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THE

WISCONSIN FARMER,

AND

NORTH-WESTERN CULTIVATOR:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, the Mechanic Arts, and Rural Economy.

EMBELLISHED & ILLUSTRATED WITH NUMEROUS ENGRAVINGS.

EDITORS:

D. J. POWERS, J. W. HOYT, & Mrs. E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

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D. J. POWERS, ... Editors. . . . . J. W. HOYT,

THE NEW YEAR OF 1860—REFLECTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE PAST AND FUTURE.

The new year of 1860 enrobed in its snowy mantle is at length at hand, completing another of the great decades of American history, and presenting many subjects for reflection both national and local. Our "great country" in the last ten years has expanded largely in territorial settlement and in population; our twenty-three to four millions, have undoubtedly grown to over thirty, and what is still more interesting to western people is the fact that by far the greatest proportional bulk of this increase is confined to the new Western States.

Ten years ago, and the voice of the West, however urgent, could not be heard in Congress when asking for the most necessary and moderate appropriations, even to clear out the obstructions of the St. Clair Flats, blocking up as they did the commerce of the whole West; but the growth of the West is changing the complexion of all these matters, and we are getting to be distinctly heard when we speak, and shall be most emphatically, after the next apportionment of national representatives; making us at least fully even balanced in the national councils; all of which is encouraging prospectively to us in a national point of view.

But coming nearer home and to the matters of our own State, what have been the results of the last ten years upon our circumstances and history? From a population of about three hundred thousand, we have increased to nearly a million; from a limited settlement in the southern portion of our State, we have overspread nearly the whole of its available surface; not with as substantial improvements in all cases as might be wished, to be sure, but with good beginnings at least, and such as look forward to substantial results. Another ten years of ordinary prosperity, and then where will Wisconsin find herself on the score of population, improvements and wealth?

Despite of the present hard and, to many, discouraging times; despite of the debts we owe, the healthfulness and attractiveness of our State, the productiveness of its soil, and the energy of our people, will overcome all obstacles that are in the nature of being overcome, and push us forward to final prosperity and greatness. Of this there can be no doubt; but to attain to it, many things have got to be thought, said and done, in the interim. As farmers and business men, we have got to change our policy in many things, and in general to adapt ourselves to the circumstances that surround us. Instead of holding lands and real estate on speculation, we have got to cut down to where we can use it and make it productive. Then in farming, we must study out and pursue only those modes and branches that pay—experiment and accident will not do to rely upon; greater certainty must be attained to. The wide margin of prosperity which has hitherto been enjoyed in the upward progress of our new country, cannot hereafter be relied upon; instead of emigrants bringing us money to buy our surplus crops and farms, we now have got to depend upon an eastern market for the sale of our over stock, and upon the slower growth of things for the disposal of our surplus lands.

Thus left more immediately to depend upon our own resources and economical industry, we must learn as early as possible to adopt in all things, the careful management of the older States; and especially to study how to make everything pay; that done and rigidly persevered in, and Wisconsin will prosper like a green bay tree. The elements of her soil are rich enough to guarantee it. Let every one labor hard to get out of debt, and harder still

to keep out—to get quietly and comfortably independent, during their own day and generation; in whatever business they may engage, such is the true philosophy of life, and the only sure high-road to lasting prosperity.

Therefore let us study well our circumstances, use all the facilities of sound information within our reach, grow wise, grow rich, in the sterling comforts of life, if possible, as we grow old, and in patience, hope, and faith fulfill our earthly mission as the years of life roll on.

FARMERS' CLUBS.

Now that winter has fairly set in, and the farmers of our State have comparative leisure, we feel called upon to urge again, the immediate organization of Town and District Clubs—town where the population is sparse, and district, where the population is sufficiently dense to warrant the maintainance of a number in each township. There is nothing more rational, theoretically, than that they should be productive of great good, and the actual trials that have been made, prove the theory true.

We have done no agricultural work in Wisconsin which affords us so much pleasure, in the retrospect, as the organization, here and there, of associations of this character. They are an active force in every community where they exist, potent for the improvement of agriculture, and the elevation of the people.

Standing in the place of Primary Meetings in the political world and of the Common Schools in the educational system, they lie at the very foundation of agricultural success.—First the Club, then the Institute, then the State Agricultural College—that is the gradation which we hope to see established.

But as neither the College nor the Institutes have yet an existence the cause of Agricultural Progress must look to the enterprising and intelligent farmers to lead off in the great educational movement by the establishment of Clubs in their several neighborhoods.

In response to several requests for a form of Constitution, appropriate to such orgenizations, we would say, let the form be as simple as may be; complexity always involves a good deal of friction and waste of time. The following is sufficient for the purpose:—

Article I.—The style of this Association shall be The ——— Farmers' Club. Its object shall be the advancement of Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Household Arts, and the intellectual and social improvement of its members.

Article II.—The Club shall consist of such persons, interested in its objects, as shall pay on signing the Constitution, and annually thereafter the sum of ———.

Article III.—The officers of the Club shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, a Recording and Corresponding Sectretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, and continue in office—unless neglectful of duty—for the term of one year, or until their successors are elected.

Article IV.—The duties of the officers respectively shall be such as are common to offices of like character, except that the Secretary, in addition to his ordinary duties, shall annually, in the month of November, make a concise report to the Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, of the condition of the Club, and its most important transactions during that official year.

Article V.—There shall be an annual meeting of the Club at the regular place of meeting, or such place as shall have been duly advertised, on the —— of November, at — o'clock, in each year, and at least ten days notice thereof shall be given through placards posted conspicuously in the public places of the —— (district or town, as the case may be); at which meeting the officers of the Club shall be elected by a plurality of votes.

Regular meetings for the discussion of important questions, the reading of essays, the delivery of lectures, &c., shall also be held once every two weeks during the winter, and once a month during the summer season; and the date and place of such meetings shall be determined by the officers of the society, who, subject to the Constitution and By-Laws, shall constitute a Board of Control for that purpose, as also for the general direction and management of the affairs of the Club.

Article VI.—This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting: provided, that general notice shall have been given of an intent to amend, and the character of the amendment, at least three months previous to said meeting.

Now, suppose a Club were organized on some such basis, in every well-populated town and district in Wisconsin, who can calculate the immense benefits that must arise from the stimulation of thought, the diffusion of knowledge, the spirit of investigation, and the universal emulation of which they would almost necessarily be the active cause? It is scarcely too much to say, that their operation for a few years would double the agricultural wealth of our State. Think of it, intelligent farmer,

and then, without waiting for some neighbor to move first, yourself set the ball in motion, this very week. H.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—In your elaborate and interesting leader on "Seeding the Soil," in my opinion, there are two or three directions which, if carried out, will be likely to produce unfavorable results—they are erroneous.

So far as my experience and observation go, *spring* wheat is better to be sown as early as *March* and *April*, instead of as late as "April and May," as per your table; that sowed as late as the latter month not succeeding well. The same is often the case with barley and spring rye, though it will not be as bad to sow rye and barley late in the spring as it is with wheat.

Then, with *winter* wheat, it is not advisable to sow it so late as October, as it seldom does well; it should be sown as early as August or September, if possible. Wheat should be got in during early autumn—early enough to allow it to get a growth of tap which does much to keep it from winter-killing, in this region, where we have so little snow to protect it.

But experience proves that winter rye will do reasonably well even if sown in November; or, rather, the very latest, which will allow it to germinate and get handsomely above ground. Rye does much better to be put in late in the season than wheat does.

And here let me suggest, that it would be better for our farmers, generally, if they would raise much more *rye* than most of them are in the habit of doing. It is a pretty sure crop—is nutritious and wholesome, for man and beast, and less severe on land than wheat.

D. S. C.

Madison, Dec. 14, 1859.

Note.—It is possible that our correspondent, who has lived longer in Wisconsin than we have, may be nearer right in relation to the time for sowing wheat, though we feel quite sure that, for a series of years taken together, more wheat is sown between the 5th of April and the 5th of May than between the 5th days of *March* and April—at least this accords with our own observation and the best means of information we have had. We did not intend to say that wheat may be advantageously sown at *any* time in May, even to the last day, but rather that the sowing time does sometimes run over the line of April into May. If we had included March also, as we certainly designed to do, the table would have been more exact. But be the difference what it may, there can be no danger of a mistake if the general rules laid down on the first page of the article in question—"*Plant as early as the soil can be properly prepared*"—be faithfully followed.

As to rye, we agree with "D. S. C." that it will *bear* sowing a little later than wheat, though we are by no means sure that later sowing will insure so good a crop. He is wholly right in regard to the value of rye as a crop, and we reiterate his suggestion that more of it should be raised in this State. It ranks next to wheat in point of nutritive qualities, is favorable to healthy digestion—particularly when used unbolted—and will succeed well on either very sandy soils, too poor, or on rich mould, too sour, for wheat. L.

FOWL MEADOW GRASS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer—Dear Sirs:—In your last *Farmer*, page 401, you request "such of your readers as have any knowledge of the success or utility of the fowl meadow grass in the West," to give you the benefit of the same for publication.

It has often been a matter of surprise to me that this grass was not extensively cultivated on the low bottoms and dry marshes in the West. There is no mistake about the success or utility of this grass. It is in all respects equal in value to timothy or herdsgrass, and in some respects superior to it.

Fowl meadow grass is the hardiest of all the tame grasses of which I have any knowledge. I have seen it for several years past steadily supplanting the marsh grass in its vicinity, crossing ditch fences and spreading into the adjoining marsh meadows. It bears a large quantity of seed which is highly nutritious. It will thrive on land so wet that other tame grasses drown out; and never fails of a grood crop on sufficiently moist land. A friend of mine, N. Goodall, Esq., of Lodi, has a very valuable meadow of this kind of grass which he has mown, I think, for the past six years—it is increasing each year in quality and quantity. Mr. Goodall esteems this grass very highly, prefering it to timothy or clover for his stock. He feeds his horses very little grain during the winter, as he considers the seed almost sufficient to answer the purpose of grain.

I do not think early cutting would injure the roots of this grass, or that it is necessary for the seed to shell to re-seed the land each year. I judge not, from the fact that it may be pastured closely year after year without injuring its growth or spread. Mr. Goodall has usually cut his grass the latter part of July, sometimes letting a part of it stand over until his grain was harvested. I have a small stack of this hay which I purpose keeping for my cattle, to feed them while putting in my crops in the spring. If you wish I will send you a sample of the seed. Truly yours,

GEORGE BILL.

LODI, Columbia Co., Nov. 10, 1859.

Send the sample, the quantity you have and price. EDS.

EXPERIENCE WITH FOWL MEADOW GRASS.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—On page 400 of the November number of the *Farmer*, I read Mr. Holbrook's account of fowl meadow grass and his manner of cultivating it. And as you wish for knowledge as to its use or utility, or both, let me tell what I know of it.

Four years ago last spring I wished to seed about seven acres of dry prairie to timothy. I got my seed of one of my neighbors, and supposed it pure timothy seed. The next season, as it began to head, about one-third of it was what I thought blue grass. I was somewhat out of humor about it. I spoke to the neighbor about it, and he said that he made a mistake and gave me seed out of the wrong box, and that I had timothy and fowl meadow. He had a piece of it clear, which was stout, on a dry side-hill.

It is inclined to stool, but harrowing and a top dressing of manure has made a good sward. It does well; I am glad of the mistake now, for I should have had but little grass to cut this year if it had not been for the fowl meadow. It has a thick bottom, grows tall and makes first rate hay. My meadow grows better every year. But I did not know as it would do well on wet land—mine is on hazel brush land, and my neighbor's on sandy; his is more in stools, but he has not manured his. This is the first and all that I knew of this grass till I saw the article in your paper.

Now it is useless for me to tell you that I am no writer, as you see by the above, but excuse the mistakes as from a friend and farmer.

A. B. CADWELL.

CRYSTAL LAKE, Ill., Nov. 11, 1859.

FOWL MEADOW.

EDS. FARMER:—As I happen to have considerable of the fowl meadow grass growing on my farm, I will state what I know of it.

I have a piece of marsh land that is generally covered with water in the spring, and is dry by the first of June. Years ago this land produced a coarse grass which killed out by pasturing; the fowl meadow then came in of its own accord, with a sod-like red top. I have fenced in a part of said land with my meadow, and it has yielded about three tons of hay per acre, and that fully equal in quality to red top or timothy for hay, and is the best pasture grass in Wisconsin. It ripens the last of June, and will do well on any damp black land. I did not save any seed, as it was ripe before I was aware of it, and when I cut the grass the seed all fell off notwithstanding the grass was perfectly green. I think it is unnecessary to let the seed fall off to keep the meadow up, as the roots never kill out any more than June grass. This grass is of a paler color than redtop or June grass, and yields abundance of seed, and grows to the height of from two to three feet.

If you think this will be of any service to any one you can make what use of it you like.

Yours truly, DANIEL FINCH.

SUMNER, Nov. 17, 1859.

EXHAUSTED FARMS—RESTORATION.—EDS. WIS. FARMER:—A few short articles on this head may not be out of place, when the imminent importance of the subject is duly weighed.

That the cultivated lands of our country are becoming *exhausted* of their grain-growing capacity, is demonstrated by a variety of facts and figures. And that the yield obtained now-a-days is less than twenty or thirty years ago, can be proved by reference to the agricultural papers of that day; and with our *present system* of culture, continued decrease must follow, as sure as fate.

It is also susceptible of proof, by reference to the records, that the product in our New World, is absolutely less than on the long-worn lands of the Old World, where the fields have been cropped for ages; because they have adopted thorough, improved culture. In this country we *run* and impoverish the land for a few years—as long as we can live at it—then remove to newer regions, and pursue the devastating course, so long as it will sustain

us; and then remove again. But we do not stop to think if we may not improve—and how to do it. Now, is this wise—is it prudent? Can we always endure such waste?

In the old country the improved and continued fertility, and increased yield, is remunerative—the better system pays richly, and may be made to do so here—both by securing better yield and quality of grain, and by giving greater security against insects and blight of every kind.

How to do this, in some measure, and to make agriculture more *permanently* profitable, will be the aim of a few short articles on this subject, by your sincere friend, D. S. C.

MADISON, Dec. —, 1859.

A SHORT EXPERIENCE IN THE MANAGEMENT ON TIMOTHY SOD.—EDS. WIS. FARMER:—As there is a great diversity of opinion, as to the value of timothy sod for cropping, I thought it might not be amiss for me to give my experience and observation on the subject. In the fall of 1857, I had about eight acres of timothy meadow, four years old, which I wished to break up. I measured and broke about one acre of it in the fall, as shallow as possible; broke the rest of it early in the spring, and from what observation I had had, thought it not best to put it in to any small crop but to plant it to corn. Accordingly, about the middle of April, I harrowed it thoroughly both ways, and about the 6th of May both ways again, then marked it, planted and tended the same as any old land; and the result was, not a head of timothy went to seed, nor could any living grass be found on the land. The corn yielded about fifty bushels per acre. I cut up the corn early in the fall, plowed the land, and the vegetable mould was so heavy that it looked almost like an old barn-yard. The next spring I sowed it to club wheat, and I never saw a heavier growth of straw in my life, with good wheat, *too*.

My opinion is, that for the first crop on timothy sod, *no* small grain will pay very well, "at least on meadow." It might do better on pasture land. I think corn, potatoes, or almost any root crop does well, and pays well, too, as far as I have made any observation on the subject. It appears to me that the greatest cause of the failures with timothy sod, is the slovenly way that it is too generally "broke," or rather *broke at*, or hogged over, cut and covered, and then rooted up with a crossing plow. This mode of culture poisons and sours the land; it takes four or five years to kill the grass, and you cannot get the land in any fit condition for cropping for some time; so it is a waste of time, loss of seed, and a detriment to the land; while, if the land is well broke, planted to corn the first year, and well tended, it is then well fitted for a good crop of wheat the next year. So says my experience.

PRACTICAL FARMER.

LOWVILLE, Wis.

OPEN *vs.* COVERED DRAINS.—Mr. Mechi thus explains the cause why covered drains are more effectual than open ones; "A deep, open ditch will not drain the adjoining soil; because, when the sides are dry, the water rises to the surface by capillary attraction, and thus heads back the water behind it. Lay pipes at the bottom of this ditch, and fill it up, and it will then effectually drain the adjoining soil."

HOLES IN THE FARMER'S BREECHES' POCKET!

Farmers are famous for a great many things; famous for "independence"—if we regard what is said of them by all the orators at the fairs of the day; famous as the "bone and sinew" of the country; famously "honest," too, if the *politicians* are to be believed! But unhappily this is not all—they are likewise famous for their reverence for hard, drudging labor, and a consequent disgust for what they contemptuously style *book-larnin;* famous for grumbling at the hard times, and other "dispensations of Providence;" and they are sometimes *charged* with being slipshod and thriftless in the way of managing their business.

Of course we don't accuse them of being *deservedly* famous in any of these respects! Not we. The neutral ground of Mr. Lincoln—that they are "neither better nor worse than other people"—is so much more *politic*. But there is one unjustifiable sin of which we *do* most positively and pointedly accuse them: they are usually—in these times, at least—in a "tight pinch," and yet go with their pockets full of holes! "Well, is that a sin?" Of course it is—at least to such as cannot pay their store bills, nor educate their children, nor take the valuable newspapers and periodicals of the day, nor—pay for those they do take. Indeed it's a sin, and a heinous one too—one that merchants, and posterity, and *printers* wont readily forgive!

The hole which we propose to have them sew up just now, is one for which me-

chanics are presumed to entertain a high respect—that one through which so many farmers lose their reapers, and mowers, and plows, and harrows, and machines and implements of every class and name; not bodily and at once, perhaps, but piecemeal and gradually, through the industrious and inexorable agents, rust and rot.

Last fall we talked of this same matter, estimating the aggregate loss through neglect of the aforesaid tools, machines, &c, at *half a milion of dollars* per annum; and we have the satisfaction of believeing that some have reformed. Still one can not travel in any direction without witnessing a strange waste of this kind of farming capital—reapers worth two hundred dollars left in the open field, or, sometimes in the barnyard within two rods of the shed that might protect them from the weather, as well as not—plows still buried in the last-turned furrow, and harrows leaned up against the fences, trees, or stumps.

Paradoxical fellows, some of these western farmers! who, in a small chicken or turnip trade will ofttimes parley an hour for two or three cents, and yet in the weightier matters, when the guineas might be saved by a half hour's work are so *unpardonably reckless*.

But enough. The thrifty farmer may be known by his having all perishable implements oiled or painted and carefully laid away under cover as soon as used for the season; and the farmer who has neither sense nor energy enough to do so, should forthwith put on a pair of long ears and bray of "hard times;" *that's his legitimate business*.

MARL BEDS IN WISCONSIN.

During the State Fair at Milwaukee we were kindly presented by Mr. Dousman, of Waterville, with a specimen of marl taken from his farm in that locality, with the request that we report upon its value; which we now propose, briefly, to do.

We have not had the facilities for making an accurate analysis, but have satisfied ourselves that it can be advantageously applied to light, sandy soils. Its true place in the classification is with those which are properly denominated *clay* marls, and the specimen referred to contained about 70 per cent. of clay, 25 of calcareous matter, and very small proportions of silex, magnesia, and organic matter.

We have likewise recently received a specimen of *shell* marl from the vicinity of Burlington, Racine county, where we learn there is a very large bed. The percentage of lime in this sample is larger than in the above, and we shall expect ere long, to hear of its being extensively worked.

There is also a large bed of marl at Milton, Rock county, but we have not visited it, and have no means of knowing anything at all as to its value. During the coming year we propose to visit all these several beds, and will then be prepared to speak more advisedly of their economical value for fertilizing purposes.

MILCH COWS.

Milk, butter, and cheese—what luxuriousness, what fatness of living do they not suggest! Who, of the millions that daily throng the frugal or the sumptuous board, in cot obscure or palace grand, would feel half grateful for his lot were he deprived of either one?

Thank God for cows!—dumb nurses of the race of men. Other creatures are more beautiful and of loftier mold, but there are none so foodful in their use, or, in their lives and mien, so motherly and good.

But then there is a very great difference in what may be styled the dairy character of cows: Some give milk as flowingly and rich as maple trees yield sweet sap in spring—others seem to have been made for fleshy uses simply, and are as innocent of milk-yielding proclivities as many farmers are of thrift. It is important, therefore, that dairymen, and all who keep a cow at all should know what breeds are best, and what their characteristics are.

Here a wide field is opened, and for the sake of arousing the attention of farmers and eliciting the views of dairymen and the results of their experience, we shall lead off with a word for a race but little known in the West—the *Jersey*. In all our ambulations through Wisconsin, we have met but one small herd of these beautiful cattle; and they are a very recent importation by our enterprising friend J. V. Robbins, of Rock Terrace, near Madison.

The Jersey race is believed to have originated in the northern part of France; and the cows, though "until within a quarter of a century comparatively coarse, ugly and ill-shaped, have long been celebrated for the production of very rich milk and cream."

The names, Jersey, Alderney, and Guernsey, by which they are variously characterized were derived from islands of like name, in the

British Channel, whence they were imported into this country a little more than thirty years ago.

According to our best information they are not *large milkers*, in the ordinary sense, and hence are not so well adapted to the supply of milk for the market, (unless the dairyman should be skilled—as too many of them are—in the art of dilution with water!) except they be kept in connection with other cows of a larger yield and proportionally poorer quality of milk. But for butter and rich cheese they are splendid, and, if they prove to be hardy in our climate, could be introduced with great advantage into all our dairies, where the object is, not to palm off a cheat upon some foreign market, but simply to supply good, regular customers with a superior quality of those essentials to good living.

The following admirable description is from the unrivalled work of Hon. C. L. Flint, Secretary of the Massachusetts board of Agriculture, to whose courtesy we are likewise indebted for the beautiful cut which illustrates this article:

"The head of the pure Jersey is fine and tapering, the cheek small, the throat clean, the muzzle fine and encircled with a light stripe, the nostril high and open; the horns smooth, crumpled, not very thick at the base, tapering, and tipped with black; ears small and thin, deep orange color inside; eyes full and placid; neck straight and fine; chest broad and deep; barrel hooped, broad and deep, well ribbed up; back straight from the withers to the hip, and from the top of the hip to the setting on of the tail; tail fine, at right angles with the back, hanging down to the hocks; skin thin, light color and mellow, covered with fine soft hair; fore legs short, straight and fine below the knee, arm swelling and full above; hind quarters long and well filled; hind legs short and straight below the hock, with bones rather fine, squarely placed, and not too close together; hoofs small; udder full in size, in line with the belly, extending well up behind; teats of medium size, squarely placed and wide apart, and milk-veins very prominent. The color is generally cream, dun, or yellow, with more or less white, and the fine head and neck give the cows and heifers a fawn-like appearance, and make them objects of attraction in the park; but the hind quarters are often too narrow to look well, particularly to those who judge animals from the amount of fat they carry."

We are further assured by those who have had experience, that when too old to be of economical use in the dairy they fat easily and make excellent beef.

Will not Mr. Robbins, or some other gentleman who may have had experience with the Jerseys in Wisconsin, favor the public with the results of their experiments? Come, gentlemen, tell us whether the fawn-like, cream-producing Alderneys would be more profitable for our farmers than the coarse-boned, rough-haired, skim-milk Natives that characterize nine-tenths of the cow-yards of Wisconsin. If they would, we propose to have them introduced.

FLINT well says: "*Keep your cows in good condition*, should be the motto of every farmer, posted up over the barn door, and over the stalls, and over the milk-room, and repeated to the boys whenever there is any danger of forgetting it. It is the great secret of success in dairying, and the difference between success and failure turns upon it."

FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS ABOUT FATTENING CATTLE.

This is the season in which the business of fattening cattle is more common, whether for consumption in the farmer's own family or for marketing, than at any other time of the year. The pumpkins, the soft corn, and other articles of the produce of the farm which cannot be well preserved nor marketed, are usually employed in the *first stages* of this process more advantageously than they could be in any other way. It is not, however, in regard to the first stages of fattening that we propose at present to treat; but rather of the farther advanced and finishing stages. In regard to these stages, we have lately met with some facts and suggestions of considerable practical value and interest, from the pen of a very accurate experimentalist and distinguished dairy farmer, the results of whose experiments and observations on "Dairy Management" have been submitted to your readers in previous volumes. These facts and suggestions, we think, may prove not only interesting, but also instructive to not a few, and as they have been placed on record in a journal which is never seen by one in a thousand of your readers—the Journal of the Royal Ag. Society of England—we have deemed them worthy of being presented in a condensed form, with the addition of a few comments.

First of all, however, we wish to say that there is an error of not unfrequent occurrence, in the early stages of fattening, or between pasturing and stable-feeding, which should be avoided by all who care for the reputation of *judicious* farmers or the profits of *economical* ones. We refer to the practice of allowing creatures to depend mainly on pasturing after the last of September or first of October, and to sleep out in the fields after that time of year. Both of these practices, except in years uncommonly warm in autumn, tend to rob cattle of fat and lower their condition. The nutritive qualities of grass are materially lessened after frosts, and when an animal suffers from cold, as must usually be the case in sleeping in the open field in October, nature has provided a partial relief by consuming portions of the fat, which the animal may have already stored, in the creation of additional supplies of heat. In a word, it seems forgotten by some, that, without something additional to grass after frosts, and without shelter in chilly nights for cattle this is the *opposite of economy*, as it is much easier to keep on fat than to put it on. True economy and judicious management require early stabling during nights, and something in addition to grass after frost.

We proceed now to present the substance of the observations to which we have above referred, and which seem well entitled to consideration and perfect reliability, as they proceed from one whose acuteness and accuracy of observation are generally acknowledged. Mr. Horsfall, the gentleman referred to, states that he prefers for fattening full-grown cows, which have had one, or at the most two calves, at from three to five years old. He mentions cows only, as he is a dairy farmer, and does not himself breed any neat stock. He purchases, for fattening purposes, in the markets of the neighborhood. The breeds in his district are mixed Short-horns. The live weight of the animals he buys for fattening is from seven cwt. to nine cwt. each, that is from 784 lbs. to 1,008 lbs. Their capability of carrying additional weight generally proves to be about three cwt., or 336 lbs., so that when prime fat they will weigh from ten to twelve cwt.

In regard to the relative proportion between dead or carcass and live weight, Mr. H. has found that it varies over a considerable range, according to the fatness or leanness of the animals slaughtered. For example, he states that the dead or carcass weight of cattle, if killed in a lean state, will be less than one-half their live weight, varying probably from forty-three to forty-six per cent. when half fat, of cattle of the same quality as those upon which Mr. H. has made his observations. The usual rule among the butchers of New York, which allows that the dressed carcass of cattle in good condition will weigh about fifty-five per cent. of the live weight, may also be quoted in confirmation of Mr. H.'s estimates of the proportion of dead to live weight, which range from forty-five to sixty, according to condition.

The difference in weight between a cow or ox in a lean state, and the same animal when prime fat, seems to be, according to the experience of Mr. Horsfall, about three cwt. or 336 lbs. This is the average of the gain in weight which he finds in animals weighing, when lean, from seven to nine cwt. The capacity of carrying additional weight will be greater, we may presume, with larger animals; and by making allowances for largeness of frame, the greater or less degree of leanness, any one interested may be aided by the above results in calculating what gain in weight may be expected in fattening neat stock of breed and quality similar to those fattened by Mr. H.

It must sometimes be a matter of importance to those engaged in fattening cattle to be able to make some calculations as to the rate of increase in weight, or as to the amount of weight of meat gained per week or month. The experience of Mr. H. as to this point leads him to look for an average of fourteen lbs. per week, live weight, when fairly started and properly fed. At this rate it would require twenty-four weeks to bring up a cow, such as Mr. H. fattens, from a state of leanness to one in which she would be called prime fat; and the comparison between live and dead weight, when lean and when fat, would stand as follows with an animal weighing at first eight cwt.:

Lean.	Live weight, 8 cwt. or 896 lbs.	
	Dead weight, at 45 per cent.....	4?2 lbs.
Fat	Live weight, 11 cwt. 1,232 lbs.	
	Dead weight, at 6? per cent.....	788 lbs.
	Gain in dead weight in 24 weeks.....	836 lbs.

Or fourteen lbs per week, being precisely the average gain in live weight.

A higher rate in the increase of weight in fattening cattle may possibly be secured by a greater degree of care and expensiveness in feeding; and if any of your readers are in possession of any facts in relation to this matter, they would confer a benefit on the public by putting them upon record. The only fact within our knowledge bearing upon this subject is one which was reported to us by reliable authority a short time ago, as to the rate of increase in fattening pigs. The average rate of increase in the weight of pigs under ten months of age is usually estimated at one pound per day, or seven pounds per week.—By using cooked meal every day, and extra pains taken in other respects, a couple of pigs, killed at the age of seven months, were made to gain in weight at the rate of a little over two pounds per day. To show, however, that the cattle gaining fourteen pounds per week were *well* fed, we may state that Mr. H. fed young cows sixty pounds each of turnips, four pounds of rape cake, and two pounds of bean meal per day, with chopped straw; and during the last six weeks an increased amount of rape cake. With *such* feeding, the average gain was fourteen pounds per week.—*Country Gentleman.*

Poultry—Hot Feed in Winter.—I have twenty-eight chickens, large and small, several of them fall chickens. I obtained but a few eggs the fore part of winter—not more than one or two a day. The feed was corn and oats. In January I tried the experiment of hot feed once a day, in the morning. As soon as the fire was started in the cook-stove, I put a quart or so of small potatoes in an old dripping pan and set them in the oven. After breakfast I took a quart or more of wheat or buckwheat bran, mixed, put in the swill pail, and mixed into thin mush with boiling water, then added about one quart of live coals from the stove and put in the potatoes hot from the oven, adding all the egg shells on hand, and sometimes a little salt, and sometimes a little sulphur. These mashed together are fed immediately in a trough prepared for the purpose, made about ten feet long, of two boards six inches wide, nailed together, and two short pieces nailed on the ends, with a narrow strip nailed lengthwise on the top, and two bearers under. The object of this was to keep the hens out of the trough, and leave room to eat each side of the narrow strip. At noon I feed six ears of corn cut up in pieces an inch long; and in the evening oats and wheat screenings about one quart. Now for the result. In about a week the number of eggs increased six-fold, and in about two weeks, and since, they have ranged from twelve to twenty eggs per day. The coldest weather made no difference. When it was cold and stormy I kept them in the hen-house all day, and generally until ten or twelve o'clock. Such singing over the corn at noon I never heard from hens before—a concert of vocal music that would have done any lover of eggs good to hear.—*A. Du Bois, in Am. Ag.*

HORTICULTURAL.

A JAUNT THROUGH ILLINOIS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—I had not entirely forgotten the promise you made your readers in the September number with regard to an account of my recent visit through the fruit-growing regions of Illinois. I will endeavor to redeem it by making a *beginning* in the present number.

