus explicit, as life often depends on prompt action to prevent absorption of the poisonous saliva, and there is no time to consult books or run for a doctor.

For the American Agriculturist,

RUNET FOR SCOURS.

I learn from your paper of the 26th July, that you wish something more explicit relative to runnet for the scours in cattle and sheep; and I will give you all that I know on the subject. In the fall of 1837, I discovered that several of my lambs had the scours. They were from six to seven months old. I had about 150, and the disease prevailed among them till some 30 of them died. I tried several kinds of medicine, without deriving much benefit, until a friend advised me to give them runnet, saying that he had had a two year old steer that came near dying, and after giving him those things that he considered the most powerful astringents for some two or three weeks, a friend had recommended runnet, and he had given him a pint once in 12 hours; two or three doses effecting a final cure. My wife being a cheese-maker had it on hand. I took it in the same state she used it for cheese, and gave four table-spoonfuls to each lamb, and my flock was restored to health in a few days. Not one more died. The second dose was given to but very few, and I have used no other medicine for scours in my cattle or sheep from that day to this. I give six table-spoonfuls to an old sheep, and have never known it to fail. I wait 24 hours before I give the second dose to a sheep; but the first dose generally cures. On some, however, when dying with old age, and in the last stage of their illness, the runnet has had no effect. As to the strength of the article, I am not able to give you any further information than that it is what the cheese-maker calls good runnet to set a curd for cheese. I keep it by me the year round,

though I seldom need it except fall and spring, when my sheep are eating frozen grass.

BURDETT, Schuyler Co., N. Y. REED BURRITT.

For the American Agriculturist.

PRESERVING TOMATOES.

In your last number, you ask for a receipt for "an effectual, economical method of preserving ripe tomatoes for winter use."

The most *effectual* method is to *cook* them thoroughly, and put in air-tight cans. When wanted for the table, heat them and season to the taste.

A more *economical* method is, after cooking, put them in glass bottles; set the bottles in water, and allow it to heat gradually, in order to expel the air; cook and seal them and keep in a cool place.

The following is an excellent method of preparing them, to be eaten as a salad: Place in a deep stone jar a layer of ripe tomatoes; sprinkle over them a little salt and ground mustard, then a layer of sliced onions. Continue this till the jar is full; then pour over them strong cold vinegar sufficient to cover them.

I would recommend the receipt "for pickling green tomatoes;" published in a number of your paper, nearly a year since, as being *super-excellent* as a pickle.

I can recommend each of these modes of preserving tomatoes, having proved them myself, or seen them practised by others.

P.

TO PRESERVE SWEET CORN.—Allow the kernel to assume its rich, saccharine, pulpy state; do not pluck too soon—then the kernel is watery; defer not too long—it will be too hard and dry. When plucked at the right point of growth, boil on the ear till fit for the table; remove from the cob with a table-knife, and spread out thin on a sheet, in a good sunny exposure; a scaffold of clean bright boards is desirable; stir frequently for one or two days; keep from the dew and rain, and when well-dried hang up in bags in a dry place. It will be almost as good as when served up in the regular season, if care is observed in dressing. It should stand in water over night, and be boiled gently until soft and plump, and served up according to taste. It is a palatable article, exceedingly nutritious, and serves to enrich the table during those months in which the good housewife is put to her wits' end to know what vegetable beyond the potato, shall adorn her table.

SALT FOR THE GOOSEBERRY CATERPILLAR.—Observing in your last that soot has been used against this destroyer alone, and mixed with lime and with ashes, I was surprised not to find it also used with salt, which has been found one of the best mixtures with soot; but salt alone, or with lime, or with gas liquor, or soda ash alone, which will not smut the fruit, are all effective soil vermin killers. Gooseberry bushes, with their depth of root, would probably bear 10 cwt. of salt per acre, spread over the ground of the fly, and watered with diluted gas liquor (1 to 5 or 6 water) enough to carry it gradually down 2 inches. This done now and again, when the first flies begin to appear, would probably so pickle the cocoon as to kill the fly, if not the larva, the leafy fertilizing quality of the am-

moniacal liquor counteracting the hindering reaction of the salt on vegetation, while both coöperating in the destruction of vermin, might supersede the necessity of digging away and burning the soil.—J. PRI-DEAUX, in *Agricultural Gazette*.

ADVICES from Malaga announce the re-appearance of the Vine Mildew. In 1853 it attacked the Muscatels or Raisin Grapes to such an extent, that in the case of one of the great growers there, only 14,000 boxes could be sent to the English market instead of 20,000, the usual quantity from his vineyards. In 1854 it left the Muscatels, or nearly so, and attacked the wine grapes. We now learn that it has once more seized the Muscatels as well as others. What is very curious, the bunches of grapes which touch the earth are free, those alone being attacked which appear on the higher branches. Of course, therefore, the trellised vines have suffered most. Another remarkable fact is announced, namely, that the mildew now attacks the grapes, leaving the foliage sound and healthy, whereas it formerly attacked the leaves first, and the grapes at a later period.

CROPS IN IRELAND.—The appearance of the crops in Ireland is most gratifying; the Potatoes are luxuriant, and hitherto there has not perhaps been half a dozen well authenticated instances of disease; there is, however, a report, not that I know resting on any good authority, that without any sign of disease in the leaf or stem the tuber has been found seriously affected. A very large quantity is planted this year, and as the disease ever makes its first and partial appearances, which it has not yet done, at the least a month before it becomes generally destructive, we may reckon on the crop approaching, pretty near maturity before the pest shall sweep over the whole land; it happened in 1847 (I think) that the crop was so far matured before it was struck by disease that the consequent withering was supposed by the sanguine to be the natural effects of its age, and they fondly hoped that the disease had disappeared, forgetting that it was unobserved in 1845 till after the Potatoes were dug, when they rotted away rapidly in the house and the pit. And this year, from foregone experience, ought to be one of late attack; every alternate year has been so from the first notice of it. We may therefore reckon on an abundance of this valuable esculent. And as the Oat crop promises largely, Ireland may be expected to contribute a good share to the general food fund. Turnips also promise well, though the early sowings suffered much from the fly. The meadows, which are always late with us, have so benefitted by the early summer rain that I think they will be on the heavy side.—J. M. G., in *Agricultural Gazette*.