I left home August 3d; spent one day in Chicago; called on Messrs. Emery & Co., who have united the old "Prairie Farmer" to their popular journal. Messrs. Emery have also an extensive seed and implement warehouse, and in various ways are doing much for the advancement of agriculture in the West. Here I found Mr. C. T. Chase, a friend most kindly attentive. Mr. Chase is well known as a popular speaker and practical writer on horticulture and agriculture—the author of a series of hand-books full of valuable information to the western farmer. He is much interested in industrial education, and promises some time to talk to the people of Wisconsin on these subjects. I bespeak for him a hearty welcome.

On Colonel Capron, Sup't of U. S. Fair, we called, at the rooms of that society, thus early busy in perfecting the arrangements for the forthcoming event. Here, too, was Chas. Kennicott and his father, the "Old Doctor." To the skill and experience of the latter in such matters, much of the subsequent success of this great national exhibition is justly attributed.

One of the most interesting visits I made was to the land department of the Illinois Central Railroad. We spent some time in looking over the maps and surveys of their lands, which are very complete, setting forth the character of the soil, productions, face of the country, &c. Samples of the soil are here collected from the different counties; also jars of wheat and other grains with statement of

yield—when, where and by whom grown.—Also grain in the sheaf and corn on the stalk, the latter measuring twelve to eighteen feet high, with ears to correspond, &c., altogether forming a most interesting museum.

The Illinois Central Railroad has over one million and a half acres of land, situated on each side of their road, which they offer for sale on accommodating terms, giving long credits at low rates of interest. Very gentlemanly attendants at the Chicago land department office are ready to give all needed information in reference to location of their lands.

At eleven o'clock P. M. I took rail South.—I found but little repose in the sleeping car, comfortable and neatly arranged as they were, and was in readiness for an early call on our friend Hon. M. L. Dunlap, Urbana, at whose residence, though three and a half miles from the station, the gentlemanly conductor kindly set us down.

Mr. Dunlap is the popular contributor to the Chicago *Press & Tribune*, over the signature of "Rural," and is frequently called upon to talk to the farmers at their annual gatherings; thus, as well as by worthy home example, he is doing much for the diffusion of useful and practical information among the rural population of the West.

Mr. Dunlap is the proprietor of the Urbana nursery, which has acquired much celebrity and is equal to the demands of a large section of country. I observed that Mr. Dunlap carries out at home his recommendations abroad, and practices his own teachings. The *Shelter* which he has so frequently urged upon prairie farmers and orchardists, he is securing by broad belts of the quick-growing silver maple around his whole estate, nor are the evergreens forgotten. My attention was drawn to the "Early May Cherry" referred to in the *Farmer* for September, page 320. Our conviction there expressed as to its identity with our "Early Richmond," was fully confirmed.—Growing beside it was that other favorite cherry of ours for western culture, the "Large English Morella," a tree sent by us to Mr. Dunlap several years ago, thriving and enduring the cold winds, and hot summer suns, and rich soil of its prairie home.

I would like to say more of Urbana—of its beauty and rapid growth, of the broad prairie dotted with groves by which it is surrounded, of its hotel—one of the best on the road, and where it is well worth while for the traveler to stop and enjoy its comforts,—of its editor, Gen. Crandle, whose visit and honor will be long remembered, and of many other things which came to our notice here, but I am already trespassing on your pages and will defer our notes and observations on the *peach region* for another paper. A. G. HANFORD.

WAUKESHA, Wis.

DELAWARE GRAPE.

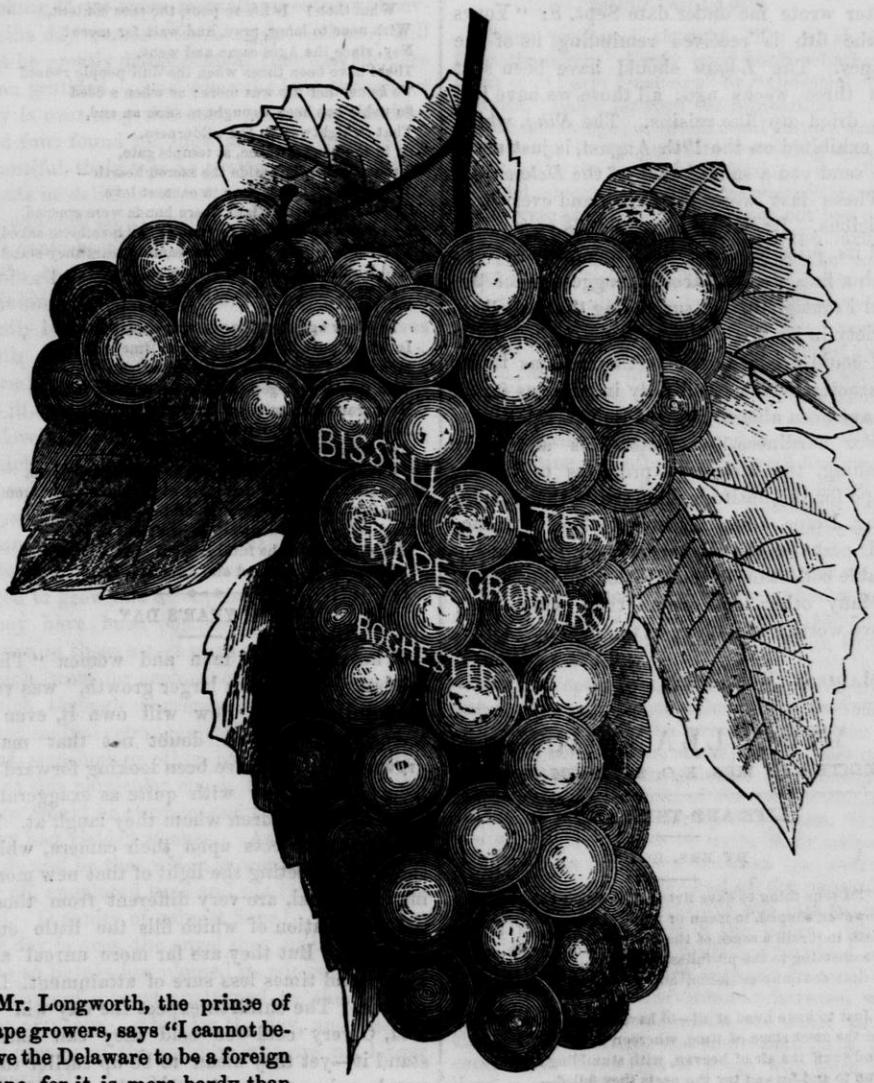
EDS. WIS. FARMER:—I am enabled to furnish your readers with an engraving of the Delaware Grape, through the courtesy of Messrs. Bissell & Salter, of Rochester, N. Y., which exhibits the size of the fruit to better advantage, than the engravings first put forth of this valuable grape.

All those who have had this grape under good cultivation for the past few years, agree that as the vines get age, the fruit becomes larger, and better in quality, as is the case with many of the new seedlings of the grape.

On the introduction of the Delaware, a general complaint existed in regard to its feeble growth, and rather inferior size of its fruit, but Dr. Grant, Chas. Downing and other extensive and experienced growers have been able to produce berries three-fold in size, and say they must be classed as "medium" in size of bunch and berry.

As this grape is destined to occupy a prominent rank among fruits, in the Northern States, especially, a short account of its history, habits and qualities may not prove uninteresting to your readers.

The Delaware was first especially noticed ten or twelve years ago, by Mr. Thompson, of Delaware, Ohio. It was brought into that village by people from the country. Mr. T. and others immediately set on foot an investigation in regard to its history, which was in substance as follows: About fifty years preceding the time of its discovery in the town of Delaware, a gentleman in New Jersey received a lot of grape vines from his brother in Italy. Some of these vines were brought to Ohio, about 1838 or '39, and planted in the garden where the original Delaware was found. Mr. Thompson says, "Though its origin is clearly traced to a foreign source, I am inclined to think that instead of being from the original stock, it is probably a chance seedling from one of the Italian vines, for I have never seen or heard of a foreign vine that would flourish and ripen its fruit in our climate as this does."



Mr. Longworth, the prince of grape growers, says "I cannot believe the Delaware to be a foreign grape, for it is more hardy than Catawba or Isabella. I have tested the most of the European wine grapes, and have never found one that would stand the winters in this latitude. The Delaware is certainly a native grape. I do not believe it has any connection with the Fox family, and from its hardy character, cannot be a seedling of the foreign grape."

Public opinion, generally, has settled down in respect to its being a native, and a recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, pronounced several specimens of a native grape found in that State, as the genuine Delaware of Ohio.

Whatever may be its origin, it is a grape whose qualities will make it one of the greatest acquisitions to our list of fruits.

Its hardiness is proverbial wherever it has been cultivated. G. W. Campbell, of Delaware, who has propagated largely from the original stock, in a letter to me, says it has stood exposure, where the Isabella and Catawba have killed to the ground.

I could quote from many of our best cultivators the same opinion as to the hardiness of the Delaware, but time and space will not permit.

It is an early grape. Messrs. Bissell &

Salter wrote me under date Sept. 8: "Yours of the 6th is received reminding us of the grapes. The *Logan* should have been sent you three weeks ago; all those we have left are dried up like raisins. The *King*, which we exhibited on the 19th August, is just used. We send you a small bunch of the *Delaware*."

These last were fully ripe, and every way delicious. Dr. Grant says: "It is very juicy, and its juice is wine—rich, sugary and spicy, with a fine, delicate aroma, suggestive of the Red Frontignan, and surpassing that excellent variety in its brisk, vinous flavor."

I could produce other testimonials as to its character, which I can fully indorse, as far as I have been able to observe its character.

For hardiness, productiveness and early ripening, the Delaware promises to be *the* grape for this latitude, and with the Logan, King, Diana, Concord, and Golden Clinton, and perhaps the Rebecca, will form a desirable collection for cultivation in Wisconsin.

Many other sorts are on trial which may prove worthy of adding to the list.

E. B. QUINER.

MADISON, Wis., 1859.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EDITED BY MRS. E. O. SAMPSOM HOYT.

LIFE AND THE YEARS.

BY MRS. HOYT.

'Tis som-thing to have lived: This earth-born life
However shaped, to mean or noble aims,
Hath in it still a sense of the divine—
A somet.ing to the pitifullest soul
It does not quite contemn, and would not now resign.

Just to have lived at all—to have had a place
On the great stage of time, whereon to stand
And snuff the air of heaven, with stumbling feet
Run to and fro and try the parts they failed—
Even this has made the common lot of millions sweet.

To live, just to exist—to breathe, and be
A part of all the wondrous things we see,
Has been accounted joy; and joy it is
To mark the beauteous seasons come and go;
To watch the swelling buds of spring; to hear
The laugh of children, caught in April shower,
And sail blue waters 'mid the airs of June;
To sit a summer evening 'neath the stars
And hear, as 't were, the minstrelsy of heaven,
The music of fond words from lips, where yet
We scarce have dared to leave a kiss, and feel
How grows the mystery of Human Love
Beneath the solemn night; or see, as now,
How the light of its dawning unclouedly glows,
As the Year to its bridal comes forth, like a maid,
In all the dear father's crown-jewels arrayed,
Trailing this beautiful mantle of snows!

What then? Is life so poor, the race content,
With none to labor, pray, and wait for more?
Nay, since the Ages came and went,
There have been times when the dull people roused
To *know* that life was more; as when a deed
So noble has been wrought to such an end,
That straightway in the wilderness,
Or in the market-place, at temple gate,
Street corners, or beside the sacred hearth—
Wherever man met man in earnest love
Of Justice and the Right, there hands were grasped,
And "Have you heard the news?" all breathless asked,
The while with smiles and streaming tears they stand
And look into each other's eyes, and say,
"Thank God, we live to see this day!"

In every age there stands some great event,
In whose pure light truths old as time look new.
Men do not always know it: even those
Who thus are purged of their base selves, to guess
How grand a thing is our humanity,
And feel, for once, the Majesty of Right,
And walk with souls erect, full oft, at last,
See but the agony and tears of the red slayer's doom,
Nor mark the glory which is set above the martyr's tomb.
But God, who lives through all the years,
And holds the nations in His just right hand,
Has written, for the future of our race,
What men shall read and understand.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Whoever said of men and women "They are but children of a larger growth," was verily a philosopher. Few will own it, even to themselves, yet we doubt not that many grown-up people have been looking forward to New Year's Day with quite as exaggerated ideas as the children whom they laugh at. To be sure the objects upon their camera, which they are expecting the light of that new morning to reveal, are very different from those, the anticipation of which fills the little ones with joy. But they are far more unreal and a thousand times less sure of attainment. Let us see. The children expect the day will be cold, O very cold—so cold they can hardly stand it—yet they mean to be up earlier than usual, make more noise than they would dare to on other mornings, and, somehow or other, just because it is New Year's Day, get more out of it. They are looking for visits from their young friends and think to have a world of frolic and happiness with each other, their skates and sleds, and toys; they are expecting to see snow and ice, and frosted window panes; the trees hung full of jewels and the sun like a shield of gold, and have nearly killed themselves laughing as they think how black Jowler looked last year bow-wowing his "Happy New Year" to the assembled breakfast table with white frost on his whiskers and long, shaggy hair. Of course they are

looking to see these marvels repeated whenever the day comes round again, and they will not be greatly disappointed; they may be more than gratified. And when the long-thought-of day is over they will have had their mischief and fun; found the snow as white, the frost as beautiful, their toys as pretty and their sweetmeats as delicious as any they had dreamed of, and will go to sleep at last wishing that life could be a New Year's Day.

On the other hand, those who have been thinking of it as a time when they could more easily begin the work of clothing themselves with the graces of a beautiful spirit, have found the rags of old habit and the wrinkles of ill-temper still clinging to them. How unlovely they are in the light of that morn which was to have put them away forever! How bitter the tears shed over the reflection, thus suddenly forced upon the soul, that they cannot dash away, as they had thought, those deformities of character which have been suffered to grow and strengthen with the years. They have been postponing the day of their return to those sweet ways and amiable moods which won for each other that mutual love which, through perverseness of will, has become mutual estrangement in the delusive hope that, somehow or other, at some future time, or at this particular epoch, these good resolutions would be stronger and the evils to which they had yielded weaker. As if the strength to do and be that which it would were in some far off, appointed time and not in the soul itself. O vanity of vainest hope! Long before the day is over, the angel they had thought to woo so lightly has plumed its wings to flee the discords of a heart unattuned to the harmonies of peace. Alas for the day, and alas for the dreams of the children who are no longer beautiful!

EGGS FOR THE MILLION!—It may not be generally known that light, new-fallen snow is an excellent substitute for eggs. In the preparation of such batter, cake and bread as are to be immediately cooked, it will be found to operate admirably. To insure the best success lift it lightly, stir it quickly and bake without delay—lest it melt and be nothing but water! One heaping table-spoonful should be used in place of an egg. Try it, those who doubt and hence forth when you see the beautiful know that it is also useful.

PARADISE is always where love dwells.

EDUCATED LABOR.

Every profound thought lifts a shadow from the earth. Every good book, whether it treat of "Farm Drainage" or "Celestial Mechanics," helps forward the millenium.

The advantages of intellectual culture are as obvious in those pursuits involving manual labor, as in the learned professions, so called. A good education is of some consequence to the lawyer and physician; it is of not less consequence to the mechanic and the farmer. We have known professional men who could make a little learning go a great way with the wondering multitude; but such poor tricks cannot be played off upon the hidden forces of nature. It is the finger of Intelligence alone which can touch the secret springs that set the mountain streams to the music of machinery, and clothe the naked fields with waving grain. It is a maxim in New England factories, where a fluctuating and often hostile tariff has taught a wise economy, that they cannot afford to hire cheap, ignorant labor. Not many years ago, a factory in Lowell imported a large number from England. But it turned out that these persons, though paid but half the wages of the better educated operatives at home, were nevertheless an expensive luxury to their employers. They could not earn their living, and, in a few weeks, they were all, with three or four exceptions, dismissed. A partner in one of the most respectable mercantile houses in Boston, having the principal direction of extensive cotton mills, stated, a few years ago, in reply to the interrogatories of a Congressional Committee, that, of the twelve hundred operatives annually employed by him, forty-five only were unable to write their names; and that the difference between the average wages of these forty-five and of the remaining eleven hundred and forty-five was just twenty-seven per cent. in favor of the latter. There were also in the same mills one hundred and fifty girls who had been engaged in teaching school. The wages of school-mistresses was seventeen and three-fourths per cent. above the general average, and more than forty per cent. above the wages of those who were obliged to make their mark. It is safe to affirm that there is not a cotton mill in the country, with operatives, whether native or foreign, too ignorant to read and write, which could be made to yield a profit in the best times. The fabrics would be inferior in quality and in quantity; the machinery would be misused and prematurely worn out; and the stockholders would be soon brought to a realizing sense of the difference between dividends and assessments.— *Chancellor Hoyt, in North American Review.*

☞ Either there is dignity in intellectual rank, or there is not; if there is, no other rank is needed; if there is not, no other rank can give it; for dignity is not an accident, but a quality.—*G. W. Lewes.*

NEWS ITEMS.

....Washington Irving is dead. He died on the 28th of November.

....Karl Gottlieb Reissiger, the celebrated composer, died at Dresden on the 9th November, aged 62.

....Farmers from all parts of the county, says the Xenia (O.) *News*, report that fully one-third of the corn crop is too soft to save.

....Michigan has sent 50,000 barrels of apples to Chicago. These apples have sold from one dollar to two and a half per barrel.

....In Liverpool, £150,000 have already been subscribed to the project for completing or re-laying the Atlantic telegraph cable.

....The trade in iron ore from the Lake Superior region, at Erie, Pa., for the past year, has been of no inconsiderable importance, amounting thus far to about 40,000 tons.

....Missouri bonds are depreciating seriously, under the recommendation of Governor Stewart to issue $4,000,000, additional to finish their railways.

....It is stated that Gov. Seward was presented in Alexandria with three superb Arabian horses, which will be shipped to this country. Two of them will be presented to the New York State Agricultural Society.

....The Hon. Charles Sumner arrived in Boston from Europe about the 1st of Dec., on the Canada. He returns fully recovered in health, and designed taking his seat on the meeting of the Senate.

....Iowa has just completed a State census, showing a population of 633,549. She had 182,219 in 1850, and 43,111 in 140. She has thus more than trebled her population in the last nine years, and increased it about fifteenfold in nineteen years.

....No less than nine notices have been served upon members of the House of Representatives, of intention to contest their seats. They are as follows:

RETURNED:	CONTESTED BY
Daniel E. Sickles, of N. Y.	Amor J. Williamson.
Wm. C. Anderson, of Ky.	James S. Chrisman.
J. Morrison Harris, of Md.	William P. Preston.
Henry Winter Davis, of Md.	William G. Harrison.
Geo. S. Cooper, of Mich.	William A. Howard
J. Richard Barret, of Mo.	Francis P. Blair, Jr.
Lansing Stout, of Oregon	David Logan
Experience Estabrook, of Neb.	Samuel G. Daily.
Miguel A. Otero, of New Mexico.	Henry W. Watts.

....The Georgia State Agricultural Society, after awarding at their recent Fair first premiums to several implements and machines exhibited by Emery Brothers, of Albany, N. Y., announced that the money would not be paid, as the Society were determined to pay no more premiums to northern machines.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE MARVEL OF THE MORNING.

BY MRS. HOYT.

Little men, and little maidens,
(Sometimes nicknamed girls and boys!)
Who are waiting for the coming
Of your Christmas plums and toys,

Look at me, and hush, be quiet,
Listen with both eye and ear,
While I tell you what will happen
On the first day of the year.

Very early in the morning,
When you still would think it night,
While you are asleep and dreaming,
Tucked in bed so warm and tight;

While the world is dark and silent,
Long, O long before 'tis day,
There will come above the hill-tops
Little streaks of white and grey.

Wait a little: as you watch them
They will glimmer to and fro,
And the grey will shine like silver,
Like the stars, or like the snow.

Then the grey, and white, and silver,
Will be crimson, blue and gold,
Like the head of some good angel
In the picture books of old.

As you stand there gazing, wondering
What it is, and whence it came,
All around and through the darkness
Quick a rosy light will flame—

Flame like colors of the rainbow—
Stream like ribbons on the sky—
Like the banners of an army,
When a victory is nigh.

Pretty soon, now don't be frightened,
There will rise a Ball of Fire!
Slowly, but with blood-red footsteps,
Climbing, climbing, higher, higher!

And the purple clouds behind it,
And the golden air before,
Will be like the things you've dreamed of,
Or the kings of Judah wore.

In the East will be this Marvel;
Right before you in the skies,
It will stand and stare upon you,
Big, and round, and full of eyes!

Needn't doubt it, little maidens;
Little men, you'll find it true;
True as anything you've read of
In your primmers, old or new.

With your eyes yourselves shall see it,
Just as true as I am here,
If you get up very early
New Year's morning, bright and clear.

☞ A lady asked her gardener why the weeds always outgrew and covered up the flowers. "Madam," answered he, the soil is mother of the weeds, but only step-mother of the flowers."

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Our Semi-Monthly—Our Friends and Patrons.

In accordance with previous announcement, we commence the new year in semi-monthly form, and trust that it will prove an agreeable change to our readers, patrons and friends; although, as in almost all changes, we find differences of opinion. Some of our sterling conservative friends, doubt if they will like it as well as the monthly; saying they do not prize the *Farmer* so much for current news, as for substantial reading, and that monthly numbers neatly bound, present it in a better form than the semi-monthly can, inasmuch as the latter, in order to offer it at the same price, will have to be somewhat diminished in size and style of making up. Two covers per month instead of one would so largely increase the expense on our large editions, that after this first number we shall probably omit the cover unless we have extra advertising to warrant it. We find a semi-monthly more expensive in various ways than a monthly, come to reduce the matter to practice; still, if it appears on trial to be more satisfactory to the majority of our readers, we shall be glad of the change and continue it. But if, after a fair and full expression on the subject, we find the majority in favor of the old form we may return to it again at some convenient time.

Meantime we hope our friends (and we doubt if any paper has better) will put their broad shoulders to the wheel as in years gone by, and roll us up good lists of subscribers for 1860. We certainly must have them if we publish a good and satisfactory paper, to do which costs a pile of money, and that last necessary article is not over-abundant with us in these times.

Let us have hearty aid, once more, friends, to pull us through the hard times. Let it not be said the only journal, devoted entirely to the agricultural interests of the State, cannot be sustained. It would neither sound well nor be well. Therefore give us a good and hearty lift and just now when we need it. Send in your own subscription and as many of your neighbors as possible; don't allow them to think that they cannot spare a dollar in any times for a good home agricultural journal. Friends, let us hear from you early and fast, with the best news you can send us. Such is our hope and wish, and for it we will labor and wait; but do not keep us too long upon the anxious seat of suspense. Let us know, one and all, how you like the semi-monthly, how much you can do for it.

County Fairs of '59 Attended on Invitation, with Notes of Travel.

The Fair of Manitowoc County had been fixed for the Monday and Tuesday next succeeding the State Fair—the Address to be delivered on the latter day at 11 a. m. Our plan was to make the journey by steamer from Milwaukee; where we accordingly spent the Lord's Day, in order to make good the engagement. But here, again—as though a sort of fatality hung over all our attempts at navigation—we were not only disappointed ourself, but likely also to disappoint our agricultural friends at Manitowoc; for, after waiting for the steamer until mid-day, we conceived a decided disgust for water crafts of every description, left it *lying* at the wharf, and made tracks, *via* rail, to Fond du Lac; from which point the distance was but sixty miles, and therefore fell within the possibilities of that bipedal conveyance which had so often and so admirably served as a *dernier* resort on other occasions.

The plan proved a good one, for at Fond du Lac we fell in with our excellent friend, Senator Pier, who generously dispatched us per carriage—his worthy son kindly performing the office of driver and escort—to Calumet, where we arrived soon after midnight, rather fatigued and sleepy, to be sure, but with unflagging ambition and a will strong as Fate.—Thenceforward the way was rather a *trail* than a road, winding through an almost uninterrupted forest, and full of mud-holes, roots, stumps and stones. We accordingly took affectionate leave of our traveling companion, shouldered our baggage—which weighed some thirty pounds—and stumbled our way through the forest; taking two delightful naps ere the light, the first on a great flat rock, the second on a most welcome pile of oak rails, which some clever fellow—blessings on his head—had been considerate enough to split and stack up just where we reached the climax of weariness.

At dawn of day we came suddenly upon the village of Chilton, and thus knew that we had walked some fourteen of the *longest kind of miles!* But Manitowoc was yet twenty-five or thirty miles further; avd so, without stopping to eat, we chartered a Fond du Lac carriage which happened to be in readiness for travel, and "stove ahead"—reaching our des-

tination in time to address one of the largest and certainly the most spirited and enthusiastic gathering of the friends of agriculture that we have met in Wisconsin.

MANITOWOC COUNTY FAIR.

The grounds were handsomely and tastefully fitted up with a new and substantial fence and appropriate buildings, and the articles and animals on exhibition were a credit to the new Society and County whose representatives they were. The people of city and country seemed to have turned out *en masse*, as if determined to make the Fair the great holiday of the year; the Fire Companies were out in their bright sole-leather hats and red flannel shirts, and the splendid Brass Band discoursed such music as made one imagine he was in the land of Bethoven.

These Germans (everybody knows that Manitowoc county is a sort of New-Germany) are a splendid class of people—earnest, resolute, enterprising, intelligent, social—and we confidently predict that their Agricultural Society will be an extraordinary success. With such officers and members it cannot be otherwise.

All in all the day was a glorious one, and we retired at its close thanking God, as never before, for the great industrial progress of the age, and for the honor and happiness of contributing somewhat towards the material development of Wisconsin and the social elevation of the people.

The heavy timber which characterizes Manitowoc County will necessarily retard the making of finished farms, but the soil is good and will repay the extra labor requisite to the clearing of the forests. Hundreds of brawny arms are doing that work, and already the wilderness begins to blossom as the rose.

The city is handsomely located at the mouth of Manitowoc River, and gives evidence of thrift and enterprise. The harbor is a good one, and the amount of commercial business quite considerable for a young city of five thousand inhabitants. Several manufacturing establishments are in active operation, and others are in process of building. If ambition, energy and capital combined, are competent to make a large, flourishing city, Manitowoc is bound to be one.

No Increase of Postage,

Will be required on the semi-monthly. It will remain the same as heretofore, under the P. O. regulations.

Officers of County Agricultural Societies for 1860.

[We will publish the list of officers of all County Agricultural Societies, when furnished by their respective Secretaries.—EDS.]

DODGE CO.—At the annual meeting of the members of the Dodge County Agricultural Society, held at Juneau, Dec. 7th, the following officers were elected:

President—Hon. H. C. Griffin.
Vice Presidents—Col. John Cochran, G. W. Perry, Miles Burnham.
Secretary (Recording and Corresponding)—O. H. Crowl.
Treasurer—David Barber.

DANE CO.—At the annual meeting of the Dane County Agricultural Society, held pursuant to requirements of the constitution, at Madison on the 7th day of December ult., the following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year:

President—Hon. W. R. Taylor.
Vice Presidents—H. Turvill, J. V. Robbine, More Spears.
Secretary—Harrison Reed.
Treasurer—W. W. Tredway.
Executive Committee—C. Chipman, J. H. B. Matts, E. D. Montrose.

COLUMBIA CO.—The annual meeting of our County Society was held November 17th, and the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:

President—J. J. Guppy.
Vice Presidents—R. T. Graves, J. C. Carr.
Secretary—Henry Converse.
Treasurer—F. C. Curtis.
Executive Committee — Peter Van Ness, Daniel White, Sam'l McConochie, John O. Jones, Nathan Hazen.

Our Society is now free from debt, and our prospects quite flattering for increased success and usefulness. Industriously yours,

HENRY CONVERSE.

ST. CROIX CO.—The annual meeting of the St. Croix County Agricultural Society was held at the city of Hudson, on the 6th day of Dec., 1859, at which time the following officers were elected for the year 1860:

President—Otis Hoyt.
Vice Presidents—A. G. Peabody, Nelson Gorsuch, John Comstock.
Recording Sec'y—S. S. Star.
Corresponding Sec'y—Henry A. Wilson.
Treasurer—John S. Gibson.
Additional Members of Executive Com.—Samuel Cox, John Thayer, Wm. Martin.

☞ Several valuable communications already in type are crowded over to the next No.

A Sensible Board of Agriculture.

We are pleased to see by the Columbus (O.) *Journal*, that, at the recent annual meeting of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture the Hon. John H. Klippart was unanimously re-elected Corresponding Secretary. He is one of those men who, like good wine, grow better and better the longer they are kept, and we commend the wisdom of the Board in continuing him in an office for which he certainly has pre-eminent qualifications. His Annual Reports have contributed more to the prosperity of the Board than all other causes put together.

Clover and Grass Seeds—Where can they be obtained?

The almost total failure of their crops, owing to the drouth and other misfortunes last season, leads many already to enquire where they can obtain seed for spring sowing. All prudent farmers dread Eastern seed on account of the danger of foul seeds. Any parties having clean Western grown seed for sale, will do well to make the fact known at their earliest convenience. It will meet with a ready sale and at good prices.

The North-Western Cultivator,

A portion of our name, we have dropped, deeming it surplusage. It was part of the name when we became interested in the concern, and out of respect for it we have thus far retained it.

Produce, Markets and Prices.

Grain of all kinds, as we predicted last month, has steadily maintained its prices, and usually advanced with still an improving tendency. What proportion of the wheat crop has already gone forward to market, can only be conjectured. We incline to the opinion that more than half of it is already sold and out of the country. Most farmers' necessities have been pretty urgent, especially by the time their large taxes are paid. The demand of the country will undoubtedly exhaust the crop at fair prices, independant of any demand for foreign shipment, of which there is a slightly increasing prospect.

Milwaukee club is quoted at $1,20 in New York for shipment.

Milwaukee prices, December 24, as follows: Club 90 to 94, extra lots as high as 97 and 98.

Barley 58 to 60, extra quality.

Oats 32 to 33.

Rye 62 to 63.

Corn, nominal.

Potatoes 45 to 62½ as per quality.

Pork $5.00 to $6.00, dependant on size and quality.

Poultry plenty and cheap. Chickens from 4 to 5 cts. per lb. Inferior from 2 to 3. Turkeys and geese from 5 to 6.

So on the whole, prices are tolerably good, the worst of it being that farmers generally have not enough to sell, to meet up their balances and put them in easy circumstances. It is to be hoped that one or two more good crops, coupled with the close economy now being inculcated, will bring matters all right again.

It is clear that the farmers of Wisconsin must look to their crops and to the disposal of their surplus lands to take them out of debt, and again place them upon an independent footing; let those great saving means be appealed to with steady perseverance and economy, and in no great while we'll again be among the prospering.

LITERARY NOTICES.

FARM DRAINAGE: Comprising the Principles, Processes, and Effects of Draining Land with Stones, Wood, Plows, and Open Ditches, and especially with Tiles; with Tables of Rain Fall, Evaporation, Filtration, Excavation, Capacity of Pipes, Cost and Number of Tiles to the Acre, &c., &c.,—and more than 100 Illustrations.—By. F. FRENCH. C. M. Saxton, Barker & Co., Agricultural Book Publishers, New York. Price $1.00.

We are indebted to the enterprising publishers for a copy of this admirable work. The subject is one of primary importance, and it is an occasion for congratulation on the part of the friends of American Agriculture that the preparation of the first work on the subject in this country should have fallen into the hands of so competent a man. Mr. French is eminently practical as well as scientific, and all the processes recommended in his book were first thoroughly tested upon his own farm.

The literary style of the work is exceedingly happy; the special subjects are logically arranged; and the mechanical execution is a credit to the publishers. Every farmer who wishes information on this highly important subject cannot possibly make a better investment than by sending for a copy of "Farm Drainage."

OUR SUBSCRIPTIONS,

Are coming in very encouragingly from many localities, and leading us to hope largely on others, not yet heard from. We find our clubbing with the New-York Tribune is bringing many subscribers, as surely it ought. The New-York Tribune and Farmer for two dollars per year. What an investment! Who among the reading population should not avail themselves of it? Then those nice premiums—who will win them? What lady's husband or son will earn her the $50.00 sewing machine? The Ides of March will tell.

AEVERTISEMENT NOTICES.

The Horticulturist—See advertisement of. It is the leading work of its kind in America. We have receved the Jan. No. It is embel. lished with a spledid colored cut; and is in every way a first class work. Every horticultur- should subscribe for it.

J. C. Plumb & Co. advertise extensive nursery stock, of hardy and desirable kinds for Wisconsin planting.

"Familiar Lectures" on Agriculture.—We have pleasure in referring our readers to the advertisement by D. S. Curtiss, Esq., of this city, who proposes to spend the winter in delivering familiar lectures on Agriculture and other subjects of special interest to the industrial people of this State. He very modestly proposes to confine himself to school districts and country neighborhoods; but we hope that the larger villages and towns will not on that account omit to secure his services.

Mr. Curtis has been a practical farmer for a number of years in Wisconsin and other States, and is, moreover, an earnest, intelligent man and good talker, capable of accomplishing much in the proposed field of labor. As the sole occupant, hithereto, we extend to him a hearty welcome. Would there were an hundred more as competent men prepared to serve as standard bearers in the great army of progress.

"Farmers' Institute."

We regret that a number of gentlemen, who have been invited to give lectures in the above institution, have been obliged to deline. We still hope, however, that something may be done.

Thorburn & Co.—See J. M. Thorburn & Co.'s various seed advertisements and descriptive catalogues for 1860, embracing everything desirable in that line. All wanting seeds for use or sale will do well to send for their catalogues.

See notice of Waukegan Nurseries for sale.

Evansville Academy.—We are pleased to learn that this flourishing young institution has been so fortunate as to secure the services of D. Y. Kilgore, Esq., as Principal—that he has become, indeed, the controlling officer for a term of years.

Mr. Kilgore has been for a number of years not only the head of the Madison city schools, but also their soul and vitalizing energy. He is an earnest, enthusiastic, and faithful educator, and is animated by a noble ambition to accomplish all in his power for the improvement of the schools of our State, as the great instrumentality for the elevation of the people. See advertisement.

The Mutual Life Insurance Co. See their card.

It is an institution growing rapidly in favor, and so far as we can learn well entitled to it, We would commend it to the attention of all wishing life insurance.

Spalding's Prepared Glue.—See advertisement, also the following notice of its merits, from the (N. Y.) *Independent:*

"Our advertising colums contain some testimonies to the value of a new article known as 'Spalding's Prepared Glue,' useful to housekeepers for mending furniture. It is prepared with chemicals, by which it is kept in the proper condition for immediate use, the chemicals evaporating as soon as it is applied, leaving the glue to harden. We can assure our readers that this article has the excellent phrenological quality of 'large adhesiveness.'"

FAMILIAR LECTURES.

Mechanism is making noble strides in the invention of convenient and labor-saving Implements, by which Farm Labor is performed much more easily than in former years.

It is fitting, therefore, and necessary, that Farmers should make corresponding improvements in their system, and add greater study and mental effort to their physical labor.

In order to contribute my mite in producing this desirable result, I propose to spend the present winter in visiting and *addressing* as many school districts and towns, as may be, in a series of plain, familiar *Lectures*, on various topics interesting to the *Industrial* classes. Two or three lectures—as shall be desired—will be delivered in each place.—Three specific objects will particularly be had in view:

First—To induce Farmers to adopt a deeper and more thorough system of cultivation;

Second—To stimulate in them an ambition for a higher standard of intellectual acquirements; and,

Third—To prompt them to assert and assume their proper and proportionate control in Political Economy and Official Stations of the State and Nation—their ranks containing above five-sixths of the voters, and furnishing full that proportion of the support and expenses of our Government—while Agriculture is more neglected, by the law-makers, than any other interest.

D. S. CURTISS.

Madison, Jan. 1, 1860.

THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

THE TRIBUNE—Now more than eighteen years old, and having over a quarter of a million subscribers, or constant purchasers, diffused though every State or Territory of our Union—will continue in essence what it has been—the earnest champion of Liberty, Progress, and of whatever will conduce to our national growth in Virtue, Industry, Knowledge, and Prosperity.—It will continue to urge the emancipation not only of the Black laborer from chattelism and legal impotence, but of the White likewise from Land Monopoly, Intemperance, Ignorance, and that dependence on remote Markets which paralyzes exertion by denying to Toil any adequate and morally certain reward. Believing that the chief evil of our time is the inordinate multiplication and disproportion of Non-Producers, it will continue to war against whatever tends to degrade Manual Labor or deprive it of its just and full recompense. It will inflexibly commend the policy of winning hither from Europe the Useful Arts, and, wherever they may be needed, the Artisans as well for whose products our country is running recklessly into debt, while our laborers roam in fruitless quest of employment, leaving their children in want of bread, though the farmer is too often compelled to sell his crops at most inadequate prices.—In short, while battling against Fillibusterism and every other manifestation of that evil spirit which seeks through the spoliation of other countries that aggrandizement which is to be truly attained only through the due development and cultivation of our internal resources, it will urgently advocate a more effectively discriminating Tariff, the Freedom of the Public Lands, the construction of a Railroad from the navigable waters of the Mississippi to those of the Pacific, and every other measure which seem to us calculated to enhance the dignity or the recompense of Labor and promote the well-being of Mankind.

The "irrepressible conflict" between Darkness and Light, Inertia and Progress, Slavery and Freedom, moves steadily onward. Isolated acts of folly and madness may for the moment give a seeming advantage to Wrong; but God still reigns, and the Ages are true to Humanity and Right. The year 1860 must witness a memorable conflict between these irreconcilable antagonists. The question—"Shall Human "Slavery be further strengthened and diffused by the power "and under the flag of the Federal Union?" is now to receive momentous if not conclusive answer. "Land for the "Landless, versus Negroes for the Negroless," is the battle-cry of the embodied Millions who, having just swept Pennsylvania, Ohio and the North-West, appear in the new Congress, backed by nearly every Free State, to demand a recognition of every man's right to cultivate and improve a modicum of the earth's surface wherever he has not been anticipated by the State's cession to another. Free Homes, and the consecration of the virgin soil of the Territories to Free Labor—two requirements, but one policy—must largely absorb the attention of Congress through the ensuing session, as of the People in the succeeding Presidential canvass; and, whatever the immediate issue, we cannot doubt that the ultimate verdict will be in accord at once with the dictates of impartial Philanthropy and the inalienable Rights of Man.

Having made arrangements for fuller and more graphic reports of the doings of Congress, and of whatever else transpiring at the Federal Metropolis shall seem worthy of public regard, and having extended both our Foreign and Domestic Correspondence and strengthened our Editorial staff, we believe THE TRIBUNE may safely challenge a comparison with any rival, whether as an exponent of principles or as a reliable mirror of the passing world. We purpose not to be surpassed nor anticipated in the collection or presentation of intelligence, though we eschew that reputation for enterprise which is acquired by bribing messengers and clerks in public offices to connive at the premature publication of treaties or other official documents. We prize accuracy of statement quite as highly as promptitude, but endeavor not to sacrifice the latter while securing the former. Essentially, THE TRIBUNE will be what it has been, while we shall constantly study to improve its every feature, and "make each day a critic on the last." The general verdict of the Press and the Public has affirmed the success of our past labors, and those of the future shall be characterized by equal earnestness and assiduity. We ask those who believe the general influence of our journal to be salutatory to aid us in extending that influence through an increase of our subscriptions.

THE NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE

is printed on a large imperial sheet, and published every morning and evening (Sundays excepted.) It contains Editorials on the topics of the times, employing a large corps of the best newspaper writers of the day; Domestic and Foreign Correspondence; Proceedings of Congress; Reports of Lectures; City News; Cattle, Horse, and Produce Markets; Reviews of Books; Literary Intelligence; Papers on Mechanics and the Arts, &c., &c. We strive to make THE TRIBUNE a *newspaper* to meet the wants of the public—its Telegraphic news alone costing over $15,000 per annum.

TERMS:

THE DAILY TRIBUNE is mailed to subscribers at $6 per annum, in advance; $3 for six months.

THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

is published every *Tuesday* and *Friday*, and contains all the Editorials of the Daily, with the Cattle, Horse, and General Markets, reliably reported expressly for THE TRIBUNE; Foreign and Domestic Correspondence; and during the sessions of Congress it contains a summary of Congressional doings, with the more important speeches. We shall, as heretofore, make THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE a Literary, as well as a political newspaper, and we are determined that it shall remain in the front rank of family papers.

One Copy, one year..$3 | Five Copies, one year....$11 25
Two Copies one year. 5 | Ten " *to one address*. 20
Ten Copies, or over, *to address of each subscriber*, $2.20 each.

Any person sending us a club of twenty, or over, will be entitled to an extra copy. For a club of fifty, we will send the Daily Tribune one year.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE is sent to Clergymen at $2 per annum.

THE NEW-YORK WEEKLY TRIBUNE,

a large eight-page paper for the country, is published every Saturday, and contains Editorials on the important topics of the times, the news of the week, interesting correspondence from all parts of the world, the New-York Cattle, Horse, and Produce Markets, interesting and reliable Political, Mechanical and Agricultural articles, &c., &c.

We shall, during this year, as hitherto, constantly labor to improve the quality of the instructive entertainment afforded by THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE, which, we intend, shall continue to be the best Family Weekly Newspaper published in the World. We consider the Cattle Market Reports alone richly worth to cattle raisers a year's subscription price.

TERMS:

One Copy, one year....$2 | Five Copies, one year.....$8
Three Copies, one year.. 5 | Ten Copies, one year.... 12
Twenty Copies, *to one address*..... ..20
and any larger number, $1 each.
Twenty Copies, *to address of each subscriber*.....24
and any larger number at $1.20 each.

Any person sending us a club of Twenty, or more, will be entitled to an extra copy. For a club of forty, we will send the Semi-Weekly Tribune; and for a club of one hundred the Daily Tribune will be sent gratis. We continue to send THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE to Clergymen for $1.

Subscriptions may commence at any time. Terms always cash in advance. All letters addressed to

HORACE GREELEY & Co., Tribune Buildings,
xii 1 1] Nassau-st., New-York.

THE HORTICULTURIST
FOR 1860.

THIS valuable and standard Magazine, established by the lamented A. J. Downing in 1846. begins a new vo ume with the January number. Its extended and valuable correspondence, presenting the experience of the most intelligent cultivators in America, has made it eagerly sought after by those interested in the progress of

Gardening and Rural Taste.

To all persons alive to the improvement of their gardens, orchard , or country seats—to scientific and practical cultivators of the soil—to nurserymen and commercial gardeners, this journal, giving the latest discoveries and improvements, experiments and acquisitions in Horticulture. and those branches of knowledge connected with it, will be found invaluable.

The Editorial Department is at present in charge of Mr. PETER B. SMEAD, a gentleman well known as a practical Horticulturist, and who will receive assistance and cooperation from the best horticultural talent in all parts of the country.

The Magazine is publi hed monthly, each number containing 48 pages—a Frontispi ce and other engravings.—The "Editor's Table" an i "Answers to Correspondents" furnish copious hints to the novice in practical culture, and the "Editor's Drawer" presents, among other things, a summary from the leading Horticultural Journals of Europe. The

Numerous and Beautiful Illustrations,

Plans for Cottages, Greenhouses, &c., the Figures of New Fruits and Plants—added to the valuable features above named, combine to render this one of the CHEAPEST and most valuable works on either side of the Atlantic.

☞ New subscribers will be furnished with the volumes for 1855, '56, '57, '58 and '59 bound in neat cl th for $10.

TERMES—TWO DOLLARS per year—Four copies for SIX DOLLARS. All payments to be made in advance. Specimen numbers furnished on application.

☞ All business letters and communications to be addressed to the Proprietors,

C. M. SAXTON, BARKER & CO.,
No. 25 Park-row, New-York,

who keep constantly on hand the most complete assortment of BOOKS ON AGRICULTURE that can be found in the world. Books sent by mail. Catalogues gratis. Agents wanted. [xii 1.

Waukegan Nurseries.

A Plat of 60,000 APPLE TREES, fine and thrifty, three to four years old from graft, for sale at a bargain, with or without a lease of the land on which they are growing

Also. *Apple Trees, Currants, Gooseberries, Lawton and Dorchester Blackberries, &c.*, at very low rates, by the Thousand.

A general assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Evergreens, Shrubs, Roses, &c., at wholesale and retail.—Catalogues gratis. ROBERT DOUGLAS.

xii 1 8] Waukegan, Ill., on Chicago & Milwaukee R. R.

$50. FIFTY DOLLARS. $50.

Fifty Dollars a Month, and all Expenses Paid,

TO introduce our NEW NATIONAL DOUBLE THREAD TWENTY DOLLAR SEWING MACHINE A great chance for Traveling Agents to engage in a permanent business, at $600 a year and expenses. Address, with stamp for particulars, J. W. HARRIS & CO.,

xii 1 2] No. 13 Shoe & Leather Exchange, Boston, Mass.

Seeds at Wholesale.

OUR New TRADE CATALOGUES of Garden, Field, Flower and Tree Seeds for 1860, are now ready for mailing to all dealers inclosing a postage stamp.

Our Stock of Seeds is the finest and most extensive ever offered in this country; and to parties requiring them in large quantities we offer unusual inducements.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
xii 1 2] 15 John-st., New-York.

THORBURN'S DESCRIPTIVE ANNUAL CATALOGUE, of Kitchen, Garden and Agricultural Seeds for 1860, is now ready for mailing to applicants inclosing a postage stamp. It contains directions for cultivation and other useful information for amateur cultivators. Send for it. J. M. THORBURN & CO.,

xii 1 2] 15 John-st., New-York.

THE WINTER TERM OF THE EVANSVILLE SEMINARY will commence on **Wednesday, Jan. 4th, 1860,** at 2 o'clock p. m.

A Course of Study will be adopted embracing a period of Four Years, and all pupils, of both sexes, who shall pass a satifactory examination in the studies of the entire course will receive Diplomas.

A NORMAL DEPARTMENT has been established for the Education of Teachers, and a class will be formed in this department at the commencement of the Term. This class will be under the especial charge of D. Y. KILGORE, A.M., who has been elected Principal of the Institution.

Although this Seminary is under the patronage of the Wisconsin Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, no sectarianism will be allowed to be taught therein Mr. Kilgore will enter upon his duties as Principal the first week of the Term, for which purpose he will resign his office of Superintendent of the Public Schools of Madison. He will be assisted by some of the most successful teachers in the State, and every possible advantage will be afforded students. Although the village of Evansville contains less than one thousand inhabitants, there are four churches and three school-houses, all in a prosperous condition. There is a large and elegant hotel, but not one drinking or gambling saloon, nor is one drop of intoxicating liquors sold in the village.

Board in good families can be obtaindd for $1.50 per week, and ample accommodations may be procured, at reasonable rates, for those who may wish to board themselves.

TUITION ranges from $3.00 to 8 00, according to the branches pursued. W. C. KELLEY, Agent.

Evansville, Rock Co., Wis., Dec. 15th, 1859.

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'76 NURSERIES,
MADISON, WIS.

FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBS of a superior quality can be had at our establishment, among which are

10,000 three year old apple trees, two years grafted on whole seedling roots, of remarkably fine growth, embracing most of the leading varieties, and ten sorts of great vigor, hardiness, productiveness, and good quality, which have proved well adapted to the Northwest.

50,000 Hedge Plants of Honey Locust (*gleditcia triacanthus*) one year.

15,000 Timber Locust (or Yellow) one year.

10,000 Timber Trees, American Larch, 2 to 4 years.

5,000 Pie Plants, of many standard sorts.

5,000 Currants, 2 to 4 years, Red and White Dutch.

1,000 Vermont and Issabella Grape Vines, and other hardy sorts.

10,000 Raspberries, red and yellow Antwerp, and black cap

50,000 Strawberry Plants, of choice and well tried varieties, viz: Early Scarlet, Prolific Orange, Hovey's Seedling, Wilson's Albany, Hooker's, McAvoy's Superior Longworth's Prolific, Necked Pine, Burr's New Pine, Jenny Lind, and the Peabody.

5,000 American Seedling Gooseberries (Houghton's) 1 to 3 years.

In addition to which we have a select assortment of CHOICE APPLE TREES, from 4 to 6 years growth, and a large amount of

Fruit and Ornamental Shrubs and Plants, suitable for the Spring Trade.

We would call especial attention to our Stock of fine hardy Apple Trees; price $100 per 1,000—just the size for, convenient transportation, safe setting, and vigorous growing, and to which we can give an uncommon amount of good roots, samples of which can be seen at the "Farmer Office" and State Agricultural Rooms.

Price List sent on application.

J. C. PLUMB & CO.
T. D. PLUMB, Agent. xi ix

Apple Seed.

A quantity of NEW APPLE SEED for sale, at $6 00 per bushel. Also, NATIVE EVERGREENS of various kinds, at $6.00 per 1,000. furnished by the subscriber in season for the spring planting.

GEORGE S. ROOT,
xii 1 1] Skaneateles, N. Y.

AS accidents will happen in well regulated families, it is very desirable to have some cheap and convenient way for repairing Furniture, Toys, Crockery, etc.

SPALDINGS PREPARED GLUE

meets all such emergencies, and no household can afford to be without it. It is always ready, and up to the sticking point. There is no longer a necessity for limping chairs, splintered veneers, headless dolls, and broken cradles. It is just the article for cone, shell, and other ornamental work so popular with ladies of refinement and taste.

This admirable preparation is used cold, being chemically held in solution, and possessing all the valuable qualities of the best cabinet-makers' glue. It may be used in the place of ordinary mucilage, being vastly more adhesive.

"*USEFUL IN EVERY HOUSE.*"

N. B. A brush accompanies each bottle.

Price 25 Cents.

Wholesale Depot, No. 30 Platt-st., New-York.

Address HENRY C. SPALDING & CO.,
Box No. 3,606, New York.

Put up for dealers in cases containing four, eight and twelve dozen, a beautiful lithograph show-card accompanying each package.

☞ *A single bottle of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE will save ten times its cost annually to every household.* ☜

Sold by all prominent Stationers, Druggists, Hardware and Furniture Dealers, Grocers, and Fancy Stores.

Country merchants should make a note of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE, when making up their list. It will stand any climate. [xii 1 0

Seeds of Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

WE are now in receipt of several leading varieties of Tree and Shrub Seeds, in advance, of our extensive assortment of over 800 sorts, a catalogue of which will be published on the first of February.

Norway Spruce Seed,	75 cts.	per lb.
European Silver Fir,	1 00	"
Black Austrian Pine,	3 00	"
Pitch Pine,	3 00	"
Weymouth Pine,	3 00	"
European Larch,	3 00	"
Chinese Arbor Vitæ,	2 50	"
American do., (clean seed)	6 00	"
Hemlock Spruce, (clean seed)	6 00	"
Sea Side Pine,	1 00	"
Balsam Fir,	3 00	"
White and Black Birch, each	2 00	"
Yellow and White Ash, each	1 00	"
Cedar of Lebanon, cones each	20	
Scotch Fir	1 50	"
Honey Locust for Hedges,	75	"
Yellow Timber Locust,	75	"
Buckthorn Seed,	1 00	"

ALSO

Apple Seed, 40 cts. per quart, $8.00 per bushel.
Pear Seed, (imported) $2 50 per pound.
Pear Seed, (American) $2.00 per pound.
Black Mazzard Cherry Pits, 50 cts. per qt, $10 bushel.
Connecticut Seed Leaf Tobacco, $3.50 per pound.
Early Sovereign Potatoes, the earliest and best variety in cultivation, $4 50 per barrel.
White Clover, Lucerne, English Rye Grass, Blue Grass, Orchard Grass, and all and every variety of Seeds for the Farm, Plantation and Garden.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
xii 1 2] 15 John-st., New-York.

THE

Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Office S.E. Corner Main & Wisconsin Streets,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wisconsin & Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT that a policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provision for one's family," and since his day, *experience* has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generally practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute, as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms. It is a *Home* Company. Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly sacred character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

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Mendota Foundry & Machine Shop.

MADISON.

Repairing of all kinds of Threshing-Machines,

And other machinery, done with dispatch and on reasonable terms.

Having all the patterns ever made in Madison, and patterns of almost every thing, we can usually do repairing both quicker and better than at other shops.

☞ Especial attention will be paid to this branch of our business.

The Subscriber would also call the attention of the public to their superior SUGAR MILLS. Also to

D. M. Cook's Patent Portable Sugar Evaporator,

(a cut of which appears in July number of Farmer,) the exclusive sale of which they have secured for the counties of Dane and Jefferson. They confidently believe that their Mill and this Evaporator cannot be excelled for the purposes of sugar making. We have numerous testimonials of the highest creditability, showing the perfect adaptation of Cook's patent to the purpose of reducing the Sorghum juice to syrup and sugar. Our mills vary in price from $35 to $100. The pan and fire box complete varies from $43 to $68.

We have on hand and can dispose of on favorable terms, all the implements necessary to start a Foundry and Machine Shop, consisting of engine and boiler, 2 engine lathes, 1 do planer, 1 upright self-feeding drill, 1 heavy chuck lathe, 1 cupalo and fan, 1 wood lathe, 2 blacksmith's anvils, 3 do bellowses, &c. Also pulleys and shafting.

D. J. POWERS, Assignee
of P. H. TURNER.

Madison, September, 1859. xi x tf

NEW FEED CUTTER!

STAND BACK! Stand back here!! STAND BACK, GENTLEMEN! and make the ring larger, so that all can have a chance to see this

New Clipper Hay, Straw, and Stalk Cutter operate!

You see those two sharp knives set in the shape of a V, and this horizontal knife on the Gate, set so that the edges of the three knives make a perfect shear, which makes it cut anything from tissue paper to the largest corn stalks, perfectly smooth and easy, more so than any machine in use, and the board on the gate comes in front of the straw when the gate is raised, setting it to a certain length of cut, and box large enough to cut a whole bundle at once.

Price only five dollars

Transportation added—weight thirty-six pounds—and warranted to cut as much, last as long, less liable to get out of repair, and please the purchaser better, than any machine made.

The severe drouth has made the crop of hay so light, that unless every one economizes very closely, there will be a great scarcity of feed in Wisconsin By cutting your hay and straw you can make it go twice as far, and one of these machines will save the price of one, in one winter, by cutting feed for only one cow.

Save your Feed and economize closely these hard times.

It will be necessary to order these machines, to secure one in good season, as I am compelled to fill orders first.

Agents wanted all over the State. A liberal discount will be made to Agents.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by

XI XI 8 A. C. DAVIS, Madison, Wis.

Elgin Nurseries.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

TEN active salesmen wanted that can make from one to three hundred dollars per month each.

We invite the attention of nurserymen, tree dealers and farmers in all the Great West to our very extensive stock of Trees, Plants and Shrubs, of varieties and qualities the most valuable and excellent.

This nursery now occupies about forty acres of land. The qualities of trees and stock, both in size and thriftiness is not excelled either East or West. Especial care has been taken to cultivate such hardy varieties as will endure a prairie climate. Our fruit trees consist of—

Standard Apple, 3 to 4 years old, strong and healthy.
" Pear, 2 to 3 do do
" Cherry of hardy varieties.
Currants—Red, White, Black, Victoria and Red Grape.
Gooseberries—Houghton Seedling which never mildews.
Blackberries—Lawton and Thornless.
Rhaspberries—Several of the most valuable varieties.
Strawberries—including Wilson's Albany and Hooker's Seedling.
Ornamental—Evergreens, Norway Spruce, Scotch, Weymouth and Black Austrian Pines and American Arborvitæ. Deciduous Trees, Tyrolese Larch, European Mountain Ash, Black Walnut and Silver Maple.
Seedlings—Apples first quality, Sugar Maple, Silver do., White Ash and Horse Chestnut. Also a quantity of Elm Seedlings 2 years old.

Our long and successful experience in selecting ground and cultivating fruit in orchards, enables us to publish and contribute gratuitously to each who may send us their orders such instructions as will, if followed, insure success in fruit raising.

All orders and enquiries will be promptly answered.

D CHICHESTER SCOFIELD,
Successor to L K. SCOFIELD & CO.

Elgin, Kane Co., Ill., Aug., 1859. XI IX

WALDO J. ELMORE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

China, Glass and Earthen Ware,

House Furnishing Wares,

LAMPS, AND CORNELIUS' GAS FIXTURES,

And Manufacturer of Looking Glasses.

No. 163 East Water-St., Milwaukee.

XI VI tf

Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,

SOLICIT the attention of planters, nurserymen and dealers in trees throughout the West, to their present stock, which has never been equalled in extent, nor surpassed in vigor, health, and beauty of growth. In its propagation and culture, no pains have been spared to insure accuracy. Packing for distant parts is done in the most careful and skillful manner, and customers treated in all respects with fairness and liberality. The leading article of the stock may be enumerated as follows:

FRUIT DEPARTMENT.

Apples on free stock for orchards, 2 to 4 years from bud and graft,
do on Paradise and Doucin stock for gardens, 2 to 3 yrs.
Pears on Pear stock, 2 to 3 years from bud.
do on Quince stock, 2 years from bud.
do do do 3 to 4 years, with fruit buds.
Cherries on Mazzard stocks, 2 years from bud.
do on Mahaleb stocks, 2 years from bud.
Quinces, Orange, Portugal, and Rea's Seedling, a superb new variety.
English Filberts.
Spanish Chestnuts.
Grapes, hardy, all the most valuable new and old sorts.
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WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, JANUARY 15, 1860. NO. 2.

Issued on the 1st and 15th of every Month—Terms: $1 a Year.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

THE PRODUCTS OF THE SOIL OUR ONLY SUBSTANTIAL SOURCE OF WEALTH.

How emphatically has this fact been impressed upon the minds of all thinking persons in the West for the last year. The people had been running ahead in the full tide of prosperity and extravagance, induced in a good degree by abundant crops and good prices; all found that they could make and get money easy, consequently all spent and traded upon it freely.

Just in the midst of this high tide, a panic of fear struck the commercial world almost as suddenly as a bolt from heaven, and almost as destructively. Prices of produce fell almost to naught, when immediately succeeding this the short crops of 1858 finished up the catastrophe for the time being. The merchants, manufacturers and mechanics found themselves in debt, and nothing to pay with except the promises of the farmers; and the farmers found themselves in debt on all hands, and nothing to pay with except a scanty crop and low price. Every body wanted their pay, and nobody could pay; every body wanted to borrow, and nobody could or would lend. Sad state of things! Sudden transition from wealth to poverty. Alas, how many have felt it like a plunge from a warm into a cold bath.

And where is the remedy; can people pay their debts by borrowing? or can they pay them by trading one with another? No; not at all, as a general proposition. A few sharpers may cheat the less wary, and thus extricate themselves; but by it their victims are only sunk the deeper.

No, borrowing nor swapping jackets will not pay off the debts of a whole community; at least it can only shift them from one to another. But, in a state like ours, the wherewith to meet up our arrearages must come almost wholly from the soil. There is no dodging it. At present, every question about the times is referred to the forthcoming crops, and made to hinge upon their prospects. The merchant, the manufacturer, the laborer, and even the speculator, has ran nearly or quite ashore for means with which to ply their callings. All are now waiting with hope and anxiety for the relief expected to come from the soil. How far those fond hopes are destined to be blasted by unfavorable seasons, or by the uncounted millions of destructive chintz bugs that are doubtless waiting their time and turn, is a vastly important question. That an unusually wide breadth is fall-plowed for spring sowing is certain, and it is well; for it is the only bank that can discount to us a permanent relief. Good crops of wheat, wool, and corn out of which to make pork, will help us far more in squaring up our ballances than money to be borrowed at any per cent, no matter how low. By another harvest the whole country will again be destitute of every kind of grain, hence prices cannot fail to be tolerably good; let, then, all who really wish to get out of debt, or to aid in helping the country out, stretch every nerve not only to raise large but good crops—such as will be marketable and profitable.

Good crops from our own soil, well raised and well sold, and the proceeds economically and judiciously applied, not to the purchase of more land, but to the payment of our debts, is our only sure relief and returning road to our former prosperity. Let our farmers and business men determine not only to get out but to keep out of debt; then that worse devourer than the chintz bug, high interest, will cease to oppress, and become a stranger among us. And until the time comes that money is abundant in the State to all good borrowers at

six and seven per cent, we cannot be otherwise than poor. High rates of interest, like stimulating medicines, may save from immediate death, but only in the end to prove the more certain; it is usually simply a length of line to admit the more effectual swallowing of the hook. We repeat, in conclusion, that the only mode of relief of any avail is to coin up the money out of our surplus lands by a sale to those that need and will use them, and to draft good crops from the soil with which to pay. The lord helps those that help themselves; let us *try*.

THE LIVES OF NORTH AMERICAN INSECTS.
By B. Jaeger. Published by Harpe- Brethers, New York.

Farmers, of all men, should study the nature and character of insects. Talk about wet seasons and dry seasons, early frosts and cold winters; these causes do not work a tithe of the devastation to our industry, compared with that effected by little, contemptible (?) bugs and flies. From earliest antiquity until now, no country has ever entirely escaped the ravages of insects; and all have, at one time or another, been assaulted; their fields laid waste, their cattle destroyed, and themselves impoverished by armies of these little Vandals and Huns. The Bible tells us, how that pip-headed old slaveholder Pharaoh was tormented by locusts. "They covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruits of the trees that were left; and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt."

Among the Cossack herdsmen, along the Black Sea, the mosquitoes rival, in number and rapacity, the locusts of Egypt; destroying the cattle of whole regions, entering their ears, nostrils and eyes until the poor beasts drop, suffocated, and die in convulsions.

A spirited writer has well observed that the tenure of the Governments of Europe depends upon the movements of the Hessian fly. Let these insects overrun the continent; let the people cry for *bread*, and where are Governments?