FOOT ROT IN SHEEP.—To every 100 sheep, give half a pound of sulphur, mixed in their salt, twice a week. Get Blue Vitriol and dissolve as strong as possible, in hot cider, or vinegar. Pare the foot until the diseased part is all pared away, even if it takes the entire foot, and dip the feet of the whole flock, sound ones and all, in this liquid, twice a week, until the trouble is removed. In about three weeks after you commence doctoring your sheep, select from the flock such as you trust are well, and put them into a clean pasture by themselves, and continue dipping their feet the same as the diseased ones. Foot rot is very contagious, and sound sheep will get it by going into a pasture where diseased sheep have been, months after they have been removed. It is caused by wet pastures.—*Ohio Farmer*.

THE BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable FARMER'S LIBRARY, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for \$10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), \$1 50 per volume; unbound, \$1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for \$14 50.

American Agriculturist.

New-York, Thursday, Sept. 6.

See last page for terms to new and renewing subscribers to the *Agriculturist* alone, or to the *Agriculturist* and *Times* combined.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The space required for our comprehensive Index compels us to leave over several letters, and answers to queries, which are already in type. In our next number, for October 1st, the increase of pages and omission of miscellaneous matter will give us ample room to do justice to all.

REST ASSURED that the *Agriculturist*, at half the old price, will be hereafter quite as valuable as formerly. With a month to get out each number, we shall be able to make it more choice and more practical. Will not every farmer and every farmer's wife get during the year *many* hints that will each be worth in money more than one dollar.

MARK HOW COMPREHENSIVE!—We read carefully nearly every agricultural paper in the English language, and some besides; and winnow from them all the kernels of pure *good* grain which are worth putting into our *bin*—viz: the pages of the enlarged *Agriculturist*.

OUR FARM IS a very large and varied one. Instead of confining our observations to a few acres, cultivated according to our own peculiar notions, we travel over hundreds of other's farms embracing every variety of soil and practice, and thence glean information to set before our readers.

OUR AGENTS are such of our readers as may be disposed to speak well of the *Agriculturist* to their friends and neighbors—a host of them we trust—not for the pay of a few paltry pence, but to advance a good cause and to benefit those who may by their instrumentality, be led to read, study, reason, and be profited thereby.

NEXT WEEK you will get the *Times* on the usual day for the *Agriculturist*. The agricultural department is under the care of Mr. Judd, and contains a large amount of agricultural intelligence, practical articles &c., and in addition a most complete and comprehensive department of news, &c.

A BEAUTIFUL BOOK.—Beginning with the next number we shall use a superior paper, and set the whole matter in leaded type, so that it will form a most beautiful volume, superior to a majority of magazines. The size of the pages will be the same as now, so as not to break the harmony of the series of volumes.

OUR FANCY.—We use plain, square type for our title-page, and the rest of the paper, and

put no border to the pages, because *we* think this general style is the neatest, and that it is every way conformable to the best taste.

PROMPTLY renew, and send in new names if you would be sure of the first number, so as to have the next volume complete. We shall print a lot of extra copies, but they may be immediately exhausted by the large increase of subscribers, which our reduction of terms will undoubtedly bring in. We shall begin printing one part of each monthly number by the 20th of the preceding month, and wish to know by that time how many will be wanted.

GREAT TRIUMPH OF AMERICAN SKILL.

EUROPEANS BEATEN ON THEIR OWN GROUND AND HANDSOMELY ACKNOWLEDGING THE AMERICANS AS VICTORS.

The great and final trial of Agricultural Implements gathered at the WORLD'S EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY, now in progress in Paris, came off on August 13th, at La Trappes, thirty miles from Paris, upon the farm of Mr. Dailly, Postmaster-General of France. Previous partial trials had awakened such a general interest in the occasion, that Prince Napoleon, and many of the highest officers of State, went out from Paris; while about twenty distinguished Americans, including ex-President Fillmore, Senator Tombs of Georgia, Mr. Corcoran the Washington Banker, and others equally eminent, were on the ground to cheer on their countrymen, and to rejoice with them in the final result. Various implements were tested, but the great interest of the day was centered in the Threshers and Reapers, especially in the latter.

In the trial of Treshers, which lasted only 30 minutes, six men were set to work with flails, and at the same time the best French, English, and Belgian machines, and Pitt's American Thrasher, with the following result:

Six men with flails.....	60 liters of wheat
Pinet's Belgian Thrasher	150 liters "
Dunoir's French Thrasher.....	250 liters "
Clayton's English Thrasher.....	410 liters "
PITT'S AMERICAN THRASHER.....	740 liters "

This is in nearly the ratio of 1—2½—4—7 12½, making the American machine to do the work of 74 men; or of 5 Belgian machines; or of more than 3 French machines, and nearly double that of the best English machines. The *Moniteur*, the leading Journal of France, says, "the American Thrasher gained the honors of the day." * * * "It literally devoured the sheaves of wheat." * * * "It is frightful to look at," &c.

Seven Reapers—three American, two English, and two French—were entered. Previous trials had scared all others from coming upon the ground.

About an acre was allotted to each machine, and they all started at the tap of the drum. The poorest American machine finished the plot in a little more than half the time required by the best of the European machines. The time occupied was

By McCormick's (operated by McKenzie).....	10½ minutes.
By Manny's (from Illinois).....	16 minutes.
By Hussey's (Wright's improvement).....	18 minutes.