In Wisconsin our recollections of the chintz bug are neither faint nor pleasant. New York and the eastern States generally, have been eaten up by the fly and weevil. The South are divided equally between fear of a servile insurrection and of a little *louse* that preys upon their cotton. Passing over squash bugs, potato bugs, plant and tree lice, etc., we come to a class of insects which torment and often kill our horses, cattle and sheep—the bot flies.

On the subject of the bot fly which causes the disease, called the "bots" in horses, we are tempted to give an extract from the book before us:

"The HORSE GAD-FLY, or LARGE BOT-FLY, (*Œstrus equi*) has spotted wings, and a body covered with yellow hair. This is one of the principal flies whose young sometimes cause the death of a horse. The stomach of a horse is sometimes paved with these larvæ or bots, as a street is paved with stones, and this, too, without the animal seeming to suffer by it.—Formerly it was believed that this gad-fly deposited her eggs under the tail of the horse, and that the larvæ, issuing from them, creep through all the intestines until they reach the stomach; but investigations have shown this not to be the case, but, on the contrary, as may be seen almost every day in the spring and the beginning of summer, the female of this fly deposits her eggs, often five hundred in number, upon the fore legs of the horse. In about four days these eggs are hatched; and, as by their motions they produce a tickling or itching, the horse tries to remove them with his tongue, and in doing so swallows most of them, by which means they are transported into the stomach, where each one fastens itself, by means of two horny hooks, to the internal coat of the stomach, there sucking its fleshy fibers, and feeding on the gastric juice. When full grown, and about three-fourths of an inch long, they leave this hiscus, are carried along through the intestines, and with the balls of fecal matter, fall to the ground, enter it, transform themselves into pupal, from which, after three or four weeks, they come out as perfect flies," &c.

Who knows but that, if this subject were "probed to the core," we should find, among insects themselves, the means to keep them within bounds?

In the ocean, where communication is easy, we see this principle illustrated to perfection; fish feeding on fish, and thus enforcing the proper ratio between themselves. Entomologists have already found this principle active in several instances; we will mention only one —the Ichneumon Fly. This little insect has a habit of depositing its eggs in the potato

worm. Here they are soon hatched and the young proceed, with ample appetite, to devour the fat of the poor *wurr-em* in whose body they are located, which accomplished they leave its dead body in swarms, much refreshed, and ready to perform the same service for another worm, in which they soon deposit *their* eggs.

"Who knows that the insect is not living somewhere, that would use up the chintz bug, by the same process? or the weevil, or the Hessian fly? Time will show. If research should show this to be the case, nothing would be easier than to regulate them. If the Hessian fly, then, gets troublesome, in any particular locality, import a few boxes of the enemy, let them commence the work of propagating themselves and exterminating the marauders.

There is another view of this sublect, *i. e.*, the *benefits* of insects, and how we may take advantage of them. Discarding, in this article, all but the *practical*, that is, the *pecuniary* benefits to be derived from a thorough investigation of insect life; take as examples the bee and silkworm, both especially the former, well adapted to our meridian. In 1845 the United States imported twenty-five million dollars' worth of silks. Now there is little doubt but that, with investigation turned in this direction, *at least* the southern portion of the Union, would be found to be just the place for raising cocoons; while the North would, of course, be well adapted for the manufacture of the fabric. We speak thus much of the *common* silkworm; but entomologists have already found at least three indigenous varieties of moths, which seem equally valuable as silk producers, viz: the cecropia luna and polypheme. These insects being indigenous, of course feed upon the foliage of native trees, as the oak, elm, &c. Here, then, is rich promise and encouragement for inquiry. How important, as an article of commerce, is honey; and yet either through ignorance or indisposition, this important branch of industry, we have, hitherto, almost entirely neglected.—Austria, having an area about equal to Texas, produced, in 1857, honey and wax to the amount of two and a half millions only! What would our farmers say to an appropriation from the Government, to hire experienced teachers of agriculture, to go all through the country and give, gratis, instruction upon this subject? This is done in Germany, and, as a result, the little kingdom of Hanover, alone, produces treble the honey that the United States did in 1850!

All these subjects, and more, are treated of in the interesting book Mr. Jaeger has given us. Every farmer should buy it. It should be in every school library. The study is an interesting and profitable one for both young and old—the materials for its illustration are abundant. We hope the subject will receive, as it deserves, due attention. O. A. W.

WESTERN FARMS, USUALLY TOO LARGE.

More land than a farmer can cultivate well, and seasonably at all times, is a damage and loss to him. That this is so every one will admit, but the how much a farmer can cultivate well, is a question on which there is a good deal of difference of opinion. A German who has lived and supported a family on five acres of land in the old country, usually feels well satisfied when he comes to this country to get forty acres; emigrants from other countries want more, but do not usually covet large farms. But the enterprising and speculative Yankee farmer, usually buys a big farm if he can manage to do so—two, three, four or even five hundred acres—never calculating just how he is going to improve, stock and carry it on. He buys to venture, to the extent of his pile, and often largely beyond; thus often exhausting his capital in the outset and taking a load of debt upon his shoulders besides, for after years—and all for what he does not need at all; for, ten to one, if two-thirds of his big farm, does not lay in commons or what is nearly as bad. Thus the folly of big farms is shown.

If the three-hundred-acre man, took one hundred, and paid all up first and had money to spare, instead of encumbering it with a mortgage (that most accursed institution) and then went on and fenced and improved it well and thoroughly in all respects—putting the plow down deep, and spreading the manure on thick, cultivating thoroughly and in season, leaving not a weed to grow upon it, nor aught else but what pays, which, think you, would make the most money, and which be most pleasant and creditable to the owner? Who is at a loss to tell? Small farms pay much the best in proportion, and are also much the most advantageous to the country. Let the farmer go down deep as well as sideways, he will find his land equally valuable, and even more so, in that direction. Eighty or one

hundred acres of land when thoroughly gone over, will be found to be a good deal of land, and to call for a deal of hard work.

Let men who have unimproved or half-improved farms, scattering about them, producing little or nothing, think of these facts, and may be learn from them one cause of their getting along so poorly. Let such also study, where to divide and sell off the surplus and useless portions of their farms even at medium or low prices, rather than to keep them at the sacrifice of taxes and interest. Remember that all such unproductive lands, swallow themselves up in taxes and interest once in about five years. Better sell at moderate rates than to keep dead weights bearing down upon us; more land than we can well use is worse than useless, and that condition of things is to-day one of the greatest drawbacks on the prosperity of Wisconsin. *We have too much land and too little farming;* let every one consider this matter for himself, and in his own way and time, cut down his own place to the right size if too large; it will in all cases be found the first step in the right direction and the true source of thrift and prosperity.

EVERY FARMER SHOULD HAVE HIS WORKSHOP.

"Joe! I say, where in thunder is the inch auger—yes, and the hand-saw? Been looking for them everywhere these two hours, and can't find hide nor hair o' neither on 'em!"

"I dunno; mebby Jim left 'em over in the wheat field where he fixed the old plow yisterday."

"Wal, go 'n see—and tell him, if he leaves 'em out agin to rot and rust, or be carried off, I'll lick him!"

The above beautiful colloquy saluted our ears, a day or two since as we passed a rickety old farm house not many miles from where we write, and at once suggested the caption at the head of this article. For, thought we, *System is the mother of Carefulness;* and if these blundering boys had been made to understand from their earliest years, that the *tool-shop* was the place for all the tools, and, that they would not be pardoned for leaving them in the open field, or for putting them indiscriminately in the barn, the garret, cellar, or hen-roost, just as it happened or seemed most convenient, then their love of order would have been cultivated, and carefulness become a sort of "second nature."

On every farm, however small, a great number of breakages are inevitable, and the labor of going to the village mechanic is often greater and consumes more time—to say nothing of the expense—than would be involved in the repairing at home, if the tools and other conveniences were there. Not only so, but there are times when his day would be lost, did he not have some convenient and well protected place where in-door work might be done.—Therefore it is that we say, Every farmer of thrift and enterprise will have some sort of a tool and workshop, where, during the stormy weather of winter and spring, or even of summer, the odd days and ends of time that cannot be profitably spent in the field nor spared for reading agricultural journals and other works calculated to add to his stock of knowledge, may be put to the best of practical use in the repairing of implements, the making of farm gates and portable fencing, or whatever else may be necessary.

We know some farmers who have such shops for occasional work, with places for everything and everything in its place; and they are all, without exception, model farmers, doing things at the right time and in the right way. Farmers—ye who are able, go and do likewise, and the savings of five years will more than repay the expense; while the gain to your children in the way of inculcating good and orderly habits will be beyond the power of computation.

A New Source of Wealth.—We see by the Pittsburgh papers that there is considerable excitement in that region of the country respecting a subterranean reservoir of oil which has been recently discovered. Companies are engaged in digging wells to obtain the oil. When procured in its crude state it sells for sixty cents per gallon. It does not cost more to pump it than one cent per gallon, and nine cents more per gallon will pay for barrels and transportation to New York. The refined oil is sold at a much higher figure. The oil is petroleum, a bituminous substance, which is found floating on the water of springs. The excitement does not appear to be altogether speculative, though possibly that may have something to do with the published accounts. One singular fact is mentioned in connection with these oil pits. In many places in the valley of Oil Creek, the ground is covered with pits, hundreds and thousands of them, evidently dug for the purpose of gathering oil, and at a period so remote that trees 250 years old are growing them. The query is, by whom were these pits dug, and for what purpose was the oil gathered?

CALVES SHOULD BE RAISED—NOT SOLD.

You invite discussion on the subject of raising and feeding stock. I offer you the following:

I lay it down as a fundamental principle of farm management, that it is wrong to destroy whatever has in it growth and improvement; hence, as a general rule, it is bad economy to sell calves for veal, or lambs for the butcher, because, by so doing, you destoy not only the germ, but actually the breeding for the future growth, improvement and maturity. A good veal of six weeks old, is a tempting morsel to the epicurian, and first rate food for laying the seeds of that troublesome disease, dyspepsia, and often commands a high price in market. But do farmers ever estimate what they lose, or in other words, what it costs them to make a first rate veal at six weeks old? The old fashioned rule used to be, to estimate a veal to be worth a dollar a week up to the time of its going to the butcher. This rule even now will serve as a basis for my estimate. Any higher price obtained for veal of that age will constitute the exception, not the rule. We farmers, then, obtain for our veals at six weeks old $6. To get this the calf must get all the milk, warm and fresh from its mother's udder, and occasionally a good egg in the bargain, if it is desired to make him extra fat. Now, sir, I assert that the farmer, with the same food and attention, and a very little extra labor, can in six weeks get his $6 hard cash in hand, have his cow in better order, and have the same calf, if not quite so fat, yet in good, healthy, growing condition, and worth almost as much to him, as the future cow or ox, as if sold to the butcher and sacrificed to the vitiated taste of the epicure, or morbid appetite of the dyspeptic.

My plan is, (I claim no originality for the plan, but only to show that I endeavor to follow a good example,) to take the calf at two or three days old from the mother, raise it by hand on skimmed milk, with the addition, after a few days, of crumbs, or even crusts of bread, with a change to hay tea, or such waste slops from the kitchen as may be at hand.—By this plan the calf can be raised in a good, healthy, growing condition, and with the refuse from the dairy for the first few months, carried on to maturity without check in its growth or deformity in its appearance. The mother is thus relieved from the distress which a later separation produces, of the heavy and reducing draft of nursing for six weeks, and in the same time makes, in butter or cheese, (in the latter I have no experience, but in the former I have,) as much money as the calf would have sold for to the butcher. But the advantage does not stop here. A calf raised by hand forgetteth not the hand that feedeth it—"the ox knoweth its owner," &c.,—and as the future ox or cow is gentle, kind, and easily managed, it is worth far more than the young deers or elks, raised at large with their dams, which spring up with the head and tail erect, and off at the first approach of their master's foot. I was offered $40 for a small eighteen months' heifer, raised as above described, with a calf but a day or two old at her side, which suffered me, in a large open field, with a herd of twenty other cattle, to approach and handle her udder in the presence of the gentlemen desiring to purchase. I raise about twenty calves annually in the same way, although quite convenient to a good veal market.

Lest I weary your readers, I subscribe myself A MARYLAND FARMER.

—*Country Gent.*

REGULARITY IN FEEDING.—Every good farmer knows that any domestic animal is a good clock—that it knows, almost to a minute, when the regular feeding time has arrived. If it has been accustomed to be fed with accuracy at the appointed period, it will not fret until that period arrives; after which it becomes very restless and uneasy until its food comes. If it has been fed irregularly, it will begin to fret when the earliest period arrives. Hence, this fretting may be entirely avoided by strict punctuality; but it cannot be otherwise. The very moment the animal begins to worry, that moment it begins to lose flesh; but the rate of this loss has never been ascertained—it is certainly worthy of investigation—and can be only determined by trying the two modes, punctuality and irregularity, side by side, under similar circumstances, and with the same amount of food, for some weeks or months together.

There is one precaution to be observed in connection with regular feeding, where some judgment is needed. Animals eat more in sharp or frosty than in warm and damp weather. Hence, if the same amount by weight is given at every feeding, they will not have enough when the weather is cold, and will be surfeited when it is warm and damp. Both of these evils must be avoided, and a little attention and observation will enable the farmer to do it.—*Country Gent.*

A WITNESS FOR BOYS.—A strong writer administers a wholesome dose to boys on chewing and smoking, assuring them that tobacco has spoiled and utterly ruined thousands of boys—inducing a dangerous precocity, developing the passions, softening and weakening the bones, and greatly injuring the spinal marrow, the brain and the whole nervous fluid. A boy who early and frequently smokes, or in any way uses large quantities of tobacco, never is known to make a man of much energy of character, and generally lacks physical and muscular, as well as mental energy. We would warn boys who want to be anybody in the world, to shun tobacco as a baneful poison.

FARMING IN ST. CROIX COUNTY—WILL IT PAY?

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Gents—Allow me to answer an inquiry through your paper that has been repeatedly asked by letter, whether farm lands in St. Croix county are worth improving?

I would say for the benefit of such, that in the month of June and July, 1858, I had broke up for the first time on my wild land, twenty-five acres, at a cost of one hundred and twenty-five dollars. I let it out and found seed the past seasou; the result was as follows on fifteen acres of wheat:

Dr. for breaking 15 acres	$75 00	
Expenses for seed wheat 1¾ bush. per acre.	26 25	
" " wear of tools	2 00	
		$103 25
Cr. by 335 bush. wheat at 60c per bush		100 50
Leaves a balance due for breaking and seed of		$2 75

While it will be remembered that the seed cost one dollar per bushel and the crop reckoned at only sixty cents, of course no reasonable man can say but that the first crop with ordinary seasons will pay for breaking and the seed, and leave the land in a state to be plowed again for one dollar and a half per acre. Allowing the next season's crop to be the same, and wheat to have the same low price, it would leave a balance in favor of the land of about fifty dollars—plenty enough to fence the land. Next season will find me with about eighty acres under the plow, which I claim will amply pay for itself in two years, and leave the same well fenced.

Why do people that wish to save money, purchase land, pay taxes, loose the interest of their money year after year, when with a little exertion they can place it in a position where it will pay fifty per cent. on the capital invested? Grumble not friends because you are land poor, and that it takes all you can get to pay taxes and interest; if you can't do better give away all but one "forty" and improve that.

But you say, what became of the balance of the twenty-five acres first broke? I will tell you: A part was used for garden, and the rest planted with corn. It being the first year I had crops, I was compelled to commence feeding the corn to the hogs nearly as soon as it was big enough to pull up. There has been five old hogs and nine pigs kept out of it till last Wednesday, when four fatted ones were killed, and two are now fatting to take down about New Year's Day, leaving me now about one hundred bushels on hand. And, by the way, you don't catch me again feeding out corn on the stalk and cob to fatten hogs if I can help it.

This year I contracted for a corn and cob mill (paid in advance) to be delivered July 15th, 1859, but it hasn't come yet—I guess it will by next year, then I will surely grind corn before feeding it out.

We made sure and took one of Cummings' Cutting Boxes along with us, which is a fine machine, and great saving to the feeding of cattle. Many a good, hearty meal my horses and cows have made, by cutting up about one-half bushel of corn-stalks to each one; wet it with warm water. Then let it be served up to steam for a few minutes before feeding; and you will be surprised when I tell you that I rather have that alone without meal, than timothy hay. I often change to the cutting of straw and hay with meal, when the team is at work. If you think this too light food for stock, please call and look at my horses and you would be a disbeliever no longer, but would learn to thus prepare the food for your stock, and never insult them again by flinging before them seven-foot corn-stalks or other dry fodder. Yours, &c., SCRIBNER.

HAMMOND, St. Croix Co., Nov. 28, 1859.

CORNSTALKS FOR MILCH COWS.—It is undesirable that milch cows should be allowed to feed on dried cornstalks. They are apt to cause them to fall back in their milk; and although the quality of the milk may be improved thereby, yet it will not be in a corresponding ratio to the loss in quantity. The same may be said of the frozen grass remaining on the fields. Keep your cows well housed, and give them good hay and roots, or bran mashes, if you wish to have them yield milk in winter.

WHAT YEARLING MULES ARE WORTH IN KENTUCKY.—Col. C. H. Rochester, of Boyle, sold 50 head of extra yearling mules, to Levi Hubble, of Lincoln, at $130 per head.

L. D. Goode, of Lincoln, sold to G. J. Salter, of Garrard, 63 head of yearlings, at $140 per head.

Garrett Elkin, of Garrard, sold to Malcolm Gill, of same county, 40 head fat males, at $175 per head.

Abram M. Vanarsdall, of Mercer, sold to John M. Alexander, of the same county, 53 head of fat mules, at $175 per head. Mr. Alexander afterwards sold the same lot to Jas. Kirk, of Marion, for $190 per head.

King & Welsh, of Lincoln, have recently bought a lot of about 50 head from G. Jones, of Mercer, at $155 per head, and about the same number from Dr. Wm. Tomlinson, at $170 per head.

ECONOMY OF STOCK FEEDING.

How to winter stock on a short supply of forgage, seems just now an important question. I can tell how a very intimate friend of the Colonel's did last winter, and perhaps somebody may be the better for it.

This gentleman had a pretty good pile of cornstalks, well saved. His stock consisted of cows, and his team of horses, but he had little straw and less hay. He's a great believer in the virtues of cornstalks, and thinks he knows how to feed them. The first thing he did was to buy a straw cutter, and get it home. Then he fixed some tubs, by sawing good stout barrels in two, and made a good warm stable for his cattle.

The stocks were all cut, and more or less straw was cut with them. Each cow was allowed all she could eat three times a day, and the mess, night and morning, was fixed in this wise: The cows at noon had a feed of dry cut stalks and straw, which they would eat pretty clean except the coarser bits. At about three o'clock, these were gathered into the tubs, and enough more added to make the evening meal. To this was added two quarts of corn meal and two of bran, and hot water turned on, as much as would well moisten the whole, and all well mixed. The morning meal was the same, being mixed over night or early in the morning. In this way no stalks were wasted, the cows gave a good supply of milk, and increased in condition. It was some trouble, but the manure paid for that abundantly. On Long Island, where it is the custom for the farmers to sell their hay, they keep their horses on cut stalks and ground feed, and their teams look well.

The Colonel's friend and I agree that we can winter four times as much stock upon an acre of corn and stalks as upon the hay from an acre, and that there is no profit in growing hay for stock upon land that will produce good corn. But the corn must be ground, and the stalks cut, and cooked with the meal.—*Rural New Yorker.*

A GOOD PIG.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—I had a pig, dropped the 17th of March last. I killed it Nov. 8th, and it weighed, dressed, 315 lbs. It measured from end of snout to root of tail, 6 feet 9 inches.

D. W. ALLEN, Berlin.

NOTE.—Had Mr. A. given the breed of the above pig, it would have been valuable information.

☞ Hon. Judge Mason, of Iowa, who made himself so popular with the inventors of the country while he held the office of Commissioner of Patents, has, we learn, associated himself with Munn & Co., at the Scientific American office, New York.

ITEMS FROM JACKSON COUNTY.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Sirs—I believe it is generally admitted that editors know everything, and also that it is the especial duty of the editors of the Wisconsin *Farmer* to look after the interests and give advice to their subscribers on matters and things in general; therefore I have concluded to write you these lines.

The great interests of this section of the country for many years has been lumbering, and prices for all supplies ranged very high, which induced many to open farms—which was done when wheat was worth two dollars per bushel; oats, one dollar; corn, the same; and potatoes, ditto, and often from twenty-five to thirty per cent higher. And now, when the farms are opened and many of the farmers plunged into debt under the circumstances above, we can get the following prices by hauling from ten to thirty miles: Wheat, fifty to sixty cents; corn, fifty—frost took the most of it; oats, fifteen; potatoes, twenty to twenty-five cents—part trade. Now what shall we do? To think of paying old debts is idle; in fact, to feed, clothe and educate our families under all these difficulties, requires better financiering than many of us possess. Now, then, what shall we do?

Still further. I have not given you the whole case; but your knowledge might supply the rest. We have mainly a hilly country—but little timber—well watered with springs and small streams; and, for four or five months, any amount of the best wild grass, and can cut plenty of hay at an expense of, say, from one to two dollars per ton.

Now for your advice. Some of us have been thinking about sheep. There are but few wolves; and I have heard of one small flock of sheep that have had full range the last summer without any care but to salt them when they came home, and no losses have been sustained; and so far as I have heard they do well after the first winter.

If you recommend sheep, the next thing we want to know is, how to get them. I have above set forth the circumstances of many; still there are many more who could give security on unincumbered real estate to secure the purchase money, or the faithful performance of the agreement if taken on shares.—There are others, again, who would buy a few sheep each and pay the money for them.—

There are still others—of whom I am one—who would be glad to exchange real estate for sheep.

I have eighty acres of timbered land, within two miles of Richland Center, the county seat, with eighteen acres improved, and free from incumbrances, except two years' taxes, which I would exchange for sheep. Three years ago it was considered cheap at six hundred dollars. I would, next summer after shearing, (if that is the best time to remove them) take four hundred dollars in sheep, at fair prices.

We organized an agricultural society in this county one year ago, and held a fair at Black River Falls last October, and notwithstanding the unfavorable season and the depressed condition under which we suffer, the show was a creditable. We held our annual meeting last week and elected officers for the ensuing year: The writer of this was elected President; D. J. Spaulding, Secretary; and J. V. Wells, Treasurer. You will doubtless hear from us in the course of the year, as I believe it is the determination to award *Farmers* to some extent at the next fair.

I would state further, that we held a Farmers' Meeting on one evening during the Fair and one of the topics discussed was "sheep," and so much interest was manifested—which has seemed to increase—that it has called forth this epistle.

Respectfully yours,

E. Wilcox.

Northfield, Jackson Co., Nov. 20, 1859.

Note.—In relation to sheep-keeping in Jackson county we would say, that we traveled through it some three years ago, and as near as we recollect much of the soil is better adapted to sheep-keeping than any other stock, as more or less of the surface is uneven and of a sandy soil which would grow clover, if pastured by sheep—with plenty of marsh land for hay.

If the farmers are well enough started in tame grass, inclosed pastures and buildings for winter shelter, no doubt they could do well with sheep—much better than with grain-growing. We would advise our heavy sheep men of the older portions of the State to take sheep up there and let them on good security, when they could not sell them more satisfactorily. A farmer that knows how to take care of sheep can hire them at high rates and still make money out of the operation. We have seen it done, and in many cases where both parties were largely benefitted in the transaction. Sheep well cared for pay the fastest of of any stock, by far, and their wool product always brings at least a fair price and is easily carried to market from almost any point.—Sheep are the second great natural source of wealth in Wisconsin, and will be so understood, when people get over their love of hydrophobia. They ought even now to be paying us millions a year. We see nothing that would justify so well agriculturally in the norrh-western counties as sheep husbandry, just as fast as it can safely be introduced.

The Trade in Toads.—None but Frenchmen, of course, would ever think of making a regular business of trading in these brown-coated gentlemen, and accordingly we find trade flourishing in Paris alone. Toads, for some years, have been the indispensable allies of the French market gardeners, cultivating rich and moist grounds. Many of these men fill their gardens with them to get rid of a throng of insects injurious to the vegetables they have raised by laborious and scientific culture. Especially do toads attack and demolish the slugs and snails, which, in a single night, utterly destroy the commercial value of lettuce, carrots, parsnips, asparagus, and even early fruits. In having recourse to these singular auxiliaries, the French gardeners imitate their English brethren. A great portion of the vegetable supply is derived from kitchen gardens in the immediate vicinity of that immense city, cultivated, it is said, by 35,000 persons.—These gardens are a perfect marvel of laborious culture. You see sometimes acres and acres covered with hand-glasses. Rich manured, and sedulously tended, some of these garden spots are so managed as to yield five crops annually. Not only is there not a weed among them, but the vegetables are examined with lenses to detect mildew and fungi. Besides toads, which they pay six shillings a dozen for, they make use of fowls to destroy the aphides, rigging them with boots to prevent their scratching, and allow them the use of their bills. The price of toads is lower in Paris than in London; in the former city they are still sold, notwithstanding the demand, for about fifty cents a dozen, and many are exported to England. The dealers in this strange commodity keep them in the bottom of huge casks, into which they are constantly plunging their bare hands and arms, without showing the slightest fear of the liquid secreted by the toads which science has sometimes pronounced venomous. Busy little fellows these repulsive looking creatures are, and worthy of all possible encouragement and patronage.—*Exchange.*

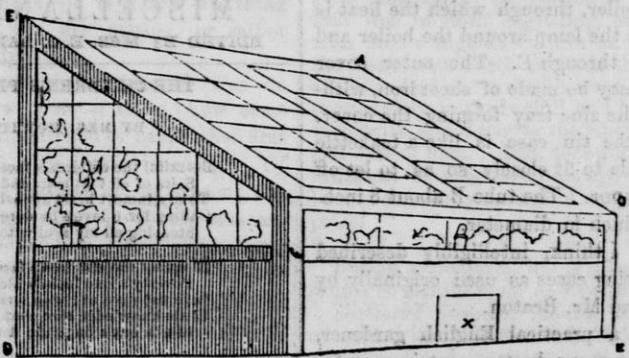
HORTICULTURAL.

THE WALTONIAN PROPAGATING CASE.

Some of the readers of the *Farmer* may feel an interest in knowing how they may propagate choice flower seeds or cuttings during the winter without the expense of a green house, or the trouble of a pit or hot-bed.

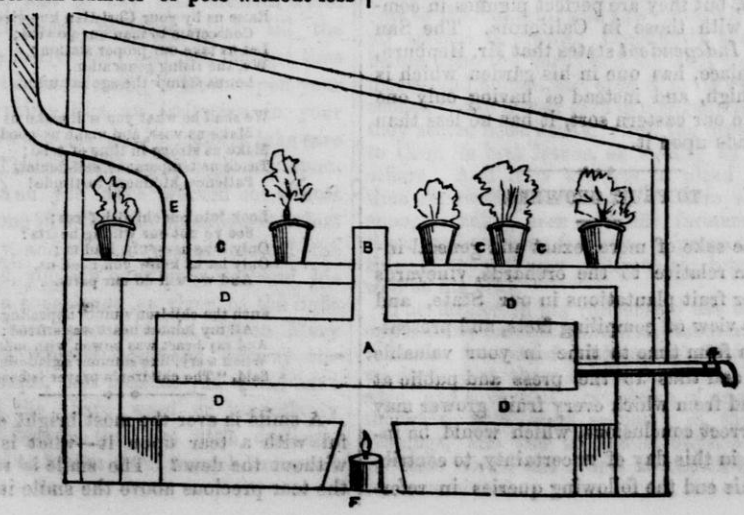
It is a well admitted fact that the dry atmosphere of a stove-heated room is detrimental to the growth of plants, and many ways have been suggested to remedy the evil, so that the lovers of flowers may gratify their taste by rearing plants in the house. For this purpose plant cases have been constructed wherein the plants may be placed, and enjoy the necessary moist atmosphere. These are attached to the windows, and properly come under the head of "Window Gardening." These cases are only used for the plants in a growing state.

The case which I propose to describe is for the purpose of propagating cuttings—such as Roses, Fuschias, Verbenas, and other herbaceous or hard wooded plants, as well as forwarding flower or other seeds. It is small, and may occupy a place in the sitting room, and afford much gratification to the amateur florist. In fact it is a miniature Green House in the house, and may be finished in the style of a piece of furniture. We give a perspective view of one of these cases.



The best size for the box is 34 inches long, 17 inches wide, 13 inches deep in front, and 18 inches at the back, all inside measure.—This will hold three rows of 5 inch pots and 6 pots in a row, 18 pots; or five rows of 3 inch pots, and 11 pots in the row—55 pots. The box should be made of a size to accommodate a certain number of pots without loss of space. A pot larger than 5 inches diameter should not be used in these cases, as t h are large enough for all seeds and cuttings.

Yankee ingenuity has suggested several different ways of heating the box, but the one represented in the end view is probably as effective as any.



A, boiler; B, steam chimney opening into the middle of the box through the zinc tray; C C C, zinc tray; D D D, outer cover to boiler, through which the heat is conveyed from the lamp around the boiler, and the smoke out through E; H, tap to draw off the water.

The tin case, A, to hold the water, should not be less than eight inches shorter or narrower than the box inside, leaving two inches space at the ends and sides, between the outer corner of the boiler and the wooden box, which space should be filled with sand to the bottom of the tray, C. The box being 34 inches long and 17 inches wide, a tin case 26 inches long, 9 inches wide, and 3 inches deep, will leave a space of two inches between it and the outer cover of the boiler, through which the heat is conveyed from the lamp around the boiler and the smoke out through E. The outer cover of the boiler may be made of sheet iron, without a cover—the zinc tray forming the cover. The cover of the tin case is like a teakettle cover, and made to fit closely so as to let off no steam or vapor. The tube B about 8 inches long and 1 inch in diameter.

I have thus, I think, intelligibly described these propagating cases as used originally by Mr. Walton and Mr. Beaton.

Mr. Beaton, a practical English gardener, says: "I never saw a better contrivance for amateurs to strike cuttings and raise seedlings than this of Mr. Walton's."

[TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT NUMBER.]

A TALL CABBAGE.—The people of Long Island are accustomed to boast of their large cabbages, but they are perfect pigmies in comparison with those in California. The San Andreas *Independent* states that Mr. Hepburn, of that place, has one in his garden which is 15 feet high, and instead of having only one head, like our eastern sort, it has no less than sixty heads upon it.

TO FRUIT GROWERS.

For the sake of more exact and general information relative to the orchards, vineyards and other fruit plantations in our State, and with the view of compiling facts, and presenting them from time to time in your valuable journal, and thus to the press and public at large, and from which every fruit grower may draw correct conclusions, which would be invaluable in this day of uncertainty, to contribute to this end the following queries in reference to your orchards, vineyards, or fruit gardens:

1st. The elevation and aspect.

2d. If sheltered, and on which side, by belts of trees, &c. If near and open to the influences of any large bodies of water.

3d. Of the soil and sub-soil.

4th. Of the preparation, planting and culture.

5th. How long out; what varieties; general cultivation, prospects, &c.

Direct to—Wisconsin Farmer Office, Madison, Wis.

State papers please copy.

MADISON, January, 1860.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EDITED BY MRS. E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

THE CHILDREN'S PRAYER.

BY MRS. HOWITT.

Beautiful the children's faces
Spite of all that mars and scars,
To my inmost heart appealing,
Calling forth love's tenderest feeling;
Steeping all my soul with tears.

Eloquent the children's faces—
Poverty's lean look, which saith,
Save us! save us! woe surrounds us,
Little knowledge sore confounds us;
Life is but a lingering death.

Give us light amid our darkness;
Let us know the good from ill;
Hate us not for all our blindness;
Love us, lead us, show us kindness—
You can make us what you will.

We are willing; we are ready;
We would learn if you would teach;
We have hearts that yearn towards duty;
We have minds alive to beauty;
Souls that any height can reach.

Raise us by your Christian knowledge:
Consecrate to man our powers;
Let us take our proper station;
We, the rising generation,
Let us stamp the age as ours,

We shall be what you will make us;—
Make us wise, and make us good!
Make us strong in time of trial;
Teach us temperance, self-denial,
Patience, kindness, fortitude!

Look into our childish faces;
See ye not our willing hearts?
Only love us—only lead us;
Only let us know you need us,
And we will do our parts.

Such the children's mute appealing,
All my inmost heart was stirred;
And my heart was bowed with sadness,
When a cry, like summer's gladness,
Said, "The children's prayer is heard."

A smile is ever the most bright and beautiful with a tear upon it—what is the dawn without the dew? The smile is rendered by the tear precious above the smile itself.

TILL BREAKFAST IS OVER.

Patience, mothers! for now is the time which tries your souls. We think of it, almost daily, as beside a warm fire we busily make our morning toilet, and, just in readiness for the tinkling of the bell, descend to a nice breakfast, prepared by hands that were busy long before our dreams were ended.—Think of it—of what? You don't suppose we meant you to understand that we think beforehand of our breakfast, perplexing our brains to decide whether it is to be muffins and coffee, or coffee and muffins? Our breakfast, indeed, when it is all there without thought or care of ours. Besides, the human heart is not so utterly selfish. No, dear reader—mother, we mean—it is *yours* we think of; the breakfast you are getting, or rather trying to get ready.

And under such circumstances! For do we not know, as well as if there, how comfortless is the little kitchen or cabin when first you enter it these bitter cold mornings. Of course everything that can be, is frozen; the fire smokes longest when it should soonest blaze; that particular time when things are in the worst shape to accomplish it, husband wants his breakfast in the greatest hurry; the children get up, all in a heap, at the moment you are congratulating yourself upon having them, this once, out of your way; and just as each one scrabbles for the best place at the fire, demanding to be first dressed, the baby wakens!

Yes, we do think of it, and sometimes wish we could be here and there, wherever such things exist, just to say one cheerful word. Patience, mothers, patience,—just till the breakfast is fairly over! If you can get thus far along without allowing a frown upon your face, or anything like an irritation in your tone, be sure the day will henceforth take care of itself. There is nothing like getting started right. And you have worked out a most auspicious one if, when the breakfast is at last nearly ready, and you all seated around the family board, you can hand your husband his coffee with a conscience as clear as the light with which your eye meets his. Then Mary can have the whitest egg, and Johnny the brownest potato, not because you would have them forget the sharp word or unmotherly ear-box, but because they are little darlings, and you love to humor them in such innocent whims.

Little, Oh very little are the things that make up the ocean of most of our lives; and yet, when we consider the most trifling in reference to its effect upon our own and the character and happiness of those around us, there is nothing small.

Think of this, mothers; particularly this winter—and before breakfast, and remember that

"In your patience ye are strong"

Agriculture favorable to Mental Vigor and the Highest Moral Culture.

Agriculture has often been unjustly disparaged as a rude employment most fit for boors and slaves. Such an insinuation is an insult to God and man. For the Creator never would have assigned an occupation to his creatures that was in itself degrading, or inconsistant with man's highest culture and dignity. If the beneficent earth rewards the labor, even of the rudest and most ignorant, she also proportionately rewards skill and intellectual investments, and deserves the labor of the wisest and best of men. And, therefore, Revelation intimates that the last, best age of society is to be pre-eminently an age of agricultural enterprise.

* * * * * * * *

But an agricultural life is *also directly favorable to mental vigor and culture.*

Scattered farmers, indeed, lack the close contact with active mind, the friction and stimulus found in cities, so that mind developes easier and more slowly in the country. And it is to be admitted that farmers do too much vegetate, like their crops, with little thought. But the fault is in them, not their calling.

More than almost any other class of laborers, farmers are brought into that close and constant contact with nature, which gives access to the fountains and raw material, whence all science is drawn. Constantly they have before them the earth and the sky, vegetable, insect, and animal life, each with its wondrous economy, and if they care to observe and study, they scarce need books. But the press sends to them its best issues, as readily as to any others. And it is too late to plead lack of time for reading and study. There are now enough reading, even scientific, farmers, practical, hard working farmers, to prove that the tiller of the soil may cultivate his intellect as well as his field.

The farmer in his retirement has the best opportunity for *reflection* of any laborer. And reflection is a chief condition of gaining true wisdom. Let there be the desire for knowledge, and a careful supervision of one's own thoughts, with good economy of the quiet evenings, and the inclement days, and the noontide hours, and stores of knowledge may be accumulated.

Modern agriculture has attained a high spirit which promises well in this direction. Farmers are beginning to realize that higher education, science and intellectual life, are for them, as much as for any other class. The agricultural periodical, the improved implements, and the annual exhibitions, stimulating competition, diffusing intelligence, and encouraging improved methods of labor, all give token that an age of intellectual life has dawned upon the farm, and that it is time for all tillers of the soil to "awake out of sleep." Plodders and drones may sneer at "book farmers," and be content with schools in which science was never detected; but they who carry through culture, and true science, and improved machinery and art, into the fields, will find them as valuable there as in the factory or the office; and by so doing they will honor and lift up their calling, and become leaders of their age.—*Rev. W. S. Kennedy in Ohio Ag. Reports*

FOUR GOOD HABITS.—There were four good habits a wise man recommend in his counsels, and which he considered to be essentially necessary for the management of temporal concerns, and these were punctuality, accuracy, steadiness and despatch. Without the first of these, time is wasted; without the second, mistakes the must hurtful to our own credit and interest, and that of others may be com mitted; without the third, nothing can be well done; and without the fourth, opportunities of great advantages are lost, which it is impossible to recall.

RANDOM GEMS.

No affliction would trouble a child of God if he but knew God's reason for sending it.

As the sun to the sun-flower, so is friend to friend—attracting and attracted—*Jean Paul.*

Those friends have always proved best whom I never sought, but who were sent to me unexpectedly.—*Mrs. Hawkes.*

"Advice," says Coleridge, "is like snow—the softer it falls the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind."

A parent who strikes a child in anger, is like a man who strikes the water—the consequences of the blow are sure to fly up in his face.

Does not the echo in the sea-shell tell of the worm that once inhabited it? and shall not man's good deeds live after him, and sing his praise.

The sun is like God, sending abroad life, beauty and happiness; and the stars like human souls, for all their glory come from the sun.

Man is greater than a world—than systems of worlds; there is more mystery in the union of soul with the physical, than in the creation of a universe.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE SISTERS—A FABLE.

BY MRS. HOYT.

Two sisters, on a pleasant day,
Went out a-doing good;
With all her might each worked away,
And did the best she could.
And one was laughing all the while
As happy as a song;
The other was not seen to smile
The whole day long—
For while, at each good deed of one,
Birds sang, and roses blew,
At every thing the other did
Wasps swarmed, and prickles grew.

These sisters two were Love and Pride,
Unlike in heart and name;
Though long they labored side by side,
Their work the very same.
From very different motives, though;
Love, from good will, always,
While Pride—she cared for nothing, so
She won a world of praise.
Love thought of others; how to make
For all a pleasant way;
Pride of herself; for her own sake,
Of what the world would say.

* * * * * *

The path of Love was like herself,
Of joy and beauty born;
The path of Pride was like herself,
Of trouble, and a thorn.

VELOCITY OF SOUND.

Sir John Herschel calculates that sound, in dry air, and at the freezing temperature, travels at the rate of 1000 feet, 350 yards, per second of time; that when the thermometer is at 62° Fahrenheit, sound runs over 9000 feet in eight seconds, 12¼ British standard miles in a minute, or 765 miles in an hour, which is about three-fourths of the diurnal velocity of the earth's equator.

COLORS MOST FREQUENTLY HIT IN BATTLE.

It appears from numerous observations, that soldiers are hit during battle according to the color of their dress in the following order:—Red is the most fatal color; the least fatal, Austrian gray. The proportions are, red 12, rifle green 7, brown 6, Austrian bluish-gray 5.

AMUSEMENTS FOR CHILDREN

THE ALMOND TRICK.—Get three almonds, raisins, cherries, (or, indeed, any eatable easily disposed of will do,) and place them each under a hat on the table. Tell the company that you will eat the three almonds; and yet, afterwards, bring them again under whichever hat they choose. When you have swallowed each separately, request one of the company to point out the hat under which he wishes the almonds to be brought again. When choice has been made of one of the hats, put it on your head, and ask whether you have not fulfilled your promise.—*Youth's Friend.*

EDITOR'S TABLE.

County Fairs of '59 Attended on Invitation, with Notes of Travel.

Forty miles on horseback, with pleasing alternations of sandy plains, dense forests of pine and the hard woods, stony hills, and muddy sloughs, made worse by desperate *corderoy* bridges!—such was our journey from Manitowoc to the ancient city of Green Bay. True, there were occasional clearings, and even cultivated lands, and the farmers talked satisfiedly of their productiveness. Indeed, much of the soil is very fair, and with good cultivation will yield remunerative crops.

The timber is as fine as Wisconsin can boast—lofty pines, majestic cedars, suggestive of "Lebanon," and hemlock, with a remarkable intermixture of beech, maple, oak, elm, basswood, hickory and ash. Now and then the pine appeared exclusive of the hard woods, and *vice versa*, but often they were all found growing closely together in the same great forest.

It will not be many years ere the aspect of things along this wilderness path will have changed. Already the hand of enterprise has begun its work—building good bridges over the gullies, erecting saw-mills, aye, and building school-houses, those arks of the American Covenant with Freedom.

The Brown County of to-day is very different from the original Brown County, which embraced all the country between Lake Michigan and a line drawn due north and south through the middle of the Portage between the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. Still it has preserved very respectable dimensions, and is destined to occupy a position in the future worthy of its years.

Of Green Bay we have spoken before. To our eye, it is a quaint looking, handsome old town—all the more quaint, doubtless, because of its association with the times of long ago, and all the more handsome and attractive because of the known character of its sterling population. For a number of years it made but little growth, but the recent and greater prospective improvements in the navigation of the Fox River, together with the projected railroad to Oshkosh, have given it a new impetus. The Bay is navigable for the largest ships that sail upon the lakes, and there would seem to be no good reason in the world why the city should not, in the future development of the vast country which is naturally tributary to it, become a large and flourishing port. To those who, seeing with a vision like ours, have been hopefully waiting an hundred years, we would say, "Wait a little longer."

THE FIRST BROWN COUNTY FAIR

Was so decided a success that even those most zealous and sanguine were thoroughly disappointed and filled with wonder that they had never been *spunky* enough to get up a Fair before. Capt. Cotton, the efficient President, the Messrs. Robinson, Howe, Baird, Martin, Butler, and others who were active in the initiation and carrying forward of the enterprise, have great reason to congratulate themselves on its success; and next year they will undoubtedly be aided by a host of the farmers of Old Brown, who this time stood back with their hands in their breeches, waiting to see what would happen.

Our thanks are particularly due to Judge Howe, Prest. Cotton, and their families, for a hospitality which added so much to the pleasantness of our stay, in that city, and to Senator Martin and lady for a beguiling of the otherwise tedious hours of our voyage on a cold and boisterous day, through the eighteen locks of the "Fox River Improvement."

THE WAUSHARA COUNTY FAIR.

Was held at the village of Wautoma, and far exceeded our expectations—not in the matter of enthusiasm, upon which the drizzling rain was, no doubt, a damper—but rather in the number and quality of fruits, vegetables and animals on exhibition.

Somehow we had the impression that Waushara was a sandy waste, with but few improvements, and certainly without fruit, unless, per chance, a few wild crabs. Imagine our surprise, then, at finding paraded in the Court House, two splendid exhibitions of apples, plums, grapes and pears—yes, and peaches! all grown within the county!

The apples were exhibited by Mr. H. Floyd, who had 42 varieties, and Mr. V. C. Mason, who had 48 varieties—both residents of the south-western portion of the county. In appearance (we had not the pleasure of tasting them) they were as fair as ever grew in New Jersey; indeed, none could be more tempting.

The vegetables spoke well for the sandy soil in which they grew; and the horses, cattle, sheep and pigs were many of them worthy of an older county.

The crops, the present year, are said not to have been very encouraging, and some of the farmers were looking rather blue. Our advice was to raise both crops and stock; and what we then said we repeat here: *Grow roots and stock.* The roots will serve as excellent feed for the stock, and the manure derived from the stock will enrich the soil for the roots. The muck beds, too, remember them; and don't be afraid of losing your labor in hauling it upon your lands. Waushara is not the best agricultural county in Wisconsin, but a good deal of enterprise, with a fair amount of science, are competent to the production of paying crops.

Wautoma is quite a pleasant little village, some 23 miles north-west of Berlin, on the stage route to Stevens' Point, and is the county seat. We noticed the ordinary quota of school-houses and churches, a large flouring-mill, two or three fair looking hotels, and a rather poor Court House—only designed for temporary use. It is blessed, moreover, with two newspapers, (the *Journal* and *Argus,*) both of which seem to be doing well, and with any number of Doctors—every other man to whom we were introduced bearing the Æsculapian title!

To Dr. Barrett, the efficient Secretary, Mr. Mitchell, of the *Journal*, Mr. Saxe, and the officers of the Society generally, we return thanks for generous courtesies, and for their urgent invitation—which we hereby formally accept—to make them another visit when time will allow of a more general survey of the county.

The Legislature Elect,

Are now assembling, and will soon be in harness for business. We can hardly foresee what very exciting or important measures are likely to come before them; still time will bring forth more or less, undoubtedly.

That there are many things the Legislature might do to benefit the people and State, we have no doubt; and among them, it stikes us that not the least in importance is the reduction of court expenses, legal costs and fees, and other items of expense attendant on civil processes. We are sure that there is much that is wrong in this direction, from what we daily see and hear. The Court of Dane Co., we understand, cost in direct tax from $10,000 to $15,000 per annum, besides probably two or three times as much more to individuals; doubtless many other counties are situated much the same.

Any unfortunate that is brought into legal limbo, whether defendant or plaintiff, finds every step attended with items of cost sufficient to break a poor man or to impoverish a rich one. An ordinary foreclosure cannot be effected short of about $100, or ever so small an estate settled short of about the same amount; about twice what it was a few years ago.

We think that much of this increase was allowed to grow up during the flush times; and with their decline, it certainly strikes us as calling loud for abatement. We hope to see these matters thoroughly enquired into by some competent committee, (not of lawyers,) but common-sense men, and such abatement made as times and circumstances seem to warrant.

State Appropriations to County Agricultural Societies.

In reply to all who are enquiring of us by letter, we would say, that County Agricultural Societies will not be able to draw their appropriations for last year until the taxes are paid in, some time in February or March.

Such has heretofore been the practice, and for aught we know to the contrary, will continue.

Officers of Counry Agricultural Societies for 1860.

WAUPACA CO.—At a meeting of the Waupaca County Agricultural Society, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Tyler Caldwell, of Lind.

Vice Presidents—Thos. Pipe, of Farmington, David Robinson, of Weyauwega.

Treasurer—L. L. Post, of Weyauwega.

Secretary—L. B. Brainard, of Waupacca.

Executive Committee—W. B. Hibbard, Jno. M. Vaughn, of Waupaca; Isaac R. Dunham, of Farmington.

Hungarian Grass—Its Success.

Mr. George Wright, Esq., of Springdale, Dane Co, informs us that he sowed one bushel of seed upon a little less than three acres of rough, hard brush breaking, about the 10th of last June, and harvested therefrom twenty-six loads of the hay—making altogether not less than fifteen tons.

He esteems it an excellent feed for horses; answering a good purpose without grain for teams that are not hard at work. He proposes to sow still more of it another year.

Who can report a better result than the above? We doubt if a more profitable crop of any kind has been grown in the State, considering its cost.

The Depredations of Dogs upon Sheep in Ohio.

In a former number of the *Farmer* we copied a statement showing the amount of damage done by dogs in some eleven counties in Ohio. Since then we have met with a full report or the whole State on the subject, in the *Ohio Cultivator* of the 15th December.

It is too long and too many figures in it for us to copy, which we regret, as it is a terrible record, amounting, in the aggregate, in the eighty-seven counties of Ohio, to 60,536 killed by dogs and 36,441 wounded during the year of 1858! Who would be prepared to believe it, if the facts had not been collected under a special law for that purpose, and as carefully as the taxes are assessed.

The entire damage in killed and wounded is estimated at $146,748.00. Pretty big indeed for a single year and a single State.

Let those among our people who doubt if dogs do mischief enough to need restraining by a tax or otherwise, ponder on these facts and figures, and remember that they will not lie; and remember further, what we have often said and known to be true, and that is, that prudent people are largely deterred from going into sheep keeping in Wisconsin through fear of the dogs, and why should they not be afraid of them with this terrible Ohio record before them?

Enquiries of Correspondents.

"C. B. G." wishes to learn if wheat, planted instead of being sown, does enough better to warrant the extra expense.

Drill planting may usually be found advantageous, but any other mode of planting could hardly be warranted, when labor is worth as much as in this country.

He also wishes to know about rotary harrows, which is the preferable kind, and where they can be obtained?

We know little by experience of rotary harrows of any pattern; have seen several styles of them at the fairs that promised well. Doubtless those who are getting up a good article, will take pains to bring them more prominently before the public, ere long.

"U. B." of Mineral Point, wishes to know how to apply plaster to corn: also, what it costs? To the latter question, we would reply about $1.30 per bbl. in Milwaukee, of H. & J. F. Hill.

The former question, some one experienced may answer.

"I wish to know who has the pure South Down or Bakewell breed of sheep, and would like to procure a good yearling buck. I have some pure French Merino bucks, either to sell or exchange.

GEORGE ENGLE, Bunker Hill."

Sugar Cane and Imphee Seed.—Many are enquiring about it; and to all such we would say, that we know nothing certain of any now, but doubt not it will soon be advertised by dealers in the *Farmer*.

The Weather.

Appears to have been very cold, both east and west, from the 29th to the 31st of December. Like a storm, it traveled from the east west; the lowest temperature occurring some two days earlier in New England than with us, as will be seen by the following items, copied from eastern papars:

MONTREAL, Dec. 29—9 A. M.
Weather very cold and clear; thermometer 17° below zero; river frozen opposite the city.

BOSTON, Dec. 29—8 A. M.
Thermometer below; wheather clear, and ice rapidly forming in the bay.

ROUSE'S POINT, Dec. 29.
Thermometer 30° below zero.

ST. JOHNSBURY, Dec. 29.
Thermometer 32° below zero.

OGDENSBURG, Dec. 29.
Thermometer 20° below zero.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Dec. 29.
Thermometer 24° below zero.

Our State papers show it to have been about the same range on Saturday, the 31st. Milwaukee puts the mercury at 25 degrees below; Madison about the same; Janesville 22, while Milton claims 33; a considerable difference, by the way, for the eight miles difference between the two localities. We shall not probably see a colder time during the winter, as it seldom occurs.

Our thanks to the Press

Of the State, are eminently due for the many flattering notices they have given the *Farmer*, with the commencement of the new year. Our failure to acknowledge them earlier is no proof of our unmindfulness. One of the things we have to regret, is our inability in the nature of things, to return their compliments; our limited space will not admit of it wholly, and anything special could not be other than invidious.

We hope at all times to continue to merit the good opinion of our cotemporaries, and of our patrons; and shall ever be most happy to reciprocate their kindnesses, so far as possible.

The Premiums

On Field Crops and Essays, were awarded by the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society at their recent meeting.

Col. N. W. Dean, of this city, received the premium for the best crop of wheat, showing by the requisite proofs that he harvested over fifty-nine bushels from one acre, of the Golden Drop variety of Club wheat. It is certainly a marvelous crop for Wisconsin, to say the least. In quality it was very good, although not extraordinary.

Eli Stilson, of Oshkosh, took the premium on carrots, showing splendid specimens, and certifying to the growing of 296 bushels on one-fourth of an acre. He is undoubtedly one of the best carrot raisers, as well as farmers, in the State.

No other premiums were claimed on other varieties of field crops. Numbers who entered for competition in the spring, made no reports in the fall. Probably the dry season cut short their expectations.

On premium essays, but few competitors appeared. Under the head of general farm management, the premium was awarded to John Edwards, Esq., Rosendale, Fond du Lac Co., and on Horticulture to O. S. Willey, of Janesville. We did not hear the essays read in full, and cannot speak specifically of their merits, but doubt not they are valuable papers.

Markets and Prices

Have shown some changes since our last. Wheat has gone us to nearly $1.00 in the interior, and bids fair to stand firm for the present. Other articles of produce have not varied particularly. Notwithstand the probable shortness of coarse grain in the country, the prices still rule low, mainly on account of the scarcity of money.

Pork runs high generally, and Beef low; but what makes so much difference is not easy to see. Stall-fed beef must advance as the winter wears on.

Wool promises good prices another season, if no unforeseen difficulties arise, in the way of money panics or manufacturimg embarrassments.

Fire at Mazomanie.

The house of Deacon Daniel Gorum, at Mazomanie, was entirely consumed on Sunday last. The fire broke out at about 11 o'clock A. M., while the family was absent at church. The furniture was saved. Loss from $1,500 to $2,000. No insurance.

The general agent of the Madison Mutual (Col. Hastings) informs us that he solicited the privilege of insuring the above property last season; but the owner, as is too apt to be the case, concluded to defer it for the present, and in so doing, probably lost $1,000, which might have been saved by the payment of less than $10.

We simply publish this fact to illustrate the danger of delay in matters of insurance; the most careful often burn.

Mr. Hastings informs us of several similar instances during the last year. Let the wise and prudent take heed.

Our Premium Offers.

Are attracting especial attention, and bidding fair to largely increase our circulation.

A number of our good friends are already calculating on those sewing machines. We know this from the number of inquiries we are receiving as to the kind of machine we intend for the $50 premium.

To all such we would reply, that we will select to suit the winner, from any of the popular varieties manufactured.

All intending to compete for any of the premiums, will do well to commence early, before too many have sent in individually, and before the season is too far spent.

Active men, who have the *vim* in them, will find it no very difficult matter to get up good lists, even in these close times, if they commence right, and stick to it; perseverance wins in a good cause. Hurry in your lists, ladies and gentlemen, and let us know which sewing machine you prefer.

Correspondents of the Farmer

Will oblige us by sending us important items of information, from time to time, for publication.

In our present semi-monthly form, we do not want too long articles, but something to the point, and interesting to our readers; such articles from different sections are highly instructive and spicy. Send them in without comment or apology, and usually without mixing up too many subjects in one article. All such as we have room for we will publish with pleasure.

Several communications are in hand, too late for insertion in this number. Correspondents should aim to be early.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

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D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

WHY SOME SUCCEED AND OTHERS FAIL IN BUSINESS.

To all young men just about to embark, and to all older ones already under way, in business, of whatever kind, the foregoing question is a very important one, especially when it is borne in mind that most men sooner or later bankrupt and fail in their business undertakings; not merely merchants and tradesmen, but even farmers, and those of all occupations. Why so much miscarriage and wreck, when all seems so easy and promising, usually, in the outset? Is it accident? is it luck?—Sometimes, perhaps, but not usually. Cause and effect are probably as nearly allied in business matters as in anything else; and when plans fail and prospects smash, careful enquiry in the right direction will usually explain the why and the wherefore, beyond a doubt.

The first and by far the most common reason of failure among American business men, and probably among all mankind, is the disposition to do too much. We are eternally over-rating our capabilities, and planning more than we can accomplish. The farmer buys too big a farm, the merchant too many goods; the speculator gets too deeply in debt; and all promise themselves more than they can perform. A year, two years, five years, when looking ahead, how remote it appears; but alack, how soon it passes away, especially to him that owes money, or has made promises that it plagues him to perform.

The three hundred and sixty-five days of a year, how quickly they roll around; a day, a week, a month,—the spring, the summer, the autumn passes, each in rapid succession, and soon the year is gone, and the promise that is made upon the future, how hard is it often found in the performance.

Did we judge more wisely, and, after due allowances for mishaps and disappointments, more or less of which will always come, did we calculate more closely, and always within the mark, how different would be the results of all our undertakings, and how much less the agonies and strifes to keep heads above water.

Yes, friends, almost all our pecuniary ills arise from miscalculation of our capacity, or rather over calculation, in our projects and undertakings. Does any one wish a proof of this? If so, let him look about him; it will be readily discovered on all hands. Every community abounds in ample numbers who have overdone, or are overdoing—wrecks that have been cast on shore because they spread too much sail; and plenty of others always driving the same way, and for the same cause. Yea, the world is full of pecuniary misery for this *simple* reason. Now and then some one sails through extravagant projects with flying colors, and their success tempts scores of others to follow, only to meet destruction.

Will the mass of mankind, and especially the young and rising generation, ever learn prudence from the folly of those who have gone before them, or must they take their entire schooling from experience? that is the all important question. As the drunkard always finds enough to urge him to drink, so with those embarking in business; enough parties will always be met with ready to urge them in too deep, either from folly or some selfish design. But those who would be prudent, should, when in doubt, always take the safe side, and be content to do too little rather than too much.

Listen not to the tempter in the form of credit, but regard it as a poisonous serpent, almost sure to bite you. When any one offers to sell you upon credit, what you do not absolutely need, regard him as a pickpocket, for so he will usually prove. But, says the reader,

would you not tolerate credit in any case? Yes, we would reply; but only in the most urgent cases; if your team is broken up for the want of a horse or an ox, and you have no means with which to purchase, rather than fail in seeding, go in debt. But to go in debt for a fancy horse or carriage, without known and certain arrangements for the pay, would be an almost unpardonable folly, and bespeak a careless and dangerous business character, and one that would probably lead to trouble, if not bankruptcy, in the end.

Debts, when they become chronic and get fairly upon interest, are stubborn things; and instead of being easily handled under all times and circumstances, often handle those that owe them; and, alas, how roughly, too, not unfrequently. No man ever expects to become a bankrupt or a drunkard in the outset, but by degrees the evil accumulates, times turn wrong, and ere the unsuspecting victim knows it, he is there. The present times are ample testimony to this fact, as many poor souls can bear witness.

In conclusion, then, let those who would succeed begin carefully, and school down all idle ambition to *go fast*, or to embark in adventures and speculation; take hold only of what they can manage; pay as they go; keep cool; wait patiently; work industriously; be economical, (not mean,) honest, judicious, firm to say *no* when necessary, (and it is not unfrequent;) counsel with their wives, especially if they are more cautious and prudent (not unfrequently the case) than themselves, learn their children to be industrious, and to earn their dollars before they spend them. The foregoing rules observed carefully, and we will warrant all such parties safe from sleepless nights, shipwrecks, or serious disaster. Who among our young men will practice the recipe? A score of years hence will tell. You can find them without a lantern, and tell them by their surroundings.

SEEDING THE SOIL.

[Continued from page 424, last Volume.]

DISTANCE APART.

This is, in part, a question of quantity, but also involves the matter of *relative position*, together with the *means employed*, and therefore requires a separate discussion.

Except as modified by the variable circumstances of richness of soil and favorableness of climate and season, there must be a definite distance—determinable only by observation and experiment—at which the plants of every species will grow more thriftily and mature more perfectly than at any other. The exact measure of that distance, then, is certainly a *desideratum*. Of course it is impossible for us to supply a rule which will be absolutely correct; we shall not attempt it. Absolute correctness for the average of seasons can only be determined by the farmer himself, after due investigation into the nature and capacity of his soil. A table of distances for the more common drill and hill crops, calculated for soils of an average fertility, may, however, be convenient for the reference of the inexperienced, and such an one is accordingly furnished. Different cultivators will, of course, discover many particulars in which they would amend it; still, sufficient reference has been had to the known nature of the plants enumerated, and to the average of soils, to ensure a close approximation to the correct distances:

	Distance bet. rows.	Dis. in inches bet. plants in rows.	Distance bet. hills.
Wheat	10 to 12 in.	5 to 6	.....
Rye	8 to 10	4 to 5	.....
Barley	....do....	....do....	.....
Oats *	....do....	....do....	.....
Corn	3 to 4 ft.	12 to 18	3x4 ft.
Sugar Cane	....do....	....do....	.....
Potatoes	3 ft.	12	2½x3 ft.
English Turnips	2½	12 to 18	.....
Sweedish Turnips	....do....	....do....	.....
Mangel Wurzel	....do....	....do....	.....
Beets	....do....	....do....	.....
Carrots	12 to 18 in.	8 to 10	.....
Parsnips	....do....	....do....	.....
Beans	3 ft.	18	2x4 ft.
Peas (small)	2½	2 to 3	.....
Peas (large)	4 to 5	4 to 5	.....

* If oats were as uniformly sure of germinating as wheat, then the seeds should be farther apart, since the oat is a bushier plant; it is to meet this liability to failure that we recommend a thicker sowing.

It is the custom with some, to plant much nearer than recommended above, with the view of "thinning out" after the plants shall have demonstrated their capacity or incapacity to make a vigorous growth. But inasmuch as the practice has grown out of either a want of confidence in the seed, or very imperfect and unreliable means of planting—to neither of which any sensible, enterprising farmer will submit for a single season—we have entirely ignored it in our general directions.

NUMBER OF PLANTS THAT CAN BE GROWN UPON ONE ACRE AT GIVEN DISTANCES.

Again, as it is often convenient to know, without the trouble of making the estimate, just exactly the number of plants that may be

grown in a given field at a certain distance apart, we herewith publish the results of a series of calculations ranging between *one inch* and *forty feet*. The first column of figures indicates the distances of the plants apart, and the second column, directly opposite, the number of plants, at such distance apart, that can be grown upon one acre:

1 inch	6,272,640	8 feet	680
2 "	1,568,160	9 "	525
3 "	696,960	10 "	435
4 "	379,540	11 "	360
5 "	250,905	12 "	302
6 "	174,295	13 "	257
7 "	128,018	14 "	222
8 "	98,010	15 "	184
9 "	77,440	16 "	170
10 "	62,726	17 "	150
11 "	51,840	18 "	134
12 "	43,560	19 "	120
1½ feet	19,360	20 "	108
2 "	10,890	21 "	98
2½ "	6,969	22 "	90
3 "	4,840	23 "	80
3½ "	3,585	24 "	75
4 "	2,722	25 "	69
5 "	1,742	30 "	48
6 "	1,210	35 "	38
7 "	888	40 "	27

In the third and last article of the series on "Seeding," we shall discuss the relative merits of broadcast and drill sowing—a subject of great practical importance.