The European machines came out in from

30 to 90 minutes. No incident could have been more pleasing to Americans than to have seen ex-President Fillmore mounted upon a shock of wheat, the most interested and excited spectator upon the field. It argues well for the future of Agriculture, when our politicians of the highest class enter with so much spirit into occasions like this. We hope to see many such manifestations of interest in farm improvements, during our great annual exhibitions now about to open at home.

The trial of mowers resulted in a similar triumph of American skill. The French machines will henceforth be superseded, and their patents worthless.

In Pianos, the American instruments are also foremost. This circumstance puzzles the French most of all. They were somewhat prepared for being excelled in the heavy agricultural implements, but how the Americans—half-civilized as they esteem us—should successfully compete with more than *three hundred* fine French pianos, is beyond their comprehension. In their simplicity, they had supposed that they had furnished most of the pianos to this country, and indeed, all of the good instruments of this kind. Some of our country men, and women, too, who have attached so much value to foreign manufactures, will have their obtuse vision sharpened. These results will do more than a thousand tariffs to develop and foster American manufactures.

BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

CORRECTION.—A typographical error in the advertisement of this Society last week, entirely changed the meaning of the last paragraph but two. It should read: Articles for competition in one class will be *ineligible* to compete in any other, and not *eligible* as printed.

IMPORTATION OF CATTLE.—Some forty head, mostly Short Horns, arrived from England at Philadelphia, the past week. They were principally for Mr. Alexander, of Kentucky, and Messrs. Bear, Morris, Spencer, and Brooks, of New York. Several of them were purchased at high prices, at the late sale of Mr. Tanqueray, of Hendon, England. They are very fine animals as a lot. A few Alderneys and Ayrshires came over at the same time.

In giving the beautiful cut of the Short Horn cow, Nymph 2nd, in our last number, we omitted to state that she is the property of Messrs. B. & C. S. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

ASTRAY.—"Cutting Grain," in No. 99 is wrongly credited to Farmer & Visitor—just as we found it—instead of to the German-town Telegraph, where it first appeared, and where many other good articles originate.

SALE OF DEVON CATTLE.—We desire to call attention to the sale advertised by Mr. Gould at page 408 of this paper.

THE IROQUOIS, OR SIX NATIONS.

For some weeks past we have had upon our table a very entertaining volume, with the above title, written by our frequent contributor, "Minnie Myrtle," and published in beautiful form by Messrs. Appleton, of this city. We have, from time to time, taken up this book for perusal, till we have read it through, and we can assure every one who peruses it, that they will find it both instructive and entertaining. The subject is a defense of the character, and the humanity of the Indian tribes generally, especially of the Six Nations included under the general name of Iroquois. Minnie Myrtle has spent some time among the remnant of these tribes, studying their present and past manners, customs and history, and she shows them to be worthier of a better name than mere savages. The style and the incidents of the book are interesting, and we hope it will have a place in every well read public and private library. We give a few extracts as examples of the author's defense of the much abused aborigines:

* * * Almost any portrait which we have of Indians, represents them with tomahawk and scalping knife in hand, as if they possessed no other but a barbarous nature. Christian nations might with equal justice be always represented with cannon and balls and swords and pistols, as the emblems of their employments and their prevailing tastes. * * * There is no danger of painting Indians, so that they will become attractive to civilized people; and there is no need of painting them more hideously than they paint themselves.

There is a bright and pleasing side to Indian character; and thinking that there has been enough written of their wars and their cruelties, of the hunter's and the fisherman's life, I have sat down by their firesides, and listened to their legends, and tried to become acquainted with their domestic habits, and to understand their finer feelings, and the truly noble traits of their character.

It is so long now since they were the lords of our soil, and formidable as our enemies—they are so utterly wasted away and helpless that we can afford to listen to the truth, and to believe that even our enemies had virtues. Man was created in the image of God, and it can not be that any thing human is utterly vile and contemptible.

* * * The terrible tortures they inflicted upon their enemies have made their name a terror, and yet there were not so many burnt and hung and starved by them as perish among Christian nations by these means. * * * But I am inclined to think that Indians are not alone in being savage—not alone barbarous, and heartless, and merciless.

* * * It is not just to compare the Indian of the fifteenth with the Christian of the fifteenth century. Compare him with the barbarian of Britain, of Russia, of Lapland, Kamtschatka and Tartary, and represent him as truly as these nations have been represented, and he will not suffer by the comparison. * * * There is nothing in the character of Alexander of Macedon—who "conquered the world, and wept that he had no more to conquer"—to compare with the noble qualities of King Philip, of Mount Hope; and among his warriors is a long list of brave men unrivaled in deeds of heroism, by any in ancient or modern story. But in what country, and by whom were they hunted and tortured and slain? Who was it that met together to rejoice and give

thanks at every species of cruelty inflicted upon those who were fighting for their wives and their children, their altars and their God? When it was recorded that "men, women, and children, indiscriminately, were hewn down and lay in heaps upon the snow," it is spoken of as doing God's service, because they were nominally heathen. "Before the fight was finished, the wigwams were set on fire, and into these, hundreds of innocent woman and children had crowded themselves and perished in the general conflagration," and for this, thanksgivings are sent up to heaven. The head of Philip is strung bleeding upon a pole, and exposed in the public streets; but it is not done by savage warriors, and the crowd that huzzas at the revolting spectacle assembled on the Sabbath in a Puritan church, to listen to the gospel that proclaims peace and love to all men. His body is literally cut in slices to be distributed among the conquerors, and a Christian city rings with acclamation.