THE HARD TIMES—ARE THEY IMPROVING?

"Hard times" is becomihg a stereotyped word in the West, and seems to dwell on almost every tongue. The so-called good times of a few years ago, have in various ways got up such a back-set that it proves a long and hard job to outgrow it. Still it is believed that many who were not too badly involved, are getting out of debt; but many others will still have to struggle on and wait the return of other good crops.

There is nothing in the present times to make them hard, if people were only out of debt. Everybody owes everybody, and nobody can pay anybody; hence the hard times. Time and good crops, so far as they tend to get people out of debt, will improve this condition of things, and nothing else can do it.

What a strange philosophy is this in human practice, for everybody to get in debt. What could be more foolish, or productive of more care, solicitude, and even downright misery, in its various bearings and operation? Credit is indeed a baited hook, and how varied are its baits! Some coveted thing, some prospect of great speculation and profits, some will, or wish, no matter what, tempts and draws in nearly the whole crowd, sooner or later. A few cautious and invincible ones stay out for the rest to get in debt to. One buys more land than he can pay for, or needs; another more goods, and another something else; and all goes on smoothly until pay-day comes—and come it surely will, no matter how far it is put away in the first instance. Come it surely will, and that quickly; and then comes the rub and the cry of hard times.

Had everybody kept out of debt, and only bought what they could have paid for, all would have been well. Crops might have been larger or smaller, but always plenty of course for home consumption, leaving no chance for famine or suffering from any actual want.—True, so many fine improvements and nice and showy things might not have been done in the same space of time, but what is better, debt, and that worst of poverty, to be in debt, would have been avoided, and what we actually had we could have enjoyed in peace and comfort, unmolested by that most disagreeable of visitors, a *dun*.

Are the times improving? We thiuk they are, although perhaps slowly; but they must be absolutely improving, because people are making few or no new debts, and actually are paying up many old ones. This back-setting current is in the right direction, and in time will bring all right again.

The absolute economy and self-denial that people are now practicing is all right, and must be continued in a great degree after good times return again, if we would have them continue. There is nothing in this country that warrants the loose extravagance of the past, and those who practice it, whether high or low, will sooner or later rue it. Nothing is surer. Economy and industry is all that will save the West, or even make the ways of its people easy in circumstances, not to say rich.

OUT DOOR ICE HOUSE.—A correspondent—one of the inventive men of the day—kept ice out of doors, and had a plenty to spare last September. He threw down four-foot wood upon a space eight feet square, sufficient to keep ice from the ground. The spaces between the sticks were filled with saw dust or tan bark. The ice was then packed snugly in pyramidal form. To make the mass more compact' in order to keep the air from it, a few pails of water were thrown over it. The mass was then covered with saw dust.

We are inclined to think ice will keep in this way better than any other. The evaporation from the outside carries off the heat, and the mass keeps cooler than it would if shut up in a tight house. There appears to be philosophy in the method.—*Southern Homestead.*

WILL THE LEGISLATURE ENACT A DOG LAW?

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Sirs—Is there any prospect that our Legislature will do anything to protect the sheep growing interest? If not, we shall be under the necessity of abandoning the business altogether. In 1846, I drove 180 sheep from Ohio, and have been struggling along hoping that some day protection against the depredations of dogs would be rendered by our Legislature. I have lost over 60 sheep by dogs, valued at $250. Within thee months; they killed one French buck that I paid over $70 for from Patterson's flock, N. Y., and four buck lambs of his worth $20. Dogs that generally kill sheep are owned by persons who do not need a dog, who oftener have two than less, and half fed at that. There is not more than one-third as many sheep in this section as there was three years ago, and one of the great causes is depredattons of dogs. It is needless for me to say that sheep are the verry best stock on a grain or grazing farm that we can get. Three-fourths of the farmers of this State would have sheep as soon as they could get them, were it not for the depredations of dogs. My opinion is, (and I express the feelings of a large portion of the farmers of Wisconsin) the Legislature could not pass an act that would be of greater benefit to Wisconsin than to protect the sheep growing interest. Respectfully yours,

J. F. Hand.

Rocky Run, Jan. 20, 1860.

Note.—We cannot definitely answer our friend as to what the Legislature will do with reference to the subject referred to. We understand they are about two-thirds farmers; and as such ought to be supposed to understand the true interests of their class. That a judicious dog law is among the most needed reforms of the day, is a matter of no doubt to us, as we have sufficiently often stated; still we confess to little faith in any thorough legislative action upon the subject, and mainly for the reason that it is not one of the popular subjects of legislation. Most members, though admitting its importance, seem to approach it with reluctance, whilst the waggish and fun-loving even consider it a fit but of ridicule.

But this shrinking and burlesqueing is all wrong; the subject ought to be met manfully and business like, this very winter, and a good, sound, practical law on the subject enacted—one that would meet the views of the farmers, and be well carried out. It would be much more useful in the end than dabbling with many of the two-penny subjects that mostly engrosses the attention of legislation. Costs, and fees, and contrivances to make legal practice profitable, and high taxes collectable, seem to constitute the main theme of legislative labor. Enactments that encourage the earning and producing of something, would prove much more useful in the end than those that aim at consumption and waste.

But we will wait and see what is done.

PALMYRA FARMERS' CLUB.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—While I am writing, I must inform you of the fact that at the regular annual meeting of the Farmers' Club, which was held on the 5th ult., at the Wisconsin Hall, in this village, all present were highly entertained with one of the best agricultural lectures it has been our good fortune to listen to. It was highly scientific, practical and impressive. Would that we could have a series of such lectures, at the present time.

At this meeting we elected officers for the ensuing year, as follows:

President—T. P. Turner.
Vice President—W. W. Child.
Secretary—Miles Holmes.
Treasurer—O. P. Dow;

and five additional members as Executive Committee.

At our last meeting, which was held on the 26th ult., an essay was read by Thos. P. Turner on the rotation of crops. The subject called out a number of members, who made many and appropriate remarks.

O. P. Dow.

Palmyra, Jan. 7th, 1860.

The Price of Gas in England.—The price of gas in most of the cities of Great Britian is less than one half that of New York. In London it is only four shillings sterling (not quite a dollar) per 1,000 cubic feet. Mr. Flintoff, in delivering a lecture on this subject recently in Glasgow, stated that, while five shillings per 1,000 cubic feet were charged in the Scotish city, or one shilling more than in London, the coal was one shilling less in price; thus proving that companies which had the monopoly only regarded their own interests, and made all they could out of the people.—He asserted that gas-making was not that mysterious operation some imagined, and that a new company could manufacture gas in Glasgow with a reasonable profit at two shillings and eleven pence per 1,000 cubic feet, not one-third the price of New York gas.

TIME OF HARVESTING WHEAT.—An Illinois correspondent of the *American Agriculturist*, incited by a statement of the advantages of early cutting, tried the experiment on a field of 50 acres last season. The bulk of the crop first cut weighed 62½ lbs to the measured bushel. The part of the field left until fairly ripe before cutting, gave wheat weighing but 58 lbs to the bushel—making a difference of nearly 100 bushels on the whole field in favor of early cutting—from ten to fifteen days before full maturity.—*Ohio Valley Farmer.*

NOTE.—We fully believe in the practice of cutting wheat as early and green as possible; not doubting but what it adds materially both to the weight and quality. How green it can be cut of course depends mainly upon the drying character of the weather at the time. We doubt if one in ten cut their wheat early enough.

DURABILITY OF TIMBER.—The sleepers of the first railroads built in England were of Kyanized wood, and they remain sound to this time. The first sleepers used on the Amboy Railroad were also Kyanized, and they have as yet shown no signs of decay. The piles under the London Bridge had been driven five hundred years in 1845, and were then found to be but little decayed; they were principally elm. Old Savoy Palace, in the city of London, was built 650 years ago, and the wooden piles, consisting of oak, elm, beech and chestnut, were found upon recent examination to be perfectly sound. Of the durability of timber in a wet state, the piles of the bridge built by the Emperor Trajan, over the Danube, affords a good example. One of these piles was taken up and found to be petrified to the depth of three-quarters of an inch, but the rest of the wood was not different from its former state, though it had been driven 1600 years.—*Working Farmer.*

SPARE THE BIRDS.—H. W. Beecher says: "The man that would shoot a robin, except in the fall, and then really and conscientiously for food, has in him the blood of a cannibal, and would, if born in Otaheite, have eaten ministers, and digested them too."

FEEDING GRAIN TO SHEEP IN WINTER.

We find the following, from the well known farmer of western New York, John Johnston, in the *Rural New Yorker:*

I can say little on the subject of sheep feeding, but what I have often written, yet as many farmers are so very remiss in wintering their cattle and sheep, it would be well if the Agricultural papers would remind them of their duty every autumn, until there would be *few* farmers in the country but would keep their stock improving in winter as well as in summer; and well I know that either sheep or cattle turned to pasture when nothing but skin and bone, make but very little improvement in the pasturing season, and often go into another winter in worse condition than they ought to be at the time they were turned to pasture at the middle of May. I think a farmer would be *equally* excusable, who, after raising a crop of grain, should wilfully waste one half of it, as waste the flesh off his sheep and cattle for five or six months every year.—I traveled through some of the western counties of this State lately, and saw many miserably poor ewes and lambs, which must be very well cared for the coming winter, else they will be food for worthless dogs long before spring—and I know that keeping sheep in that way never can pay, no matter how little the food costs. If every farmer would feed each of his sheep one bushel of corn, or 60 lbs. of oats, buckwheat or barley, (whichever he found cheapest,) during winter, with good straw even for fodder, they would pay him better for the grain, by far, than if he were to carry it to market and sell it for cash. But if he would feed each sheep with 90 lbs of corn, or other grain, they would still pay him better for the grain—they would yield him double the wool to what they did when he fed no grain—they would raise him double the number and much better lambs. Try it, farmers. I have practiced this for over thirty years, and think I cannot be mistaken. You no doubt will hear farmers say, "I fed grain to my ewes one year, but I will never do so again; they lost their wool, the lambs came before their time, and I lost nearly all of them." Now, let me tell you the reason of those men's bad luck. They did not *begin* feeding the grain until their sheep were in *poverty*, and the feed was too strong for them; hence it created fever, and bad luck attended them. But you that will take my advice, begin to feed grain whenever your pasture *fails in the fall*, so as to keep up the condition of the sheep, and if you keep the dogs from them, and give them reasonable shelter, I will warrant no bad luck in loosing wool, or premature lambs, will befall them. There is no animal that will pay better for good feeding than sheep, and none, as a general thing, is worse fed; if they only got half the care that is bestowed on the filthy swine, they would pay much better.

When I tell farmers that they ought to keep their sheep much better, they shake their heads and say, "It may pay you to feed grain and linseed cake to sheep, but it would not pay us." Far be it from me to advise farmers to run any great risk in feeeding a large quantity of grain to their sheep until they have the best of proof (experience) that it will pay them, and that double what they could get for the grain in cash; but I do wish I could persuade every farmer in the country to feed a few sheep in the way I mention, and I feel sure all who thus practice would feed their whole flocks so the next year. No farmer ought to keep a flock of Merino sheep without

shearing at least five pounds of clean wool per head. If they shear less, he ought either to reduce his flock, or feed better, or both, until he gets up to that amount of wool or over; and with such feeding as I advocate, Merino wethers at three years old can be made to average (in the fall) from 120 to 130 lbs, live weight. As they are now kept, it is only a picked flock that will average 90 lbs. But you must breed those that are to weigh from 120 to 130 lbs, *and that from well-fed ewes*, and not expect to take little, stunted yearlings or two year olds, and think to make them weigh the higher weights.

Again, if a lot of Merino wethers, averageing 88 or 90 lbs, live weight, in the fall, is worth three cents per lb, a lot weighing 120 lbs average is better worth four cents, and those averaging 130 lbs four and a quarter cents—for the reason that the offal of the 90 lb. sheep is only a trifle less than the one weighing 120 lbs. The fact is, there is a profit every way in high feeding. It is just like high manuring, and the higher you feed the higher you manure, the manure being so much richer.

I had intended to have said something on feeding cattle, but I have said so much for the poor sheep I must stop. Perhaps I have said more than will be read by many.

Yours, truly, JOHN JOHNSTON.

Near Geneva, N. Y., 1859.

LONGEVITY OF A MULE.—Wm. Hunt, Esq., informs us of the death, on the 18th inst., of a mule, whose age, fixed beyond all question, was 62 years. Twenty years ago, this mule was given to him by a connexion, because too old for efficient service; but by good treatment and care, he worked it regularly and advantageously until two months since. This is certainly a remarkable instance of longevity in mule life, and deserves special mention. In appreciation of faithful service, "Bob" was decently buried by his owner.—*S. C. Spalta.*

WISCONSIN HOGS.

Mr. M. T. Manderville, of the town of Berlin, takes the premium on pork this year. He brought in and sold on Thursday of this week four hogs, in all weighing 1,738—average 435. He also received the highest price per pound yet paid, 6 cents The four brought $104.28. Who beats it?—*Berlin Courant.*

OAKFIELD AGAINST THE COUNTY.—Carpenter & Co. bought yesterday four hogs of H. D. Hitt, of Oakfield, which in the aggregate weighed 1,543 pounds. The heaviest weighed 520 pounds. Who can beat this? They also bought another fine lot of Mr. Wheeler, of Rosendale, not so heavy, but well fatted. The first lot brought 6¼ cents per pound.—*Fond du Lac Commonwealth.*

Those were very nice hogs, we've no doubt, gents of the *Courant* and *Commonwealth*, but Portage can boast of heavier ones. Mr. J. H. Bonney, of the town of Marcellon, in this county, slaughtered and brought to this city a few days since, four hogs weighing in the aggregate 1,775 pounds, which he sold to Messrs. Hart & Norton for 6¼ cents per pound, the highest figure paid for pork in this city this season. They were nice ones, you'd better believe. Their average weight was 444 lbs. Who can beat this?—*Portage Record.*

TO CURE WARTS ON CATTLE.—A correspondent of the Maine *Farmer* cured warts upon a cow's teat, by a few applications of spirits of turpentine. In a few weeks the warts all disappeared, and she was never troubled afterwards.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EDITED BY MRS. E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

THOMAS THE SAWYER.

A BALLAD—BY MRS. HOYT.

Thomas the sawyer, lives down on the marsh;
As honest a man as can be,
There in a shanty, with Mary his wife,
Contented and cozy lives he.

The years go by and with them goes Thomas,
As slow, but as sure to return;
And one thing is certain: the money he spends
Is the money that Thomas can earn.

Not a jot seems he more careworn or old
Than when he was younger by twenty;
For though but little of honor or gold,
Of comfort has Thomas a plenty.

There's meat in the barrel, meal in the bag,
Potatoes to boil and to lend,
And always a "drawing" of tea laid by
'Gainst the dropping in of a friend;—

A pig in the sty, a cow at the door—
Ten quarts at a milking! God love her;
Before harm should come to that "blessed baste"
They would give her the last bed cover;—

And, "good as the best," three boys and a girl,
All hearty, plump-cheeked and bright-eyed,
Have Thomas the sawyer, and Mary his wife,
And a rosy-faced baby beside!

So Thomas is easy; and pray, why not,
With abundance of worldly pelf?
Independent is he; and what hinders,
Since Thomas depends on himself?

Year in and year out no "crisis" disturbs;
And *his* times—they are always good;
Blow high or blow low, whatever betide,
Sure Thomas is sawing his wood.

'Tis all a mistake the way people go on
In their trading and bustle up town,
Making gods to themselves of their corner lots,
And their blocks, so big and brown;

For love, peace, and enough, are what we want
In this world so cold and harsh,
And Thomas the sawyer, he has them all
In his shanty down on the marsh.

ITEMS FOR THE HOUSE-WIFE.

In the last Annual Report of Secretary Flint of the Mass. Board of Agriculture, we find, subjoined to an article upon Indian corn, the following remark which, with such of the receipes as we extract, we commend to the attention of those who, just because the use of corn meal is familiar and the food manufactured from it so common, are accustomed to think the *mode* of its preparation of very little consequence. He says:

The details of cooking the infinite variety of delicious dishes which may be made of good Indian corn meal, are already too familiar, perhaps, to need repetition, but as an example, a few of these recipes may be stated as follows:

Hasty Pudding.—The simplest and most common way of cooking corn meal, is to put two quarts of water into a clean pot or saucepan, set it over the fire, adding a teaspoonful of salt, and when it begins to boil, stir in a lump of fresh butter, say about two ounces, then add (a handful at a time) sufficient Indian meal to make it very thick, stirring it all the time with a mush-stick. Keep it boiling well, and continue to throw in meal till it is so thick that the stick or paddle stands upright in it. Then send it to table hot, and eat it with milk, cream, or molasses and butter. What is left may be cut into slices and fried for breakfast next day.

Nice Johnny-cake.—Sift a quart of Indian meal into a pan, rub two table-spoonfuls of butter into it, add a small teacup of molasses, and a teaspoonful of ground sugar, and pour on by degrees sufficient warm water to make a moderately soft dough: it may be stirred very hard; then grease with fresh butter small tin pans about 2½ inches in diameter and ¾ of an inch deep, fill them with the dough and bake with a strong fire. They must be well baked, taking care that the surface does not burn while the inside is soft and raw.

Corn Bread.—Rub a piece of butter the size of an egg into a pint of corn meal, make it a batter with two eggs and some new milk and a spoonful of yeast, set it by the fire an hour to rise; butter little pans as above, and bake it in an oven with a quick heat.

Corn Batter Bread.—Take six table-spoonfuls of flour and three of corn meal, with a little salt, sift them and make a thin batter with four eggs and a sufficient quantity of milk, bake in small pans in a quick oven.

Indian Corn Buiscuit.—Sift a quart of corn meal and a pint of wheat flour into a pan with a teaspoonful of salt and three pints of milk, mix them well, beat the whites of four eggs and the yolks separately in two pans; the yolks must be beat until very thick and smooth, the whites to a stiff froth that will stand alone by itself, then stir the yolks a little at a time into the milk; butter a sufficient number of cups or small deep pans, nearly fill them with the batter, set them immediately into a hot oven and bake them fast; turn them out of the cups and send them warm to the table, pull them open and eat them with butter. They will puff up finely if at the last you stir in a teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in a little warm water.

Farmers' Corn Pudding.—Set on the fire a large pot of water, which must boil hard by the time the pudding is mixed. Put one quart of milk by itself into a saucepan, and give it a boil; when it has come to a boil, pour it into a deep pan and stir it into a pint of molasses, then add by degrees three pints of Indian meal, and lastly a teaspoonful of ground cinnamon or ginger; have ready a pudding bag, dip it into boiling water, shake it out, then pour the batter into the bag, tie firmly, leaving about one-third vacant, as it requires room to swell; put the bag into the large pot of boiling water, cover it closely, and let it boil steadily for at least three hours, four will not be too long. While boiling it should be turned frequently; as the water boils away, replenish it with more water kept boiling for this purpose in another kettle; on no account put in cold water, as that will render the pudding heavy. Turn it out of the bag immediately before it goes to the table, and eat with butter and molasses. It will be found excellent.

Baked Corn Pudding.—To one teacupful of corn meal add one quart of milk, three eggs and a little ginger. Bake one hour.

Rye and Indian Griddle Cakes.—Take one cupful of corn meal, two cups of rye flour, one egg, a little salt, and three spoonfuls of soda and cream of tartar, one of soda and two of tartar, make a batter the same as for buckwheat cakes and bake on a griddle.

An Eloquent Extract.—Generation after generation have felt as we now feel, and their lives were as active as our own. The heavens shall be as bright over our graves as they are around our paths. Yet a little while and all this shall have happened. The throbbing heart will be stilled, and we shall be at rest. Our funeral will wend its way, and the prayers will be said, and we shall be left in the darkness ond silence of the tomb. And it may be but for a short time we shall be spoken of—but the things of life shall creep on, and our names will be forgotten. Days will continue to move on, and laughter and songs will be heard in the room where we died, and the eyes that mourned for us will be dried and animated with joy, and even our children will cease to think of us, and will remember to lisp our names no more.

How Lands sell in Kentucky.—The Paris *Citizen* says: Mr. Willis W. Hedges sold his farm of 197¼ acres, about 5 miles from Paris, on the Maysville pike, to Mr. Wm. A. Parker, of Woodford, for $20,000. It was the homestead of the father of the purchaser. We welcome him back to the home of his nativity.

Mr. John McClane, of Boyle, has sold 400 acres of the farm on which he formerly resided, lying about four miles from Danville, near the Harrodsburg turnpike, to Mr. Joseph Faulkner, of Fayette, for $75 per acre.

The farm on which the late Joseph Gwinn resided for many years, on the Lexington railroad, near Spring Station, was sold on Tuesday, Nov. 22, for $89.05 per acre, to R. A. Alexander. There were 140 acres in the tract, with very moderate improvements.

Col. Sadler sold at auction, on Wednesday, the farm of Richard Clay, containing 154 acres, at $76.05 per acre. W. F. Berry was the purchaser.

The farm of the late Mrs. Polly Sherman, 200 acres, was sold on Saturday at $75 04 per acre. Mr. Burrell Griffith was the purchaser.

Mr. Frank Massie has sold his farm of 200 acres, about four miles from Paris, to Captain Wm. P. Hume, at the price of $100 per acre.

Note.—Hard times don't seem to press very heavily upon the prices of real estate in Kentucky. Doubtless a few years will put everything right again, as to the value and prices of our fine farm lands in Wisconsin.

BARABOO FEMALE SEMINARY.

The Spring and Summer Term of this Institution will open Wednesday, February 15th, and continue twenty-one weeks.

TEACHERS.

Miss Mary Mortimer, Principal.
Miss Susan M. Warner.
Miss Jane O. Hall.
Miss Augusta E. Camp, Teacher of Music.
Miss Eva M. Collins, Teacher of Drawing.
Miss Ellen M. Curtis, Miss Helen M. Basee, Assistant Pupils.

Terms, including a short Latin and a short course in Drawing, from $3 to $7 per quarter.

Music, French, German and Drawing extra.

Board can be obtained with the teachers at $2 per week.

Circulars containing the course of study, and other particulars, can be obtained by addressing the Principal, or the officers of the Board.

P. A. Bassett, *President.*
Rev. Hiram Gregg, *Secretary.*

☞ It is not wisdom, but ignorance, which teaches men presumption. Genius may be sometimes arrogant, but nothing is so diffident as knowledge.

Heat of Different Woods.—The following is set down as the relative heating values of different kinds of American wood: Shellbark hickory being taken as the highest standard, 100; pig-nut hickory, 95; white oak, 84; white ash, 77; dog-wood, 75; scrub oak, 73; white hazel, 72; apple tree, 70; red oak, 69; white beech, 65; black walnut, 66; black birch, 62; yellow oak, 60; hard maple, 59; white elm, 58; red cedar, 50; wild cherry, 55; yellow pine, 54; chestnut, 52; yellow poplar, 52; butternut, 52; white birch, 49; white pine, 42.

Some woods are softer and lighter than others; the hard and heavier having their fibers more densely packed together. But the same species of wood may vary in density, according to the conditions of its growth. Those woods which grow in forests, or in rich, wet grounds, are less consolidated than such as stand in open fields, or grow slowly upon dry, barren soils. There are two stages in the burning of the wood; in the first the heat comes chiefly from the flame, in the second from red hot coals. Soft woods are much more active in the first stage than the hard, and hard woods more active in the second stage than the soft. The soft woods burn with a voluminious flame, and leave but little coal, while the hard woods produce less flame and a larger mass of coal.

Curious Machine.—The common watch, it is said, beats in ticks 17,160 times in an hour. This is 411,840 a day, 150,424,560 a year, allowing the year to be 365 days and 6 hours.—Sometimes watches will work with care for 100 years, so I have heard people say. In that case it would last to beat 15,042,450,000 times. Is it not surprising that it should not beat to pieces in half that time? The watch is made of hard metal—but I can tell you of a curious machine that is made of something not near so hard as steel or brass; it is not much harder than the flesh of your arm, yet it will beat more than 5,000 times an hour, It will sometimes go on beating like the watch for 100 years. *That* "curious machine" is the human heart. Is it not

"Strange that a harp of a thousand strings
Should keep in tune so long?"

Whitewash.—This article, as ordinarily made, rubs off the walls after it becomes dry, soiling clothes and everything coming in contact with it. This may be obviated by slaking the lime in boiling water, stirring it meanwhile, and then applying, after dissolving in water, white vitriol, sulphate of zinc, in proportion of four pounds to a barrel of whitewash, making it the consistency of rich milk. The sulphate of zinc will cause the wash to harden, and prevent the lime from rubbing off. A pound of white salt should be thrown into it.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE BEGGAR MAN.

Aronnd the fire, one winter night,
The farmer's rosy children sat;
The faggot lent its blazing light,
And jokes went round, and careless chat.

Then hark! a gentle hand they hear
Low rapping at the bolted door;
And thus to gain their willing ear,
A feeble voice was heard t' implore:—

"Cold blows the blast across the moor;
The sleet drives hissing in the wind;
Yon toilsome mountain lies before;
A dreary, trackless waste behind.

"My eyes are weak and dim with age;
No road, no path, can I descry;
And these poor rags ill stand the rage
Of such a keen, inclement sky.

"So faint I am—these tottering feet
No more my feeble frame can bear;
My sinking heart forgets to beat,
And drifting snows my tomb prepare.

"Open your hospitable door;
Oh shield me from the biting blast;
Cold, cold it blows across the moor,
The weary moor that I have passed!"

With hasty step the farmer ran,
And close beside the fire they place
The poor, half-frozen beggar man,
With shaking limbs and pallid face.

The little children flocking came,
And warmed his stiffening hands in theirs;
And busily the good old dame
A comfortable mess prepares.

Their kindness cheered his drooping soul;
And slowly down his wrinkled cheek
The big, round tears were seen to roll,
And told the thanks he could not speak.

The children, too, began to sigh,
And all their merry chat was o'er;
And yet they felt, they knew not why,
More glad than they had done before.

Lucy Achin.

THE BED OF PROCRUSTES.

Procrustes was, in mythology, a robber of ancient Greece, who placed on an iron bed the travelers who fell into his hands, which their stature was made to fit by cutting off the projecting limbs, or by stretching them to suit its dimensions; whence the metaphorical expression, *the bed of Procrustes.*

ARGUS AND HIS HUNDRED EYES.

Argus was one of the mythological heroes of Ovid, and was fabled to have a hundred eyes, of which two only slept in succession; whence comes the expression "Argus eyed," as denoting one who is over watchful. According to mythology, Mercury, by command of Jupiter, lulled Argus to sleep by the music of his flute, and then killed him. Juno then transferred the eyes of Argus to the tail of the Peacock. Did any of you children ever count to see if that proud bird had the even hundred?

☞ He who knows nothing is confident in everything.

HORTICULTURAL.

GRAPE CULTURE IN WISCONSIN.

BY E. B. QUINER.

VINEYARDS.

The culture of the grape for the making of wine in Wisconsin has never been attempted, except in a few situations. The largest and most successful is the vineyard of Mr. Kehl, on the Wisconsin River, in the northwest corner of this county. He grows the Isabella and Catawba, and has made some wine. There are also small vineyards in Sauk county. The management and culture pursued, I am unacquainted with, but presume it is the same general system as is pursued on the Ohio River. They have grown the Isabella and Catawba, and have ripened the latter for the past few years.

For general vineyard purposes it will be found that both these varieties are too late for ripening in this climate. Some of the new varieties possess a character for earliness, and more or less of them show an adaptation to the making of wine. A little further experience will point out the variety best calculated for that end, and for the purpose of lending a little aid to the introduction of a new resource for the Horticulturist, I am constrained to lay before your readers the manner of cultivating the grape in vineyards, as is now practiced on the Ohio River and other grape growing districts, premising, however, that I must be limited in my remarks to the general plan of operations, leaving those who wish the details to find them in books upon the subject.

Location.—The vine will grow in any good soil, having sufficient depth, and I believe there is little land in Wisconsin but what the grape will flourish in, and yet there are localities better adapted for vineyards than others. The position and exposure has much to do with the prosperity of the grape. Throughout the Northwest we are subject to severe frosts in winter and late frosts in spring or summer. The first can be guarded against by laying down and covering the vines with earth or straw, and the last by selecting an exposure where the late spring frosts do not prevail. In garden culture, these evils can be more easily guarded against, but not so with a vineyard. A spot, therefore, above the frost line would seem to be the safest place for a vineyard, other things being equal. Hills or ele-

vated lands are less subject to frosts than valleys, and should be chosen. These late frosts are the only drawback to the growing of vineyards in Wisconsin, and elevated positions such as I have indicated may be found throughout the State, and should be improved for vineyard purposes. Many exist around Madison and on the Wisconsin. The sides of hills are generally better drained than the prairie lands, and a dry, warm soil is what the grape requires.

The Soil.—Any soil that will grow a good grain crop is suitable for the grape. It should be drained and deeply worked, if possible a year or two before setting out the vines. If upon a hill-side, or where a plow cannot do good work, followed by a subsoiler, the best way is to trench it, at least two spades deep, or twenty inches, though two feet would be better. For the manner of trenching, I refer to any good work on gardening, or any of the agricultural magazines. The relative costs of trenching and plowing is as follows: An acre thoroughly trenched will cost seventy-five to one hundred dollars; trenching two spades deep, without throwing out the earth, about fifty dollars. Plowing with large plows and heavy teams and subsoiling will cost about twenty-five dollars per acre, and merely digging holes or good ploughing will cost from ten to fifteen dollars. It may happen that a gentleman may want to plant a vineyard who has not the desired kind of soil. Choose the best you have, and add the necessary constituents to make it good.

Terraces.—On steep hill-sides, the soil is liable to wash unless protected by a terrace. Begin at the bottom of the hill, and trench and level the ground of a width, so as not to make your terrace too high. The benches should be wide enough so that the frost will not affect the roots of the vine through the sodding. The walls can be made of stone or sod. The first is preferable and more durable and requires less looking after, but sods may be used where stone cannot be had. The stones or sods should slope towards the hill, to prevent the soil sliding down, and the sods cut in the form of a rhomb. They then have a mechanical power of holding each other up, which they loose when cut perfectly square; and the trouble of cutting the one is the same as that of the other. To get the sods of the desired shape, stretch a line across the turf to be cut, and make a cut therein with the spade or racer to the depth of two or three inches. Then move the line, and make another cut twelve or fifteen inches from, and parallel with the first, and so on until a number are cut. Then stretch the line diagonically across these cuts, and at the same distances, and cut as before. This gives the sods the desired shape, and, when put up, will all fit. When laid up, they will somewhat resemble fig. 1. Should

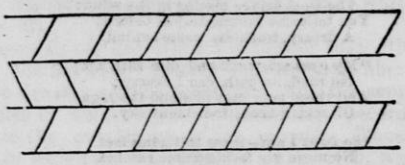

Fig. 1.

there be any danger of the sods sliding down after this, they can be fastened up with wooden pegs, say a foot long and an inch in diameter, and driven through the sod into the bank.