Speaking of the invasion of the Genesee Country, in 1777, by the army under General Sullivan, our author says:

The villages of Wyoming and Cherry Valley were devastated and destroyed by British and Indians, and the shocking story is repeated and dwelt upon as unparalleled in atrocity. The Indian is called a barbarian and bloodthirsty assassin—the personification of cruelty and revenge. But when it is recorded of the American army that "they were sent in every direction to overrun and lay waste Indian settlements, cut down their orchards, destroy their provisions and crops, kill their cattle and horses, and apply the besom of destruction to every thing that could give shelter or sustenance to man or beast;" and it is added, that "they meted out the full measure of destruction and desolation upon every settlement that came in their way, and actually destroyed forty Indian villages, one hundred and sixty thousand bushels of corn, vast quantities of beans and other vegetables, a great number of horses, and all farming utensils, and indeed every thing that was the result of labor or the produce of cultivation; all this being the unmolested and unremitting employment of five thousand men for three weeks;" and to close their labors of destruction, applied the torch to the ancient metropolis of the Seneca Nation, which contained one hundred and twenty-eight houses—many being killed and many taken prisoners, and all obliged to flee—men, women, and children—through the wilderness, strewing the way with the dead and dying—it is called "gallant," a "brilliant achievement," a "glorious exploit!"

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS IN THE CRIMEA.

The following extract from McCormick's "Visit to the Camp before Sevastopol," recently published by the Appleton's, will show some of the attendant circumstances of war.

The Commissariat ponies and drivers left the village (Balaklava) every morning with the provisions, for the several divisions. Large baskets, or panniers, were fastened on the backs of the ponies, and in these the biscuit and beef was carelessly thrown. It was frequently the case that in the transmission from cask to basket, the beef fell into the mud. "Is that your beef?" said a chap to his companion, who had just rescued a huge chunk of "Ohio fed" that had buried itself in the beach mud, and thrown it into one of the baskets. "No," was the sharp reply, "but it's somebody's beef!"

The drivers each had some six or eight ponies to look after, and in the tangled mass of stores and human beings, it was very difficult for them to get their loads and effect

a clearance. The ration rum was transported to the camp in small casks, one tied on each side of the mule or horse conveying it.

Nothing could exaggerate the miserable lot of the Commissariat ponies. It was generally late in the afternoon, and sometimes very late at night, when they returned from their toilsome camp journey. Then, instead of the comfort of a shed to shelter them from the bitter weather, they were promiscuously huddled into an open field back of the village, there to live on a meager supply of cut straw or coarse hay, without even the benefit of curry-comb, blanket, or bedding. During the icy weather, the smooth flat shoes worn in nearly every instance, exposed the jaded animals to the most painful casualties. Shiploads of fresh horses were constantly arriving from Varna. Many died on the way, and the whole camp bore revolting testimony to their rapid demise under the privations of the service. Many fell down with exhaustion before they had proceeded even one mile on their way to the camp. The packsaddles were instantly removed, and the poor creatures abandoned to die by inches, though now and then a humane man would relieve their tedious agony, by the skillful application of his revolver.

Every road was lined with decaying carcasses. I have passed by a hundred in a single day.

The steamer Trent brought some three hundred first-class mules from Alicant, in Spain. They were remarkably stout, fat and glossy; and as I saw them ranged along the muddy beach, when they were first landed, they looked spirited and gay. Two weeks of commissariat labor changed their appearance wonderfully. It seems almost incredible that animals should have lived at all under such treatment and scanty food, as they never failed to be subject to during the entire winter."

FEEDING, MOWING LANDS IN AUTUMN.

I am not disposed to regard the feeding of grass lands, in the fall, by the farm stock, as so decidedly injurious as many seem to suppose. Perhaps there are cases where the future crop has, to a certain extent, been diminished by the excessive feeding of the stubble in the fall; but that in nine cases out of ten, perhaps in nineteen out of twenty, the growth of the grass is increased by the consumption of the aftermath of the previous year, I have no manner of doubt. When the land is low, and saturated as low lands almost always are late in the fall, there is no question that the trampling of heavy cattle is a very decided injury, not only to the soil, which it renders rough and uneven, but to the roots of the grass, which are broken and destroyed. I think that so far as the value of fall feed is concerned—unless where a scarcity of winter or cured feed is threatened, our estimate is generally too high. When animals are allowed a free range in mowing meadows or fields, after the hay crop has been removed, and the aftermath allowed to get a good start, they are never much inclined to partake of drier and more retentive feed; it has a tendency to satiate the appetite, and to create disrelish for hay and sometimes even for meal and grain, without being a substitute for either.

I have known animals which were allowed to feed late in autumn, in well set luxuriant inclosure of aftermath, actually lose in weight, while the opposite result was clearly manifest in others which were kept up, and supplied only with hay. If we are so situated as to be sure of a competent supply of cured food during the winter, without incurring extravagant outlays of cash, it is perhaps better, on the whole, to restrict our stock—

with the exception of sheep and cows in milk, as much as possible to cured fodder.


But sheep and cows should be allowed to partake of green feed as long as it is to be obtained. They do better on it than on hay, even if they are supplied with grain. Sheep, however, are of all animals, perhaps, the most decidedly injurious to mowing lands, when allowed to feed late in the fall. The formation of their mouths, and particularly of their teeth, enables them to cut closer than other animals—often below the surface of the soil, thereby fatally injuring the roots by laying them bare and exposed to frost. But the cow can effect little damage in this way. She is not so rigid an economist, or perhaps, I should say, is far less greedy and voracious, and takes only what the plants can spare as well as not.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

NANKIN OR SHANGHAI SHEEP.

On the 13th of September last, or a little more than ten months ago, I bought four sheep of the Nankin breed—all ewes—from a ship that arrived from Canton. They had been on ship-board about 160 days. I sent them to my farm, Norwalk Island, Ct., for the purpose of trying sheep raising in a small way. It may be proper to state that I had no other sheep before these—bought none afterward—nobody gave me any—they were all I had. In the course of three weeks I lost five—(remember I had originally but four)—and had eleven left, and now I count as many as twenty-six.

Now this story may savor a little of Munchausen, and unless I explain, will hardly be credited for the truth. The increase of course is the question before us. The ewes each had three lambs, making them sixteen, old and young: but one of the ewes was hurt in transporting her to the Island, and she died in the act of parturition, with all her issue, and one other lamb died also, leaving eight lambs and three old ewes; these I wintered, and now, both old and young are coming in again, four having done so. From this second crop so far, one has two lambs, another has four; still another four; and one has five lambs; and when they all shall have had lambs, which will be in two or three weeks, I shall have as many as thirty-five or forty, all from three sheep, in ten or eleven months; and although it may seem incredible, in the short space of two years at that rate, I must have (supposing I parted with none,) at the least five hundred. Can Pennsylvania beat this? I should state another remarkable fact in relation to them, that has occurred since I saw you; *i. e.*, the old ewes have within two weeks gone to the buck again, and will have lambs again, say by next Christmas, or three times in fifteen months.—THEODORE SMITH, in *Progressive Farmer.*

TO TAKE OUT STAINS.—Coffee stains, mud splashes, &c., will mostly give way to the use of soap and water. Curd soap should be applied for this purpose. Obstinate stains, which will not yield to these treatments, must be submitted to the bleaching powers of the fumes of burning sulphur. This is conveniently applied by igniting some brimstone under a cone or funnel made of cardboard. The stains must be wet, and then held over the top of the chimney until they disappear.

 To get a suit of clothes cheap, good and honestly made, go to the unpretending shop of Charles Emmons, No. 11 Peck-slip. o says a well-dressed friend at our elbow.

TETHERING CATTLE.

Those who have visited the Island of Jersey for the purpose of procuring pure specimens of the very beautiful and valuable breed of dairy cattle peculiar to that island, must have observed with surprise, the very large number of cows, heifers and calves that the occupiers of farms containing from ten to a dozen acres of land only, contrive to keep on their very small holdings, much of it, also, lying in open field, with no fence, and boundary stones only marking their lines of separation; yet upon these strips of land they feed their cattle, without fear that they will trespass upon the crops adjoining, even to the extent of a fraction. This they do, by practising a rigid course of tethering their live-stock, of whatever age or kind, even to the sheep; which thus *shave* the crop with the closeness of the shears and the precision of an inch-rule; while without the aid of the tether, perhaps it would not be too much to calculate that they could not support one-half the stock they do. To be sure, their land is one of the happiest and their climate one of the most delicious that can be imagined—a dry soil in a moist climate, for it is said, it rains on the island three hundred days, or rather nights and days in the year; with three green-crops that may be said to be almost peculiar to the channel-islands—namely, the “Luzerne,” the “Jersey kale,” or gigantic kale, and the “Jersey parsnip;” yet all these, without the most rigid system of tethering, would not enable them to rear the very large number of young cattle which are being constantly sent abroad, east, west, north and south, at the age of a year and a half.

But the system of the tethering cattle is by no means confined to these islands, or to small farms; on very many of the best managed farms in England, and where the fields are large and the crops heavy, the system is found to be equally beneficial in every point of view, especially with regard to economy; the stock being thus prevented from roaming over the crop to be fed, destroying it with their tread and soiling it with their excrements. There, the farms are furnished with an iron plug and chain for each animal thus tethered, the range being in accordance with the state of the crop, which, if heavy, is doled out to the animal by a removal of the plug three feet in width, as he can thus cut off the crop without stepping upon it; horses being secured by a strap and buckle around the fetlock of the fore foot, and cows, by a strap and buckle around the root of the horns; these straps being made of leather, not hemp, or rope, as that will swell and shorten during wet weather, to the pain and grief of the animal. In many cases, the crop on a long field will be found to grow as fast as the animals can feed it off, for by the time they reach to the farther end, the growth at the entrance will have made such progress as to be sufficient to tether over again, the land having had the advantage of the dressing of their excrements, regularly spread; as also, that from the carbonic gas from the lungs of the animal, which I am satisfied from long experience and careful observation amounts to far more in the way of manure than many are aware of or ever dream of. I can easily understand how tethering cattle can be made most convenient and profitable in a late spring season, but how the system of soiling is then to be conducted, I never could satisfactorily learn.—J. TILLSON, in *Boston Cultivator.*

STARTLING INTELLIGENCE.—A German astronomer says that in twenty millions of years from now the earth will be destroyed by a comet.

Horticultural Department.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS.

Whatever may be experienced by different parties in various localities, I conclude that it will be granted by most men who are at all conversant with the subject that autumn is the safest and consequently the best time to transplant evergreens. When I say autumn, I mean the latter half of September and first half of October: so much as to time in general. Nevertheless, I would in every instance advise the operation to be modified by the exercise of a sound discretion on the part of the manager—be he gardener or not; and by his judgement of the character and quality of the soil, the state of the weather at the time, the size and condition of the plants, &c., &c., all which must be regulated by the good sense of the planter, and on the right exercise of this, success or failure will follow. Without any high pretensions, I may state that I have had some experience in planting, the result of which is, that in this, as in most other things, there are exceptions to general rules; but, on the whole, my endeavor in transplanting an evergreen would be as to time to do it early enough to let the roots get a living hold of the soil before the vital action of the plant is arrested by the approaching cold of winter. It sometimes happens that evergreens planted in spring do well. If plants and ground are in relative right condition, and the atmosphere clouded, the roots act at once, and they are safe; this is an exception: but if keen dry winds and clear sky are then prevalent, adieu to the evergreens. Many years ago somebody (I have forgotten who) wrote something plausible about the safety of transplanting deciduous trees in summer when full of leaf; to test the matter, I transplanted some Black Italian Poplars (I think six in number) in free growth, and in an open sandy meadow near the side of a river. The trees were carefully lifted, saving all their roots, which were carefully and naturally laid out in wide and not deep holes, and saturated with water (which, however, the soil would not retain) most plentifully. The result was that every one died. Could anything else have been expected? So much for listening to idle day-dreamers. I ought to have stated that the Poplars were from 15 to 20 feet in height.—*QUERCUS*, in *Gardeners' Chronicle.*

DIOSCOREA BATATAS.