Laying out the Vineyard.—The ground having been properly prepared by harrowing, &c., as soon as the soil is in good working order, the next thing to be considered will be the marking out the proper places where the vines are to be planted. Some difference of opinion exists among planters as to the proper distances the vines should be planted. The prevailing opinion is that four by four feet is the proper distance, where tied to poles. Some plant three by four, three and a half by four, three by five, and four by six, and all other distances, as fancy may dictate.

Dr. Warder, of Cincinnati, a practical grape grower, says: "The Germans, not being familiar with the strong growth of our vines, have generally planted too closely, and most vinedressers continue to do so, though there is a change in this respect of late years. Four by six, with ten foot spaces or roads every four rows, has been found to allow a fuller development of the vine with larger crops of grapes. There is a mean which combines the greatest production with the least expense of culture and training. This is, perhaps, about 5 by 6, or not more than 6 by 8, and at the latter distances a different method from the 'bow training' would be found necessary."

I am disposed to think that an error exists in the too close planting and severe pruning of our native grapes, as practiced in the vineyards near Cincinnati. Such severe cramping of the energies of so rampant a growth as is made by our native varieties, must engender

disease in the healthy functions of the vine. I have often felt compunctions of conscience in thus mutilating one of God's noble works, and trying to improve upon his handiwork. The practice of Europe is with a species of the vine which has a history coeval with the Flood, and which has been subjected for ages to the purposes of man. It is reasonable to suppose that the general constitution of the species, or varieties of the species, should become enfeebled by this long and continuous draft upon its energies, until it has become stinted of its original dimensions. Close planting and close pruning would therefore seem necessary to enable the planter to gather fruit of quality and quantity sufficient for a remuneration. Not so with our native species. Delighing, in their wild habitats, in spreading and running over the trees of the forest, and bearing their luscious bunches far above the earth—possessing great vitality, it seems contrary to nature to cramp a giant, capable of spreading a hundred feet, into the dimensions of a dwarf not four feet high. I am aware of the great achievements in horticultural art, by means of pruning here and nipping there, severing off too great a root growth, and other means of compelling the organism of a tree to produce fruit, but it seems, in the case of the grape, as if there had been an *excess* of this kind of horticultural skill. Under these circumstances, I am induced to think the mean distance prescribed by Dr. Warder as the best for vinyards in this section, and that what is known as the *long rod system*, (which gives more wood than the "bow training,") is preferable. This distance will allow the sun better access, and the air more room to circulate, than the one adopted heretofore. The mildew and rot seems to be occasioned by a moist atmosphere, during the summer growth, and the best remedy is believed to be plenty of sun and air.

The common plan, whether upon the level or upon terraces, is to stretch a line upon one side of the piece to be planted, and with a measuring rod to lay off the distances which have been determined, and mark the stations with little stakes. On terraces, the first row is made upon the lower side. The plants should be set so as to be in rows both ways. The points of the compass are of little consequence, and the rows may run according to the lay of the land. The best way, probably, to accurately lay out the ground is to take a cord of sufficient length to measure the vineyard the longest way, and attach, at the proper distances, bits of red tape for "markers," lay off one side of the ground, and stick stakes at the "markers;" move one end of the cord to the next corner, stick stakes, and so on until you have marked the outside of your vineyard. Then begin at the second stake, and stretch the marking line across the ground to the second stake on the opposite side. Let a man be at each end to hold and change the line after you have stuck your stakes, and thus proceed till the whole vineyard is staked out. The following diagram will exhibit the *modus operandi:*

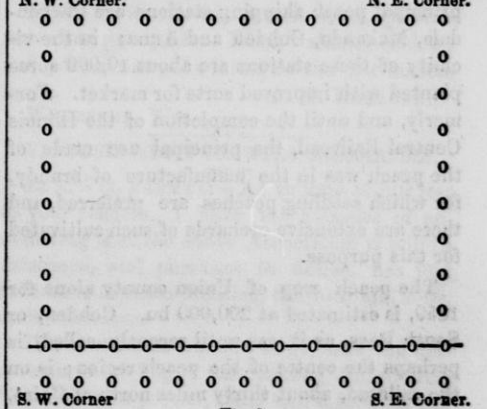

Fig. 2.

The number af plants necessary to an acre is as follows, one plant to a stake:

3 by 3 feet,	4,840
4 by 3 "	3,630
4 by 4 "	2,722
4 by 5 "	2,178
4 by 6 "	1,815
5 by 6 "	1,452
6 by 8 "	907

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A JAUNT THROUGH ILLINOIS.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Thus far the orchards which came under our observation (except those since planted) bore unmistakable evidence of the severe winter of 1855-56, which decimated so many orchards in Wisconsin.

As we approached the northern boundary of the southern division of Illinois, known as *Egypt*, instead of the black prairie soil heretofore universally met with, we find a whitish loam, resembling the white-oak soil of Wisconsin, but richer, abounding with lime, underlaid with marl. Here winter wheat of the first quality is grown. This, we think, is

destined to be the apple producing region of Illinois; here the Newtown pippin is at home, surpassing in their size and beauty the widely famed products of the celebrated Hudson river orchards. The Pear and the Peach also do well; the latter, however, is not a sure crop.

South of the "Big Muddy" the face of the country is much broken—deep valleys and high hills alternating; lime stone and sand stone cropping out on the hill sides. Much of the country is heavily timbered, principally with white-oak, hickory, maple, whitewood and mulberry. Here the Peach is at home; the trees grow with vigor, attaining large size and great age, producing fruit abundantly. The Apple, Pear and Grape also flourish. The principal peach shipping stations are Carbondale, Makanda, Cobden and Anna; in the vicinity of these stations are about 10,000 acres planted with improved sorts for market. Formerly, and until the completion of the Illinois Central Railroad, the principal use made of the peach was in the manufacture of brandy, for which seedling peaches are preferred, and there are extensive orchards of such cultivated for this purpose.

The peach crop of Union county alone for 1859, is estimated at 200,000 bu. Cobden, or South Pass, as it was until recently called, is perhaps the centre of the peach region; is on the railroad, about thirty miles north of Cairo, situated in a narrow valley surrounded by high hills, has about 200 inhabitants, four stores, railroad depot, &c. Here we met a number who formerly resided in Wisconsin, all seeming to be well suited with the change.

To Mr. G. H. Baker we are under obligations for kind attentions. Mr. Baker removed from Ripon, Wis., two or three years ago, where he was engaged in the nursery business; is establishing a nursery here in connection with an extensive orchard. It was a pleasure to see his yearling apple grafts, four to five feet high, spring growth commencing at the terminal bud.

Our old friend and neighbor, Mr. J. A. Carpenter resides four miles from this station.—We found him hard at work with all his northern energy, subduing and modeling his farm to suit his views. He seemed well pleased with his location, his family contented and happy. Part of his farm was an old improvement, with apple and peach trees in full bearing, to which he added by purchase of railroad lands. His Suffolk and Essex swine were revelling in *clover, apples* and *peaches*, fat and sleek as *show* animals. His South Downs models of beauty, and his Devons too looking as though they enjoyed the softer climate.—The many fine points of the Devons, we think, must commend them to especial favor in this broken region, where their agility will procure them large advantages over the unwieldly Durham.

His yard of White Dorkings seeming, if possible, of a purer white and more beautiful than ever.

The increase and yield of his Apiary would almost equal the stories told of California,—the honey, however, which we tasted, though very handsome, will not compare in quality with our northern honey.

We visited many orchards ranging from five to fifty acres, and enjoyed for several days such feasts of peaches as we have not since our boyhood, when the peach orchards of New Jersey were in their prime.

The elevated lands are chosen for peach orchards; the highest points are most esteemed. Spring frosts are here unknown, hence the crop is a sure one. On lands less elevated, they are more or less liable to be cut off.

Col. Bainbridge, about a mile from Cobden, on an elevation two hundred feet above the railroad track, has some 7000 peach trees in bearing, a portion fine early varieties. Of these he told us (Aug. 9th) he had been shipping for two weeks, receiving for his first $8 per bushel, afterwards $6, and soon much lower. We noticed he took great care in selecting and putting up his peaches. Open slat boxes, holding half a bushel and one bushel each, are used in shipping peaches and tomatoes. Col. Brainbridge works up his poorer and over ripe peaches into brandy. He made this year 2500 gallons, which he sells at $1 per gallon. He also made a quantity of blackberry wine from the native blackberry, buying the berries at five cents per quart; he purchased in one day 450 quarts. Active women pick with ease 40 quarts a day, when the season is at its height.

A little further on lives Benjamin Vancil, an enthusiastic horticulturist. To him we, believe, this section of country is indebted for the introduction of the Buckingham Apple, the largest, finest, and most productive variety we met with. His trees of this variety, of which he had a large number, were surpassingly beautiful bending under their heavy

loads of magnificent fruit. His orchards embrace a large collection of popular varieties.—He is also planting largely of Dwarf Pears. Mr. Vancil has not neglected the beautiful and ornamental in his attention to the useful. The broad hall of his dwelling opens into a tastefully arranged flower garden, where were many beautiful flowering plants, including a fine collection of perpetual roses, which thrive remarkably well in this climate. Mr. Vancil had just contracted his fruit crop, if we remember rightly, apples at 30 cts, peaches at 40 cts. per bushel, the purchaser to gather and market at his own expense.

Mr. H. C. Freeman, of La Salle, has purchased largely in this section. He has commenced a vineyard on one of his farms about four miles from Cobden. He procured a vine-dresser from Cincinnati, and is preparing to plant largely. We noticed among his implements a double Michigan and a Mapes's subsoil plough. It is less than a year since Mr. Freeman first purchased, and already quite a number of his old neighbors have settled around him.

Jonesboro, about eight miles south of Cobden, is an old town, and rejoices, we believe, in a city charter; is a place of considerable business, a number of stores, mills shops, a fine hotel, court house, &c. The Jonesboro *Gazette*, a large well filled weekly, is published here; its editor, A. H. Marschalk, we number among the agreeable acquaintances we made.

An hour was pleasantly spent with Dr. S. S. Condon, one of the first settlers. His cabinet of curiosities, including a collection of the geology of Illinois, is worthy of an especial visit.

Messrs. Gow at this place, have ten acres in tomatoes. They also grow largely of cabbage and other vegetables for the northern market.

In the garden of Mr. Willard we met with the first *perfect* specimen of Maclura hedge; beautiful indeed, and so dense that not the smallest animal or even bird could get through it. Most of the hedges we saw were but poor apologies for a fence.

Anna, two miles distant, is the railroad station for Jonesboro; large quantities of fruits and early vegetables are sent from here. The residence of Col. Ashley is on an eminence overlooking the village. His beautiful grounds are well stocked with an abundance of finest fruits, choice trees and shrubs, a good assortment of evergreens, which were in fine thrifty condition. We noticed some fine pears and grapes ripe thus early.

Although past the season, we had an opportunity to taste the Egyptian blackberries, of which so much has been said; we found them large and fine. There seems to be several varieties, differing much from each other. Last year we procured some selected canes, which have been distributed through Wisconsin.—We have had another careful selection made while in fruit, which will be sent us for spring planting. Grown in Egypt, beside the New Rochelle, they are larger and sweeter. We hope they will prove a valuable acquisition to Wisconsin.

In the woods are found mulberries, persimmons and paw paws. Black walnuts, hickory and peacan nuts, the latter on the low bottom lands.

A. G. HANFORD.

WAUKESHA, WIS.

WISCONSIN FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—As an item of interest to your readers, I have the pleasure of announcing that the above Association is still in existence, and pursuant to notice, has just held their Annual Meeting, the 19th and 20th, at Whitewater.

The attendance was not large, but the discussions were highly entertaining and profitable to all who participated, and embraced the more important points relative to the general subject, such as "location for the orchard," including soils and subsoils, aspect, elevation, temperature, &c.; and the uniform conclusion was, that a thorough drainage of the soil and sub-soil, either natural or artificial, is of the first importance in locating the orchard, and that, with a due regard for elevation and good culture, will go far towards ensuring success in fruit culture.

Also the subject of diseases and injurious insects was discussed, especially with reference to the "bark louse," and the general conclusion was, that with a liberal pruning and good culture to give vigor, the tree would outgrow and survive its attacks; but as a more effectual remedy, to thoroughly prune and shorten in the top, wash with some caustic preparation, or varnish the remaining portion of the tree thoroughly, just before the buds begin to burst in spring; also that a diseased and crippled condition of the tree, from any cause, was favorable to its destruction by this parasite.

One of the most important measures of this meeting was the appointment of a special committee to make during the year a faithful and thorough examination of a large number of orchards and other fruit plantations in different parts of the State, and ascertain as near as may be, all the *conditions of success and failure* in soil, location, varieties, and their general prospects; also to collect specimens of desirable sorts which promise success in the State at large.

Said committee to present a report at the next annual meeting.

The description of varieties did not extend to a large list for want of time.

Communications from prominent fruit growers in our own State and abroad were numerous and highly interesting; some of them very valuable from the experience given in the different branches of fruit and evergreen growing.

It is plainly visible that the fruit growers of Illinois regard Wisconsin, with its rolling prairies and wooded hills, as superior to their own State for the production of fair, fine colored, good keeping fruit of the hardy sorts, and so we believe; and we hope and trust that through the labors of this association, aided in every way possible by those who love good fruit, the public may be presented with a list of sorts, and general directions for planting, &c., which will render success in this as certain as in any other branch of agriculture.

It is most earnestly hoped that the transactions and reports of this society may be published, and that soon, that the State at large may have the benefit of these labors and experiences.

A compendium of the proceedings will doubtless be furnished by the Secretary for your journal. FRUIT GROWER.

Madison, Jan. 21st, 1860.

HOW TO PRODUCE LARGE FRUIT.—A correspondent of the *Gardiner's Gazette* says, by a very simple and easy process fruits of many kinds may be raised about one-third larger than is usually the case, and improved. The secret consists in supporting the fruits so that they shall not be allowed to hang their whole weight upon the stalk, or twist about in the wind. The *Gazette* states that when fruit is allowed to hang naturally upon the stalk, the increasing weight strains the stem or twig, and thus lessons the quantity of nutritious food flowing to the fruit, which may be supported either by tying it to a branch with a piece of string, or by enclosing it in a small net. Flowers, such as dahlias, peonies, may also be rendered much larger by adopting this system.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The Legislature

Has now been in session about three weeks, and is getting fairly at work at what little it has to do.

Governor Randall's message is a sound, straight forward document, abounding in plenty of good advice in matters of general policy, but characterized by nothing especially novel. He shows the State in the best condition financially that it has been in for many years, recommends a reduction in the rates of interest, very little legislation, and a short session; all of which is sound, of course, and to be desired if not expected.

Among others, a bill is pending to overhaul the assessment law anew, and make it much as it was two years ago; the object being to more fully secure the assessment of personal property, which, as everybody foresaw, almost wholly escaped under the law of last winter, leaving the entire burthen of taxes upon the real estate, and mostly upon the farmers. It is a difficult matter to fix it just right, to head off all the rascally dodgers who would escape paying taxes, even at the expense of fraud and perjury. But the taxes are so outrageously high that we do not much blame such as can for dodging them.

That there will be a reduction made in the rates of costs and fees, and court expenses generally, we sincerely hope, as before stated; but we hardly expect it, because it is not that kind of evil that is apt to be reformed in a hurry. It is said that the clerks of courts now make considerably more than the salaries of the judges. Will those who would fain reform abuses look into these matters and do them justice.

A dog law is loudly called for by those who would be wool growers in the State. Will the committees on agriculture get up a good bill and put it on its passage. They cannot do the State a greater service.

The Legislature will have to manufacture business, or carefully husband what little they have, if they make it last over forty or fifty days. There is little or no lobby, and thus far it is the most quiet session we have ever seen—a body of sober, straight forward men, with hardly clowns enough among them to raise a daily laugh.

Cold Weather in Texas.

The La Grange (Texas) *Democrat* says that from one thousand to fifteen hundred hogs

were frozen to death in Fayette county alone during the recent cold weather. Three white men were also frozen to death in that county, and a large number of cattle perished.

The foregoing paragraph will perhaps surprise some of our northern dreamers for a warmer climate, and more especially that class who have been falling in love with Texas, from reading the fancy sketches of sheep and out-door farming there by Kendall and others.—We doubt not a careful look about their actual premises would take off a large per cent of the fancy admiration begot by the paper picture.

It is often better to suffer the evils which we now endure than fly to those we know not of. Every country has its blessings and curses, from Sierra Leone to Liberia.

The Executive Committee

Of the State Agricultural Society will meet at their rooms in this city on the 7th of February. It is their principal meeting for the transaction of busines for the forthcoming year—blocking out premium lists, &c., &c.

Dr. Hoyt, the new Secretary, has rented and fitted up new rooms in Porter's block; they are very commodious and pleasant, and fitted in neat style. The Dr. is a tasty and zealous worker in the great field of agricultural progress, and will make a popular and good Secretary.

Horace Greeley, Esq.,

Lectured at Madison on the 20th of January. Subject—Incidents and Observations during his Western travels. A large audience present, and a highly interesting and philosophical discourse. He prophesies that polygamy will not long endure in Utah. His old white coat looks but little the worse for wear. Long may he (it) wave.

What Work will do.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Dear Sirs—I still continue to find those who are willing to become patrons of your valuable paper. I am fully satisfied that if there was one man in each town that would volunteer to make a thorough canvass in his town, your list of ten thousand subscribers might be very easily obtained, thereby placing you in a position to publish *a number one agricultural journal.*—When I saw you a few days ago at your office, I must acknowledge that I was surprised to find that there was no more copies of the *Farmer* taken in our town. So I thought I would try and help increase our list, and I have found no particular trouble of increasing it five times what it was originally. Cannot others, in other parts of the State, be induced to lend a helping hand in the good work of dissemminating agricultural knowledge, and at the same time promote their own interests?

Truly yours, H. W. WOLCOTT.

Rosendale, Jan. 23d, 1860.

Just as we supposed and have often said; one working friend who has face enough to talk to his neighbors about these matters, and does not back out at the first rebuff, can easily get subscribers for the *Farmer*. Old and new friends try it.

The Fallen Factory.

The falling in and burning up of the Pemberton cotton mills, at Lawrence, Mass., on the 11th of January, is all in all the most sad and heart rending calamity of the age. The investigation of the matter makes the killed and wounded not far from 400 altogether, and the larger number among the former.

The examination of the parties who constructed the building, establishes the fact beyond all question, that the building has ever been considered unsafe from the time of its erection. Pity it had not caught the guilty parties in it, instead of the innocent hundreds of women and children. It will undoubtedly prove a terrible lesson, and effectually prevent any repetition of the folly in that old careful State.

Appropriations to County Agricultural Societies.

We learn, since the issue of our last number, that the Secretary of State has audited the accounts of the County Agricultural Societies, and the Treasurer is paying them on presentation.

We had previously been informed that the old policy would be pursued, and hasten to state the contrary for the benefit of those Societies that have appropriations to draw.

Clubbing with the Tribune.

We regret to find one of our Democratic friends finding fault with us for clubbing with the *Tribune*, and more especially because we recommended it highly as a good family paper.

In what we ever have said of the *Tribune*, we have intended no reference to its politics

whatever, and would just as readily club with any Democratic paper, with which we could make equal interest among our patrons.

We arranged to club with the *Tribune* because we were aware that vast numbers of them were taken in the State; and because we knew that many would like to get it at the lowest club rates.

If any one will suggest either a Democratic or neutral paper that will draw well in the same way, we will arrange to club with them, if practicable.

Markets.

No particular change in the markets since our last issue. Wheat and pork continue to command good prices. Clover and grass seeds must necessarily be rather high, as very little was raised in the Northwest, necesitating it to be brought from a distance.

Seeds of all kinds for spring use should be looked up and secured as early as practicable; from now on, they will be getting scarcer and more costly.

☞ There was thrashed on Le Sueur prairie, last season, a tract of land about equal to half a township, 81,330 bushels of small grain. If Wisconsin or Iowa can beat this, the *Wisconsin Farmer* and the *Northwestern Farmer* have failed to let the farming community know it.—*Minnesota paper.*

Officers of Co. Agr'l Societies.

We will be glad to publish the lists of officers of such County Societies as will forward them to us. It makes a convenient record of them, handy to refer to by all parties.

The Peach Buds

Are said to be nearly or quite all destroyed through Central Illinois.

Enquiries of Correspondents.

Veterinary College.—A subscriber wishes to know if there is a Veterinary College in the United States.

We believe there is one in Boston, under the charge of Dr. Dadd, late publisher of the *Veterinary Journal.* We know little about it, however.

The Weather of January.

Since the subsidence of the cold snap on the first of the month, has been uniformly fine and pleasant, and with extra good sleighing almost without interruption. A finer January we have seldom seen in any country.

The mildness of the winter must rather favor those who are short of fodder.

Officers of County Agricultural Societies for 1860.

RACINE Co.—At the annual meeting of the Racine County Agricultural Society, held at Union Grove, January 2d, 1860, the following officers were elected:

President—Dr. B. B. Cary.
Vice President—Archibald Cooper.
Treasurer—William V. Moore.
Secretary—Gustavus Goodrich.
Marshal—Ezra Reed.

GREEN Co.—At an adjourned meeting of the Green County Agricultural Society, held on Saturday. January 7th, 1860, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Israel Smith.
Vice President—James Campbell.
Secretary—Wm. W. Wright.
Cor. Sec'y—Jacob Mason.
Treasurer—Justus Sutherland.
Superintendent—Oscar F. Pinney.
Com. on Premium List—Daniel S. Sutherland, Jacob Mason, George O. West, A. W. Sutherland, A. C. Morey.

JEFFERSON Co.—At the annual meeting of the Jefferson County Agricultural Society, held at Fort Atkinson, Dec. 18, 1859, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Milo Jones.
Vice Presidents—H. H. Wells, J. F. Phillips.
Secretary—Robert Fargo.
Treasurer—A. B. Smith.
Executive Committee—G. W. Blanchard, Linus Squires, Edward Ward, C. Bartlett, H. J. Monroe, Milton Snell, J. D. Waterbury, Giles Kineny, Marcellus Finch.

Premium King Phillip Corn.

A. F. Richmond, of Whitewater, wishes to apprise the public that he has some 30 to 40 bushels of the above variety of seed corn for sale.

It took the first premium at the State Fair, is a first rate article, and has been well saved.

Those wishing to procure seed for spring planting will avail themselves of the opportunity.

We have seen the corn, and can pronounce it a first rate article.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

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Issued on the 1st and 15th of every Month—Terms: $1 a Year.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

FARM AND BUSINESS ACCOUNTS.

Few things are more important, and yet few things are more frequently neglected by farmers and others, in the ordinary business of life, than keeping accurate and careful accounts of their daily business and operations.

We doubt if more than one farmer in ten throughout the community, keeps any thing like accurate accounts of his own operations from year to year, sufficient to enable him to know what pays and what does not, in what he is engaged. Or what is still more important, whether he is making or loosing, as a whole in his entire operations; whether he is running behindhand from year to year; and if so, how much; or whether he is making headway and saving something.

We hardly expect those who have never been accustomed to keeping such accounts will be inclined to appreciate their importance, or to realize the value of knowing, at least once a year, by balancing up the books, just how they stand. How many would be saved from failure and bankruptcy if by such a system of accounting they knew at all times how they stood? Pecuniary ruin, like a chronic disease, often steals on by slow degrees, and from causes that might be avoided if the danger was realized. How uniformally those who run accounts at stores, find them larger than they expect when they come to settle them; aye, often find them staggeringly heavy to pay, when neglected too long. How many cancerous farm mortgages have had their commencement from an overgrown and neglected store account? Were every article of daily use purchased for the family or farm charged at once in expense account, and footed up and understood at the end of each month, the prudent farmer or housewife would thereby be conscious of what they had to meet, and would be constantly on the enquiry as to their means of doing so; thus repressing all needless expenses, and inducing extra effort to meet them. Thousands yearly go on to the rocks of debt and ruin because they have been careless and neglectful, and disposed to put off what they should have promptly met and enquired into and settled and paid as they went along. The man who defers payment from year to year, and adds interest to principal of what he owes, is on the road to ruin, and usually gets there sooner than he expects.

Old men are hardly expected to adopt new habits or improvements; hence advice to them would usually be thrown away. But all young men, not yet too old to learn, we would earnestly advise to adopt and pursue a careful system of accounts in all their business matters. Perhaps many farmer-raised boys and men will be ready to reply that they do not know how to keep accounts. To all such we would reply, that in its simpler modes it is as easy as counting ten or twenty; all that is absolutely necessary is to set down what you pay out in one column, and what for, and what you receive in another, and what for, from day to day, as each transaction occurs, omitting nothing of any moment though small in amount. Have your account book handy, and never go to bed until you have set down everything of the day's business. Those who leave matters *until a more convenient time*, will often leave them entirely, and will usually fail in what they undertake. Defer not, but rise from your bed even to complete any thing that may occur as left unfinished; for you have no certainty that you will ever rise in the morning; therefore leave as complete a record as possible for your administrators every night. Remember that a word from those who understand a subject, will often explain and save

infinities of after doubts and embarrassments to others.

That those who are careless in their accounts, usually estimate themselves much better off than they really are, is true beyond a doubt. Such are apt to estimate their incomes and property too high, and their outgoes too small, thus deceiving themselves both ways. How often when administration brings such estates to the test of settlement, do they prove bankrupt, to the surprise of all. An experienced and sagacious friend of ours recently remarked, that at least one half of all who deem themselves comfortably off, in every community, will prove bankrupt when their estates are settled. We are not disposed to doubt him.

Let all then strive to figure up their affairs correctly, and to keep careful daily accounts. And farmers, most especially, would we advise to this course. To those who would now begin, we would say, charge your farm annually with simple interest on its fair value; also with its taxes, outlays, and repairs of buildings, fences, &c., &c. The same with the stock, teams and tools, charge interest on their value and for wear and tear; for help, for seed, and all other outlays. Then credit the farm with all that is sold or saved for use, with the increase in value of stock, with the value of all permanent improvements, &c., &c. It is but a small job when done from day to day; but it will tell the whole story of your operations at the end of each year. Try it, ye who would understand what you are about—ye who would succeed, or would like to know the cause of failure, if you do not. How many will try it the current year, and report to us how they like it.

We would suggest to Agricultural Societies to offer good premiums for the best kept common farm account. They can hardly encourage a more important matter.

EARLY AND LATE SOWING OF GRAIN.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—I must say that I consider the views of your correspondent "D. S. C.," as to the time of sowing wheat, correct. My own experience confirms his, viz: that we must sow our wheat as early as possible. There is hardly any danger of sowing too early. Two years ago I sowed a small piece in Canada club spring wheat on the 5th day of April. That piece yielded 33 bushels to the acre in that poor season. The berry was plump and heavy, weighing 61¼ lbs. to measured bushel. I continued to sow, as the rains and state of the ground would allow, having but one team, until about the first day of May, and must say, that just in proportion to the date of sowing were the amounts and quality of the crop, the piece which was sown and harrowed the last day of April being badly rusted and not yielding over eight or nine bushels of poor shrunken wheat per acre, while the portion of the field covered about the 10th of the same month turned out between twenty-five and thirty bushels of very marketable grain. The piece sown about the 18th and 20th of April was not so good as that sown before, yet far better than the last sown.

Last year my wheat was all pretty good, but I could remark a large difference in quality and yield in favor of that part of the field which had been put in first.

I have heard of farmers dragging in wheat in March, when the ground seemed hardly fit, being too wet and when only the surface of the ground was thawed to the depth of three or four inches. Heavy frosts following, most persons thought that the seed and labor were thrown away, and that the imprudent farmer would have to re-sow and re-drag his land. But the result invariably proved differently. In general such early work is rewarded with a good crop of exceedingly heavy grain, and I think that ground thus early sown has never been known to produce shrunken grain.

These results accord with a true theory, particularly in the case of Canada club, which comes nearer to the nature of winter wheat than any sort I know of. Indeed, I have no doubt that in Texas and some of the southern States, it would make an excellent winter wheat, although our winters are too severe for it here.

It is in the nature of wheat that it must be exposed to frost in order to produce a good crop. If it be impossible to allow it to stand all winter, being too tender in the plant to withstand intense cold, at least as much exposure to frost as possible should be secured for it in spring. If some of your correspondents take exception to this view, let them be heard. I have no other object in view than to elicit truth and a correct system of farming.

I will, in support of this idea, quote what is known to everybody, namely, that many seeds, particularly those of northern fruit and

forest trees, will not vegetate at all unless they have been subjected to the action of frost; some will not vegetate before the second or third year!

I do not assert that all kinds of wheat are alike in this respect; on the contrary, I think that some sorts will do well if sown in May, especially the more *flinty* sorts of spring wheat, such as Fife, Black Sea, and even Rio Grande, although I think that even these will produce better if sown about the middle of April; but the preceding remarks are especially intended for the Canada club, now so largely raised in our State, and which is so highly and justly prized by farmers and millers. That this variety should last year at sowing time have fallen into discredit was wrong; the failure, as I took especial pains to ascertain, was owing more to the farmers than to the wheat. Many good pieces of *club* were raised two years ago. In every instance where it failed or rusted it had been put in late. Farmers who sowed very early had generally very good crops of very good wheat.

The same result is observable with regard to oats, which, although they do not require to be sown as early as club wheat, are nevertheless benefitted by being sown early, say from the 10th to the 25th of April, instead of from the 20th of April to the 1st of June, as usually practiced here. Take pains, gentlemen, to ascertain when pieces of oats that did not yield well were sown, and you will find this to be the case in almost every instance.

Nor are these results devoid of perceptible causes. But I can only just allude to them, not wishing to take up too much space.

1st. Farmers need not fear to hurt their grain or their land by working their fields in too wet a state in spring, *if very early*. Frosts are sure to come and leave the ground light by the thawing process.

2d. By sowing early, moisture is secured to the plant, which needs it especially while stooling, while in the grass state.

3d. A *cool* weather is necessary, or the plant will go up to stalk before the proper time. Sufficient length of cool weather can only be secured by early sowing.

4th. Finally, when the plant has started early, it covers the ground, keeping it from baking and from the effects of the drought, when hot weather comes, growing luxuriantly, while later grain spindles up and perishes on account of hurried growth and want of moisture.

5th. Plants require a certain length of *time* to grow to perfection. The reason why oats are much heavier in England, Ireland, Germany and the north part of France, frequently weighing forty-five pounds to the bushel, and even more than that, is that the climate being cool and moist the oats are from four to seven weeks longer in coming to maturity than here. Wheat and oats sown in June are, as it were, sown on hot beds, where it is not in their nature to thrive during the early stages of their growth.