I began to feel convinced that what has been said in favor of this esculent as a profitable acquisition to British industry is far from being true, and that the public has been led to spend money upon an article of no practical value. Nor does there appear to be any beauty in the foliage or habit of the plant to attract attention beyond that of a Scarlet Runner. Mr. Henderson's pamphlet contains much encouragement, but theoretical plausibility does now what it ever has done—fails to satisfy a practical public. I always feel it disagreeable to impugn or throw discredit over what appears to be respectable evidence, but in this case there is no other alternative, and now let us appeal to facts. Like others I was supplied with tubers, which were placed in small pots about the beginning of April, and submitted to a temperature of 60° till the shoots had grown 5 to 6 inches in length. The plants were then removed to a cooler situation, and ultimately to a cold frame, where they remained till they were planted in the open air, which was towards the middle of June. The situation chosen for them was a south border, well drained, and at the time of

planting the heat of the border at 1 foot deep was 64°. The surface was formed into ridges from 5 to 7 inches high, and upon the top of these the shoots were closely pegged down. For three weeks the plants were covered every night with large bell-glasses, and as a precaution against cutting winds throughout the day Laurel branches were placed in rows between the ridges. With all this care and close attention to other matters, the shoots do not increase in length; they wither at the points, die off, and are succeeded from below the soil by fresh growths, which share the fate of their predecessors. The above is the result of my experience, and I know that others who have tried the plant have fared no better.

A. CRAMB.

[It is too soon to say what it is worth, the tubers not being formed till August and September.]—*Gardeners Chronicle.*

Scrap-Book.

"A little humor now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

An ex-commission merchant, confessing his rascality, says he once sent the following "returns" for a crop of corn consigned him:

"Mr. Brown—Sir: I have according to your instruction, made a forced sale of your corn, and received for it.....\$475 00
Against which I have commission—
For Boatage.....\$125 00
Cartage..... 12 00
Wheelage..... 12 50
Storage..... 90 00
Ratage..... 30 00
Saleage..... 45 00
.....\$314 50

Leaving, as you perceive, a balance in your favor of.....\$160 50
You can draw upon me for that sum. Trusting that you will honor me with still further consignments,

I remain, sir, yours sincerely,

SAM SWINTON."

By the next mail Mr. Brown sent back the account, with these words at the bottom:

"You infernal villain! put in *stealage*, and keep the whole of it!"—*Boston Post.*

DRY LEAVES FROM THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE.—Money has been called "the sinews of war," and for this reason: without money, how is it possible for an army to make an advance? It is with health as with our property—we rarely trouble ourselves in looking seriously after it until there is very little of it left to look after. Few men are "driven to desperation," without having a hand themselves in the driving. In female phraseology, it is almost invariably a man who is "a great big stupid," and a woman who is "a great big silly." Uneasy is the head that wears a wig in a gale of wind! Poverty must be a woman—it is so fond of pinching a person.

APPEARANCES ARE DECEPTIVE.—"Not very long ago," says an English paper, "an express train drew up at a railway station at no great distance from the borders of Scotland, and a gentleman "bearded like the pard," accompanied by a noble looking lady, left a first class carriage and entered the refreshment room. Just at that moment, a native, who had been paying his devotions with too great fervor at the shrine of the jolly god, was industriously emancipating an effervescent draught from a flask he held in his hand, and either thoughtlessly or recklessly directed the cork towards the face of the dis-

tinguished looking traveler, who jerked aside to avoid the missile. "Oh! there's a fellow to stand fire," exclaimed the spirituous hero. "You wouldn't do for the Crimea." It was the gallant leader, Lord Cardigan, the glorious "six hundred" who charged at Bala-klava, to whom the taunt was addressed.

A celebrated English judge, on being asked what contributed most to success at the bar, replied, "Some succeeded by great talent, some by high connexions, some by a miracle, but the majority by commencing without a shilling."

LIVE STOCK OF OHIO.—A correspondent of the *Louisville Courier*, who has been traversing Ohio, gives a very interesting account of the progress made in that State in the improvement of live stock, especially the breeds of cattle. Some parts of the State, such as the counties of Pickaway, Madison, Highland, Licking, &c., have long been celebrated in this respect, but it is within a comparatively few years only that all sections have gone to work industriously and energetically to improve the breeds of their cattle and establish herds of commanding reputation. The writer attributes this result in a great measure, if not chiefly, to legislation favoring the establishment of agricultural societies in all the counties. Men of landed estates and pecuniary resources are at the present time embarking energetically in the business of cattle raising, and farmers generally throughout the State are catching the infection from them.

Markets.

REMARKS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, September 5.

A rapid stride has been made during the past week, towards the fall in flour which we have predicted for some weeks past, and which we have warned our readers to be prepared for. Flour is to-day fully \$1 per bbl. lower than one week ago. Some few brands, such as the "Fancy Genesee," "Fancy and common to good Ohio," have declined 75 to 87½c.; while "Favorite and Extra State" and "Extra Genesee," have gone down \$1 25 to \$1 75 per bbl. Wheat has, of course, declined correspondingly. Continued reports come in from various parts of the country of the great yield, not only of wheat, but of almost all other crops. A letter from Sycamore Mills, Tennessee, says that wheat is so abundant that it is selling for 50c. per bushel, and corn, recently worth \$1, will soon sell for 20 cents; and yet farmers are making more money than at the higher price, as every thing grows so luxuriantly.

Corn is every where flourishing, though we hear of too cold weather, and in some instances of frosts, thus early, in the northern towns of New-England. We may yet have frosts early enough in the northern States and Canadas to materially injure the Corn crop.

Potatoes also promise to be an extraordinary crop, but we begin to hear occasional reports of the rot. The worst reports are from Long Island and eastern Massachusetts. Yesterday we learned that two farmers on Long Island, near Coney Island, had lost about 4,000 bushels by the rot. Such reports are, however, quite limited as yet.

But notwithstanding the recent very favorable reports of excellent crops in Europe, as well as generally in this country, it is not worth while to get frightened at the prospect of extraordinarily low prices. Our recent articles upon this subject, both in the *American Agriculturist* and in the *Times*, have been extensively copied throughout the country; wheat growers are taking the hint and sending their grain to market; so that the danger of all the crop being withheld till spring, is not so imminent as it was two or three weeks since. The crop will come to market more uniformly, and better prices will be maintained throughout the year than we had reason to fear at one time. Speculators have now disposed of their old stocks of flour, and they are ready to operate for a fall. It will now suit their purpose to spread the most glowing accounts of abundant crops. We may add, however, that the chief cause of the fall in flour has not arisen so much from the increased amount sent to market, as from the cessation in the foreign demand, which has heretofore exhausted all the surplus flour in our seaboard cities.

Corn has fallen 4 to 5 cents per bushel.

Oats are 8 to 10 cents cheaper.

Sugar, quite an advance.

Cotton is unchanged in price.

The Weather begins to feel autumn-like, but is generally quite pleasant. We had considerable rain on Monday, and a little on Sunday; otherwise the week past has been clear, and even delightful.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Reported Expressly for the American Agriculturist.

WEDNESDAY Sept. 5, 1855.

N. B.—The rates in these reports refer to the estimated weight of the beef in the quarters.

The decline in the price of beeves continues. It is more difficult to-day to reach the fractions above ten cents than last week. Butchers claim the reduction of another half cent, which owners are unwilling to submit to, and sales are dull. One hundred head were left over from last week.

The best cattle this week are grade Durhams, from Kentucky—shipped at Cincinnati—lay by to rest one day at Erie, 2 days at Buffalo, and one day at Albany. Home weight averaged 1,669; will dress by estimation 850 lbs., selling at about 10½ cents. The majority of sales were under 9c., and inferior cattle sold for less than 8c.

At Allerton's there has been during the week.....2,482
There is to-day.....2,582
Of these 355 were in the New-York Yards.

There came by the

Harlem Railroad—Beeves.....	105
Cows and Calves.....	18
Veals.....	223
Sheep and Lambs.....	1454
Swine.....	9
Hudson River R'd.—Beeves.....	396
Erie Railroad.....	1500
Sheep and Lambs.....	127
Swine.....	116

There were from

New-York.....	327	Ohio.....	820
Illinois.....	441	Indiana.....	—
Penna.....	61	Kentucky.....	417

At Brownings the receipts were, of

Beeves.....	790.....	at 7@10½
Cows and Calves.....	118.....	\$30@40
Veals.....	152.....	at 4½@6c

At O'Briens—

Beeves.....	426.....	at 7@9
Veals.....	112.....	same prices as above.
Cows and Calves.....	94.....	\$25@50

The supply of Sheep and Lambs is:

At Allerton's.....	1581
At Browning's.....	8583
At Chamberlain's.....	8764

Total.....19 930

At Allerton's, sheep are better to-day than previously. No Store sheep. Good sheep sell from \$4 to \$5. Extra, \$6 to even \$9. Lambs from \$3 to \$5.

Browning reports large increase in the receipts. Average run fair. Not as many poor ones as last week. The market was good latter part of the week. Monday and Tuesday 4,416 head arrived, which overstocked the market and prices declined nearly or quite 50 cts. per head. About 1,000 are in the pens to-day.

McCarty's sales were 2,552, for \$8,727—average, \$3 41. Haines & Baldwin... 1,059, for \$3,388—average, \$3 20. Swine.—Stock hogs are selling from 5 to 7c. Fat hogs, 6½ to 7c. Pork, 8½@9½c. Mr. Chamberlin reports—

PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported Exclusively for the American Agriculturist.

TUESDAY, Sept. 6, 1855.

The prices given in our reports from week to week, are the average wholesale prices obtained by producers, and not those at which produce is sold from the market. The variations in prices refer chiefly to the quality of the articles.

The price of the different qualities of Potatoes still keeps up to about \$1 50 a barrel. This is no criterion of the fall market, as supplies from the farmers have not yet begun to come in. We see no probability of any advance in prices as, not withstanding the apprehensions of the decrease, there is an immense supply yet to come in. Those farmers who can do so will probably realize most by disposing of their surplus Potatoes at an early date, as we have but a year in which to eat them, and the time is too short for the supply. We are doing our best now, as they are the cheapest food.

The quantity of Peaches improves; there are more "Free Stones." The supply is full as great, and yet we quote same rates.

Potatoes are at merely nominal price. There is considerable stir in pears this week, and fancy pears are bringing fine prices.

Sweet Potatoes have fallen 50c. P bbl. Watermelons continue in good demand at sustained prices. Muskmelons are growing plentier and declining.

VEGETABLES.

Table listing various vegetables and their prices, including Potatoes, Onions, Corn, Cabbages, Cucumbers, Squashes, Tomatoes, Beans, Beets, Carrots, Turnips, Plums, Apples, Pears, Peaches, Watermelons, Musk Melons, Butter, Eggs, and Poultry.

PRICES CURRENT.

Table listing prices for Cotton, Flax, Flour and Meal, Grain, Hay, and Wool, with columns for different varieties and locations.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion): Ten cents per line for each insertion. Advertisements standing one month one-fourth less. Advertisements standing three months one-third less. Ten words make a line. No advertisement counted at less than ten lines.

PEACH TREES FOR SALE.—10,000 first class Peach Trees, very thrifty and healthy, best market varieties, for sale low, in quantities to suit purchasers. The superiority of northern New-Jersey Peaches is so well known as to need no other recommendation.

Mazzard Cherry pits, by the bushel or quart, preserved in the very best manner, and not allowed to become dry and worthless.

Orange Quince Seed.—A very fine lot of this seed will be ready for delivery in November, fresh and pure. WM. DAY, Morristown, N. J.

JAMES M. MILLER, AUCTIONEER. THOROUGHbred NORTH DEVON and SHORT HORNED DURHAM CATTLE belonging to THOMAS GOULD, Esq., of Auburn, New-York. JAMES M. MILLER & CO. will sell, on THURSDAY, October 5th, 1855, on the State Fair Ground, at Elmira, Chemung Co., N. Y., the Herd of Thoroughbred North Devon and Short Horned Durham Cattle, belonging to THOMAS GOULD, Esq., Auburn, N. Y.

TRAVELING AGENTS who wish pleasant and steady employment at wages \$12 per week, may address, inclosing stamp, M. S. BRODLIE, Burlington, Vt.

PEACH TREES.—The subscribers offer for sale from their RUMSOM NURSERIES, Shrewsbury, New-Jersey, PEACH TREES of the choicest varieties. Also OSAGE PLANTS, for hedges. Having had long experience in the culture of the Peach Tree and Fruit, they feel confident in giving entire satisfaction. N. B.—Post-office address, Red Bank, Monmouth Co., N. J. ASHER HANCE & SON, 103-n

SHORT HORNS.—The subscribers offer for sale a few Bull and Heifer Calves, the get of ASTORIA, LORD, VANE TEMPEST 2d, imported 3d DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, and imported EARL VANE. Catalogues may be had from J. C. JACKSON, Esq., No. 111 Water-st., N. Y., or the subscribers, at Elizabethtown, New-Jersey. B. & C. S. HAINES.

RHODE-ISLAND HORSE AND CATTLE EXHIBITION. THE RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY, Will hold an Exhibition of HORSES AND CATTLE, AT THE WASHINGTON TROTTING PARK, PROVIDENCE, To commence on TUESDAY, September 11th, and to continue through the week.

The premium list amounts to FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS. Competition is open to all States and the British Provinces. Judges will be appointed from other States as far as practicable. The Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, and the Plowing and Drawing Matches, will take place on Tuesday, and an Auction Sale will be held. EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums. An Address will be delivered before the Society in the evening.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the several classes of Horses will be exhibited, and on the afternoon of each day there will be a grand trial of speed of Trotting Horses. On Saturday the Premium Horses will be exhibited, and an Auction Sale will be held. THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS are offered in premiums on Horses.

In order to prevent the confusion which must necessarily arise from the entrance of too large a number of Trotting Horses, an entrance-fee of \$20 will be charged on those competing for \$200 premiums, and of \$30 to those competing for \$300 premiums, to be paid at the time of entering, which must be done on or before the 1st of September, at the office of the Society, Railroad Halls, Providence. The other entrance-fees are, \$5 for single Horses, and \$7 for matched Horses.

Arrangements have already been made with the New-York and Erie Railroad, and with the New-York Railroad and Steamboat line via Stonington, for the issue of Excursion tickets and for the transportation of stock at reduced rates. Such arrangements will be extended to other lines as far as may be practicable.

For further particulars reference is made to handbills, which will in all cases be forwarded on application to the Secretary. JOSEPH J. COOKE, President. C. T. KEITH, Secretary. 99-104n1217

BAGS.—BOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York, Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS. Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city. Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS. We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97-109n1214

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112. He would also sell a few imported Ewes. SAMUEL THORNE, "Thornedale," Washington Hollow, Dutchess Co., N. Y. 100n1219

JAMES M. MILLER, AUCTIONEER. AUCTION SALE OF THOROUGHbred DEVON CATTLE. The subscriber proposes to sell at Auction, his entire herd of thoroughbred "Herd Book" Devonshire Cattle, on WEDNESDAY, 17th OCTOBER next, at his farm, 2½ miles from Troy, N. Y., comprising 11 head of breeding Cows, and about 9 head of Bulls, Heifer and Bull Calves. The originals of this fine herd were selected with great care through importations from England, and purchases in this country, and they have been bred with equal care, and all will admit on examination, they are a splendid herd of this popular breed of cattle. Among the herd is the beautiful, 3-year-old, imported bull MAY BOY, bred by John T. Davy, Esq., of South Moulton, Devonshire, England, Editor of the English Devon Herd Book. This bull, as will be seen by his pedigree, is descended from the highest strain of blood that England affords, and for perfection in symmetry, vigor and sprightly action, it will be difficult to find his superior. His get, as will be seen in the herd, will attest his superiority as a stock getter. There is, also, among the herd, a beautiful 4-year-old Heifer and her Bull calf. She was imported from the celebrated herd of Lord Leicester. A credit of 12 months will be given for approved paper on interest. Catalogues of the animals will soon be issued, with pedigrees and further particulars, and may be procured at the offices which publish this advertisement, and of the subscriber. GEO. VAIL, Troy, N. Y. 103-5n1225

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON, 83-108n1188 No. 54 Wall-st., New-York.

WILLARD FELT, STATIONER, has removed to No. 14 Maiden-lane, New York. 86-6m

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT, 95-120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

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