The above remarks are also applicable to most of the cultivated grasses, such as timothy and clover; but evidently corn, sugar cane, Hungarian grass, etc., require a different treatment. In haste, yours,

G. DE NEVEU.

Fond du Lac, Jan. 18, 1860.

P. S.—In 1841 I sowed three acres of winter wheat on the 18th of November. Snow fell and covered the ground the next day, remaining till spring, when the wheat came up and produced as good a crop as I ever raised. I am convinced in my own mind that had that winter wheat been club spring wheat instead, the crop would have been fully as good, and perhaps better. G. DE N.

GETTING OUT SWAMP MUCK, AND DITCHING IN WINTER.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—As I am engaged in a business this winter in which I believe I shall ultimately realize twice the amount of my summer's work, I feel it my duty to relate my experience for the benefit of others, for I doubt not you have a thousand readers who are just as anxious to make money as myself, and have the same facilities for doing so.

There are on my farm, as on most farms in this vicinity, swamps or marshes, varying in extent from one-eighth of an acre to an acre, which have been looked upon as nearly useless, from the fact that they are seldom dry. I have four such marshes on my farm, and the past season, owing to the drought, is perhaps the first one in several years when it would have been safe for a team on them.

I commenced getting out muck last fall, but made rather slow work of it, as with much of a load the horses and wagon would mire in.

Since the snow came, I have been at work again, and during the past five weeks of sleighing, I have got out not less than four hundred loads of first rate manure on my poorest land.

Help is cheap, and it can be got out for a trifle. With a yoke of oxen and three men, without any assistance of my own, each day deposits from fifteen to eighteen loads, of nearly a cord each, upon different portions of my farm. The depth of the muck varies from two to three feet. The last foot of that which is three feet deep resembles the peat in the old country, and one of my neighbors, Mr. Lyman Wheeler—who, by the way, is one of the best farmers in the country—assures me that it is nothing more nor less than *peat*, having experimented with some of his own precisely like mine, and found that it burned finely.

Now, Messrs. Editors, will this thing pay? If so, then I say to all of your farmer readers who have swamps or marshes, go to work in earnest, give occupation to your leisure hours this dull winter and avail yourselves of the only opportunity you may have in twenty years of turning your swamp holes into *beautiful fish ponds*, affording living water, and enriching the poorest portion of your farms, the effect of which will not be lost for many years.

I would also state that I find it a very favorable time for ditching very low lands. The frost, so far from being a detriment, facilitates the business materially, the team not miring in, and one man with an ax and pick ax, will, while the other two are unloading, have the frozen part of another load in readiness, which, when once started, blocks out beautifully. It is now my intention, should we have no rain, to contiuue on through the winter, which will enable me, I think, to get out a thousand or more loads, which will cost me about $100 to have distributed on my land.

Now, if you think this of sufficient importance to your readers to justify an insertion in your columns, I shall be amply repaid for the unwonted exertion of writing for the public. CHARLES E. BROWNE.

Wauwatosa, Jan. 24, 1860.

We doubt not but our correspondent is turning his time to the very best account, and that many others might do the same, much to their advantage; especially as remarked, on account of the dry winter. That swamp muck is just what many of our light or sandy soils require, is certain; in fact it is but the *humus* or loam that has been gradually washing from the upland soils and accumulating in these basin marsh holes.

These marshes are the great manure heaps of Wisconsin, and will soon be drawn on regularly to sustain the upland soils, and in most districts will prove inexhaustable. Mr. B. is only doing what thousands will soon do with equal advantage.—EDS.

THE MOLE DRAINER.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Since my exhibition of the Underground or Mole Drainer, in operation at the State Fair last fall, I am in frequent receipt of letters of inquiry in relation to its work, the durability of its drains, their cost, &c,, and any information coming from reliable sources as to their practicability and durability, I judge, will be of sufficient interest to the farmers of Wisconsin to warrant its publication in your widely read journal—and I would like to answer the many inquiries through the columns of the same by occasionally publishing communications received from those who have had experience in their use.—The Mole Drainer is but little known in Wisconsin as yet, while in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio it has been extensively used for several years, and is coming more generally into use every year. Accompanying is one of many letters in my possession from farmers who have used the drains. Others will be furnished as occasion may require and the space in your columns will permit.

Yours, truly, E. W. SKINNER.

Madison, Feb. 1, 1860.

LE ROY, McLean Co., Ill., Dec. 24, 1859.

SIR:—I received your letter a few days ago, and hasten to give you my experience in the use of underground drains.

I have four hundred rods on my farm that was run in the spring of '55 which has done so well that I have since, in '57, had six hundred rods more. All does well yet and has perfectly drained a large flat basin of wet, marshy ground that did not even produce good grass—and the last two years the best corn on my farm has been raised on said basin of flat, wet lands heretofore. But their greatest benefit to me is their furnishing a plentiful supply of good stock water, that here does not freeze, but smokes and runs out warm, no matter how cold the weather is. Mr. J. H. Cheeney, a heavy stock dealer and feeder of this county, came to me this fall and wanted to rent a pasture lot on a back farm of mine, on purpose to get the benefit of the water

made by an underground drain, and was willing to pay something pretty "smart" for its use; but I thought if he stood the inconvenience of drawing his feed the distance he had to the manure and matter from one hundred head of stall-fed cattle left on forty acres of land would well pay me for the use of the land, as I did not need it for my own feeding ground, having other lots more convenient, and all well watered by said drains.

My underground drains are perfect as yet, and I have no doubt but they will continue.—I paid twenty-five cents per rod for the running of mine, which I thought was pretty high, and still think they could be done for less, for I could see no great art in it, nor no great cost in machinery; but still I would not be without my watering ditches for any price in reason, if I was able to pay it again.

There was a wet *slue*, of near ten acres, running through the centre of a large field, that I had plowed and planted since the year 1835, that had produced nothing—but since the drain has been run it produces much the best of any in the field—and we can plow there sooner after a summer shower than we can on the higher land underdrained.

My neighbors were cautious at first, and when I had my first drains run there were none willing to have one run and pay for it—but for the last two years there is a perfect rush in the matter, and all that are able to pay for them are getting as fast as they can get them done.

So, I have endeavored to answer your inquiries, in a bungling manner.

Yours, Truly, JAS. BISHOP, Sen.

To E. W. Skinner, Madison, Wis.

TO PRESERVE STAKES, &c., IN THE GROUND.

Quite recently, while walking in the garden with the Hon. J. H. Fairfield, Hudson, N. Y., he called my attention to the small stakes which supported the raspberry canes. The end in the ground, as well as the part above, was as sound and bright as if lately made, but he informed me they had been in constant use for twelve years! Said I, "Of course they are kyanized?" "Yes," he replied, "and the process is so simple and cheap that it deserves to be universally known, and is simply this: One pound of blue vitriol to twenty quarts of water. Dissolve the vitriol with boiling water, and then add the remainder.

"The end of the stick is then dropped into the solution, and left to stand four or five days; for shingles, three days will answer, and for posts six inches square, ten days.—Care is to be taken that the saturation takes place in a metal vessel or keyed box, for the reason that any barrel will be shrunk by the operation so as to leak. Instead of expanding an old cask, as other liquids do, this shrinks them. Chloride of zinc, I am told, will answer the same purpose, but the blue vitriol is, or was formerly, very cheap, viz, three to six cents per pound.

Mr. Fairfield informed me that the French government are pursuing a similar process with every item of timber now used in ship-building, and that they have a way of forcing it into the trees in the forest as soon as cut, ejecting the sap and kyanizing it on the spot. I have not experimented with it, but Mr. Fairfield's success seemed to be complete.

The process is so simple and cheap as to be within the convenience of every farmer, and gardener even, and I therefore thought it so valuable as to warrant a special notice of it. —*R. G. Pardee.*

PARSNIPS.—This root is fast growing into favor. It seems to be capable of absorbing a lower grade of fertilizer than some of the more advanced plants, and is being used as food for many animals. Pork raised on parsnips is equal in quality to corn fed pork; and after parsnips have been frozen and again thawed, they may be fed to milch cows and fatting cattle with good effect.

Many farmers are trying experiments. This year large quantities of parsnips have been raised, and we hope to receive from our readers, from time to time, during the winter, reports of their experiments in the feeding of parsnips.—*Working Farmer.*

While carrots are coming into so much favor, why are not parsnips more extensively grown, especially for spring feeding? They winter perfectly well in the ground; can be plowed out in the spring, and make excellent feed for working teams, milch cows, store hogs, &c., &c. Will some of our good farmers tell us why they do not raise them more abundantly? We have two barrels of good seed of our own raising, and should like to sell it to those that want it.

☞ At a late meeting of the Academy of Sciences, held in Paris, a letter from M. de Seurchoff, a Russian landholder, was read, describing the manner in which corn pits are made in that county. The pits are dug in a dry soil, and instead of masonry the sides are hardened by a long continued exposure to a wood fire. Before the corn is introduced, the air in the pit is rarified by burning some straw in it, after which the grain is thrown in, packed close, and the pit tightly enclosed. Corn has been preserved in such pits for forty years.

WHAT LENGTH TO CUT FEED.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Dear Sirs—While attending the State Fair last September, at Milwaukee, there being several cutting boxes on exhibition, and as I was examining said boxes, some gentlemen present were discussing about the length that hay, straw and corn stalks should be cut for feeding to horses and cattle. One man stated that fodder should be cut as short as one-fourth inch or one and one-fourth inches long, as any length between one-fourth inch and inch and a quarter long was detrimental, and that stock would not do well on fodder thus cut. The objection stated was that the hay and straw, and the outside hard skin of the corn stalk when three-eighths to one inch long, would be forced between the gums and teeth of the horses or cattle while chewing it, and thus make their mouths sore. Now will you or some of your numerous and intelligent correspondents that are posted in such matters inform the readers of the *Farmer* what is the proper length that fodder should be cut? as the mania for cutting boxes is on the increase, and if any certain length of cut fodder is detrimental and some other certain length is beneficial, the sooner those that are cutting fodder for stock know it the better.

Yours, J. M. Sherman.

Burnet, Dodge Co., Feb. 2, 1860.

In reply to the foregoing, we would say, that we have found a great diversity of opinion among the many with whom we have conversed upon this subject. No two are apt to think just alike. To obviate this difficulty and suit all as nearly as possible the Climax machine was got out, with a simple and convenient shift of feed. Corn stalks or other fodder having a hard outside shell should obviously be cut as short as convenient—the shorter the better—while softer and finer material will do very well if cut longer. All cut feed should, before feeding, be moistened and softened as much as may be; this will be found to largely remove the harshness complained of. In fact, if cut feed is well moistened, especially with warm water, we doubt much if it will ever make the mouths of the animals that eat it sore at all, whatever the length.

The practice of thoroughly moistening cut feed, we doubt not, is one of its most material advantages; and by no means a small one.—Dry feed is not natural to the animal stomach, and should always be moistened as nearly to its natural condition as possible; of this there can be no doubt.

We consider this matter of cutting and preparing feed for stock one of high importance, and one that cannot be too well understood. We would like to publish the views of our experienced correspondents on the subject. Send them in, gentlemen—short and to the point.

THE PLAGUE OF GOPHERS.

A writer in the Alameda *Gazette* dwells feelingly on the plague of gophers. He says:

What rats are to the farmers of other countries, the gophers are to ours. They are the great pest of this beautiful valley—the great drawback to the success of the farmer, gardener, and fruit raiser. A gentleman who has been living in this locality for the last six years, and who cultivates but a small piece of land, told me, a few days since, that he could reckon up his losses directly from gophers to an amount over $3,000. I have heard of a whole field of potatoes having been consumed by these rapacious little pests. In fact, were I to recount all the disappointments and losses that have been related to me as occurring from this source, I doubt not that I could occupy a large portion of your columns. All may not have suffered as extensively as the two instances I have mentioned, but I am very sure that there is not a person in Alameda county engaged in the cultivation of the soil who has not been more or less a loser by gophers, and I am afraid that in some parts of the county the evil is on the increase.

In the fall of 1857, I planted an orchard on a piece of land in which the gopher had previously, from the time "whereof the memory of man running not to the contrary," had undisputed possession. To use the forcible language of the gentleman from Erin, who acted as my assistant, the ground was alive with them. I was told that frequent deep ploughing would drive them away, but the loss of several trees convinced me to the contrary. I tried strychnine on pieces of carrot and potatoe, which I put in the holes when I found them open, or opened them when I saw signs of the animal having been recently at work. I found my plan successful; the signs of gophers in a few weeks were not by any means so frequent. I also purchased a dozen of the patent traps which are manufactured by the inventor at Oakland. I hired a man to hunt them with these traps, paying him ten cents for every one he caught, During the first month he caught nearly four hundred. In less than a year I could scarcely find a gopher in my orchard, and during the past season, with an orchard of nearly 5,000 trees, I have not lost one. I would say, however, that when the

ground is once clear, very little watchfulness will keep it so; but that little must be given. Trivial as this subject may seem, I know of none of greater moment to those interested, and its importance is rapidly increasing.—*San Francisco Bulletin.*

The foregoing extract from a California paper, shows that she too has her afflictions of one sort or another, as well as other States. This under-ground rascally gopher, must be a great nuisance. The same fellow abounds in plenty north and west of here, this side of the mountains. May he come no nearer. We believe they only nest in sandy soils.

THE COST OF NEGLIGENCE.

I am fully persuaded that farmers lose more annually by negligence or procrastination than would pay the entire taxes of the State. How many farmers neglect to keep their farms clear of burrs, or turn their sheep in a stalk field or to the woods, and let them become covered with burrs, and sell the wool from five to ten cents per pound less on that account.—As a wool-buyer, I know the number to be quite large. As this is a great year for burrs, I would warn the farmers to take great care in reference to this matter, and keep their sheep in fields free from burrs, and graze cattle on their burry fields.

Another fault is, by neglecting to trim their stock, by neglecting to alter a calf till it is two or three months old lose about three dollars per head. I know, as a stock-dealer, that thousands of dollars are lost annually by such negligence. They also lose by not trimming their hogs and sheep in due time.

Again, by neglecting to separate their sheep thousands of lambs die annually by coming in mid-winter, yet by very little attention this could all be remedied. I go to A, and his two-year old steers are worth but ten or twelve dollars, while the same year his neighbor B's are worth from twenty to twenty-five dollars. Why is it? A keeps common stock, he takes no care of it; in winter he piles up straw out of doors and lets the cattle run to it. In the summer, perhaps he salts them once a month, if at all; while B keeps improved stock; if not, he pays his neighbor C fifty cents or one dollar for each calf, trims them in time, they have nice horns, then he saves hay, fodder, etc., to feed them in winter, or feeds the straw if scarce of feed, as he should do, by hauling it out to them fresh each day, then gives a little corn, hay, or meal in the spring when the grass first comes, and his cattle get a good start, and he is careful to see that they have salt two or three times each week, and all the water they need. I can tell cattle that are salted by looking at them, from those that are not.

Again, there are thousands of acres of wheat sown every fall that any practical farmer ought to know from the condition and nature of the soil, the manner and time of sowing, that will not yield wheat worth cutting; yet he will run over the work, when he ought to know that he would not get paid for his labor.

Every fifth farmer—I should say every fifth man who pretends to farm—leaves his farming implements in the field, or wherever he finishes, till he wants them again, then he will have to study to know where they are. I have seen men even leave reapers and mowers exposed to the weather from harvest to harvest. How can such farmers expect to prosper? These are not fanciful tales, but stubborn facts, and every observing farmer knows them to be true.

I have not only seen such things in Ohio, but the further west the more of such negligence I have observed. I have seen carriages and buggies, purchased at high prices, in Illinois and Iowa, stand in the weather from month to month, till the curtains were blown in strings and the carriage ruined, all from the want of shelter, at a few dollars cost. While traveling three months in the west observing these things, I was greatly astonished; I thought I had enough at home, but still worse there. Thousands of milch cows stand out on the prairies in all kinds of weather, when the winds would near pierce them through—because they had no shelter. So says a writer in the *Ohio Cultivator.*

WHEAT STRAW—ITS VALUE AS FODDER.—In regard to feeding wheat straw, Mr. Mechi, the celebrated agriculturist of England, calculates when fed to cattle it is worth more per acre than if plowed in for farm manure. If cut up and mixed with meal or bran or grain, it makes a very valuable food for cattle. Mr. Mechi's method of feeding is as follows:: He feeds each of his own cows, daily, on twenty pounds fine cut straw, eight pounds hay, five pounds rape cake, two pounds bean meal, seven-eights pounds bran, seven-eights malt-cambs—all of these being properly moistened in hot water, the straw requiring more than the rest—twenty-five pounds mangel or Swedish turnips. The essential points are warmth and moisture, the cattle being well sheltered and duly cared for. The straw is a most nutricious food; one hundred pounds of it contain seventy-two of muscle, fat, and heat-producing substances. The soluble fattening substances are equal to eighteen and a half pounds of oil to every one hundred pounds.

☞ Returns of the mineral wealth of England for 1859 have just been published. It amounts to £31,250,000 sterling in value. Of coal there were 55,008,649 tuns raised of iron, smelted from the ore 3,456,064; copper, 14,456; lead, 68,303; tin, 6,920; silver, 569,345 oz. The yield of copper ore was 226,852 tons.

HORTICULTURAL.

GRAPE CULTURE IN WISCONSIN.

BY E. B. QUINER.

[Continued from page 45.]

Planting.—This is the next thing in order, and the question is, shall we set rooted plants or shall we set cuttings? Generally, cuttings are used where large areas are under culture. Cuttings cost less than rooted plants, but there is considerable risk in relying upon them. Some varieties of the grape are difficult to root from a cutting, and there are many contingences which the cutting has to encounter, which does not affect the rooted plant. The first has to make root the first year., while a well rooted eye will start immediately into growth. The grape is propagated by cuttings, and layers, and seed. The latter mode is only adopted to secure new varieties. The difficulty of getting proper cuttings, and the uncertainty of their growing, in the Northern States, particularty with unpracticed hands, is almost a sufficient veto on planting with cuttings. In the Western and South-western States, where they have early, mild springs, and long, warm summers, cuttings may be more satisfactory; but in the Northern and North-western States, where the springs are late (having cold nights up to the first of June) and the summers hot and short, cuttings are not so sure.

A cutting, for planting at once in the vineyard, should be a portion of wood taken from the base of a cane of the first growth of the present season. It should be round, short-jointed, four or five buds in length, well ripened, and cut with a small portion of wood of two seasons' growth at its heel. Such cuttings, if properly managed, will rarely fail. Cuttings of the second growth, or of pithy, unripened wood, are unsuitable. An early, healthy, vigorous and even growth, so that the vines may become well established and well ripened the first year, can be better attained by one or two-year old well rooted and well ripened, healthy plants.

If it be decided to plant with cuttings, as soon as the ground is in good working order, early in the spring, place the spade perpendicularly and back up to the little marking stick where the vine is to stand. Then drive the spade into the ground to its full depth, without disturbing the marking stick, and pull it forward, bringing with it a spadeful of earth. This leaves a little perpendicular bank, the width and depth of the spade. Now place two cuttings close up to the bank, two inches apart, one on each side of the marking stick, and deep enough to leave one bud half an inch above ground. Now fill the whole with nice, fine earth, [decomposed leaf-mould from the woods, with one-fourth clean, sharp lake or river sand, is the best that can be had for the purpose of planting either the cuttings or plants in,] press it firmly up to the cuttings, and make it smooth on top. Give one good soaking with water, to settle the earth to the cuttings. As soon as bright sunny days begin to set in, it will be better to shade the cuttings by sprinkling over them a few loose straws, short grass or hay, to protect them from the scorching rays of the sun. Should there be continued hot, dry weather, they may require a second or third watering; but when watered, give them a good soaking, that will soak to their very bottoms.

Fig. 3 represents the cuttings as they appear when placed up to the little bank left by the

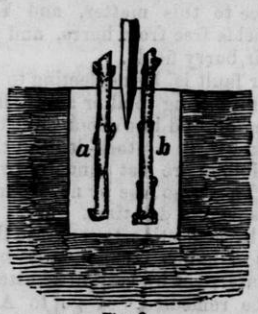


Fig. 3.

spade. *a* shows an imperfect cutting, made from pithy and unripened wood; *b* is a good cutting, made of well ripened, solid wood, with a piece of two-year old wood at its base.—There should always be two cuttings planted at a stake. If both grow, one must be cut away. or carefully taken away without injury to its roots, for the purpose of filling up any place where both may have died.

If good, healthy, one or two-year old, ready rooted vines are used, there will be one year saved, at least, with the additional advantage of having them all grow alike all over the vineyard. But as the rooted vines cost more than the cuttings, some may object to the extra expense, and think it preferable to purchase the cuttings, and either plant them at

once in the vineyard, as advised, or in a nursery-bed, and prepare their own plants a year beforehand. So it would be, if the planter were *sure* that all his cuttings would grow; but as it is very difficult some seasons, for an unpracticed hand, to make cuttings grow, I do not think, taking into consideration the vexation of losing some of the cuttings, and the loss of time, there would be much saved. If plants are chosen, there are none better, [perhaps none so good] than one or two-year old plants grown from single eyes. Their roots all issue from one base, and can be more readily spread out and nicely planted at one depth, and in less time than those grown from layers or cuttings, whose roots issue all the way up the stem. And they would seem preferable, too, from their whole force and energy being concentrated in one bud from the beginning, to those whose substance is divided among several, as in cuttings from the nursery-bed. But as the native varieties are more commonly propagated by cuttings or layers, it may be difficult to get them from eyes: and in that case the former will require a little more care in pruning and planting, and may ultimately be just as good. Before planting, the vines must all be carefully examined; (if there be any mutilatad roots, they must be carefully cut away,) and the vines trimmed and pruned back to the lowest good, plump, round bud above their *upper* roots; and those from eyes, to about *eight inches* above their roots. While this is being done, care must be taken that the roots are kept moist, by shading with wet cloths and straw, and watering, &c.; for if allowed to dry and shrivel, they will start unevenly, and some of them may die altogether; but if carefully managed, there is no occasion to lose one of them. When ready for planting, prepare with a spade, all the holes first—if for plants from layers or cuttings, about a foot square and a foot deep; and if for those from single eyes, a foot square and eight inches deep. Make the hole spuare up to the stakes, so that the plant may stand right in front of it. Lay the soil out of the hole on side of it, and on the other side about two shovelsful of nice earth, as recommended for planting cuttings in. When all is ready for planting, take a few plants at a time, to be exposed to the sun and wind, and begin at one corner and plant one whole row first, and then another, to avoid trampling as much as possible. Put about two inches of the compost into the bottom of the hole; spread it level, and set in the plant; spread its roots about in its natural position, as near as may be, then fill in the rest of the compost, pressing and shaking it beneath and between the roots as much as possible, then fill the hole up level, leaving one bud just above the surface. When planted, give one good watering, and shade as advised for cuttings, if hot, dry weather.

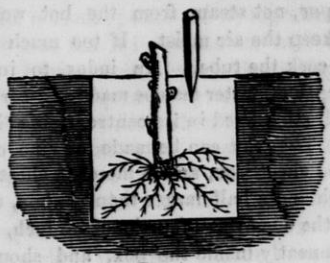


Fig. 4

Fig. 4 represents a plant grown from a single eye, with the roots all at the base; and fig. 5 a plant grown from a cuttting or layer, with its roots all up the stem.

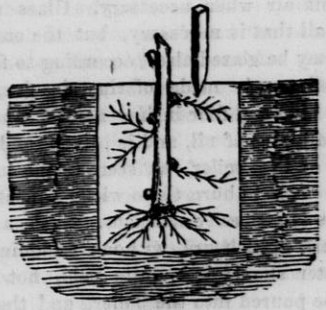


Fig. 5.

The marking stakes should be left in their places the first year, as a guide and protection to the young and tender vine; for the buds are so brittle when first starting to grow, that the least touch may break them off.

All that remains to be done, is to keep all kinds of animals out of the vineyard, and to avoid trampling and walking about as much as possible. Let the ground be stirred two or three times during the summer with the cultivator or hoe, to keep down all weeds, &c. After they have grown a foot or so, and are lying on the ground, they should be trimmed to one cane, and the small latterals produced on the main cane should be pinched back to one leaf. In November, cut each vine back to three or four good buds, and bend it down and cover with two or three inches of earth.

Having thus given the operation of starting a vineyard, I will in my next show the mode of pruning and future treatment of the vine.

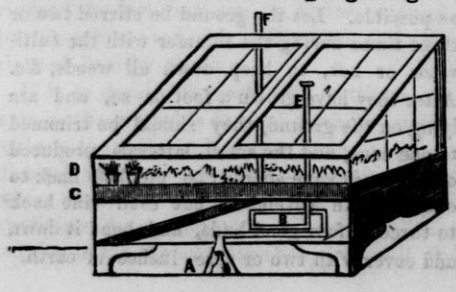
THE WALTONIAN PROPAGATING CASE.

[Continued from Page 28]

The tube, B, should be soldered to the lid of the tin case, and project up through the zinc tray into the interior of the box to let up vapor, not steam, from the hot water, so as to keep the air moist. If too much vapor rises, cork the tube. An index to indicate the depth of water may be made of a cork with a small stick fixed in its centre, rising in the tube. The tray can be made of zinc or galvanized sheet iron, and is merely a sheet about an inch and a half larger than the box, turned up at the edge three-fourths of an inch, which will fit neatly inside the box, and should be filled with sand, on which the pots stand. The smoke pipe E runs through the zinc tray to the outside. The glass may be set in a frame and lift at the back so as to air the plants; or the glass may run in grooves, and shove down to admit air when necessary. Glass at the top is all that is necessary, but the ends and back may be glazed also, according to fancy.

The lamp is made of tin, circular, three inches high and four inches across, and will hold half pint of oil, and is placed under the centre of the boiler, as seen in the cut. It can be made to burn three wicks if necessary, but one is generally sufficient. Such a lamp will burn eight hours without trimming. If the water should get quite cold, hot water must be poured into the boiler, and the lamp will burn readily.

An improvement in the heating apparatus, doing away with the outside cover to the boiler, has been used by Mr. Beaton. It is the construction of a coil of zinc tubing inside the boiler with a funnel head, under which the lamp is placed. The heat passes into the tubing traversing the boiler and passes out at the top, as at F. The vapor tube inside the case is at E, as in the following engraving:



A practical acquaintance with the requirements of cuttings and seeds, in order to grow them, namely, heat and moisture, will undoubtedly lead to improvements in these plant structures, and bring them into general use. No where will our lady friends, who have a taste for flowers, find more satisfaction than in taking care of one of these cases. If they have been so fortunate as to keep some of their verbenas, salvias, heliotropes, and other bedding plants, they can now make up cuttings and place them in the plant case, and by proper care and attention have as good plants for spring settings as can be bought out of the green-house; everything which comes from cuttings with bottom heat may be struck safely. They can also start verbena, pansy and other seeds for blossoming in the open air.—To my mind nothing looks so refreshing in winter as to see plants vigorously progressing.

It does not require much mechanical ingenuity to make these cases. I purchased a dry goods box of about the right size, and intend preparing a case for the starting of grape cuttings from the single eye, and hope to give the result of my experiments. Where a person wishes but a small supply of plants, this seems to be the readiest way to accomplish his object.

The managing of a Waltonian case, consists in keeping up the necessary heat, and also attention to the proper degree of moisture and airing, to prevent plants from damping off. A little sand over the soil in the pots will prevent damping. The smaller the pots for seeds or cuttings, the greater the safety. Those requiring the greatest heat should be placed in the centre, and removed to the edge when sufficiently started. As soon as they start, air should be given to prevent their drawing up weakly. Watering should be attended to regularly, with water of the same temperature as the case. Hardening off is done in the usual way, and any one acquainted with the management of a hot-bed, will find no difficulty with these cases. There is no difference in the management of cuttings and seeds in a Waltonian case, from that in a hot-bed. It has many advantages over a common hot-bed. The temperature is at perfect command, and can be regulated from any degree up to nearly 90; the ordinary temperature, with a partial admission of air and the lamp freshly trimmed, being 75 to 80 degrees. It is cleanly and nice, and the lady amateur need not soil her

fingers, have no anxiety as to frosts and mats, and find her pets in the morning all alive and growing, notwithstanding the thermometer is 15 to 20 degrees below zero. . B. Q.

THE SAP SUCKER—WHAT IS IT? HOW TO SAVE SAPPED TREES?

Eds. Farmer:—Your correspondent, Mr. de Neveu, seems to me to have taken strong grounds on the bird question. He states truly that there are many birds which destroy insects and which do not destroy trees; and unless it can be shown that sapsuckers destroy insects injurious to the farmer, which are not destroyed by other insectivorous birds, it is difficult to understand why we should be more lenient with them than the rest of creation. Why we should foster these birds which work against him, instead of destroying them as he does mice which nibble his cheese, if he happens to have any, or gophers which pull up his corn. A good cat is a very useful animal; but I fear its mirth-provoking gambols when a kitten, and its usefulness as a mouser when it had arrived at demure cathood, would avail but little if the discovery was made that it had acquired a special liking for new laid eggs. When the alternative was presented, cat or eggs? Alas for poor puss!

I have had two or three trees injured by the sapsucker. A thrifty lady-apple tree which has borne fruit the last two years, had a circle of seventeen holes made in its trunk last fall. I have not seen this bird at its work. I can find no one here who knows it; and the little bird lore I have at command tends to puzzle rather than explain. In the *Rural Annual* for 1858, published by the proprietor of the *Genesee Farmer*, a writer on birds states that the rings of gimlet-like holes are made in fruit trees by the spotted woodpecker. Another writer in the same work for 1859 says this is a mistake, that the holes are made by the downy woodpecker, quite a different bird.—"He never makes them in any but young and thrifty fruit trees, and in the birch and sugar maple. He has two objects in view, viz: sucking the sap which exudes from the incisions, and catching insects attracted there by the sap. I have watched him and seen him set for hours by the holes, occasionally sipping the sap or catching a fly." This I thought pretty conclusive testimony till I read in the *American Agriculturist* for November last, the opinion of another ornithologist that the sapsucker is no woodpecker at all, but the white-breasted nuthatch. "True," says this writer, "the nuthatch does tap trees; I have seen him tapping them in January when the sap was frozen, and in August when it would not run. I have seen him tap hemlock, spruce, beech, birch, ash, and indeed everything else that came in his way, from a rail fence to a rotten stump." Many will probably take this bird for a small species of woodpecker, as I did, it is so like it in its habits and appearance. I learn it may be readily distinguished from the wood pecker by this—it has three toes forward, woodpeckers only two. "It has a general lead color, head and neck black above, and pure white underneath. The Downy woodpecker is said to be migratory, leaving the lattitude of New York in September or early in October. Mr. de Neveu's trees were attacked by the sapsucker while he was attending the State Fair. I did not notice the holes in my tree till November, and they seemed to be very recently made. The spotted woodpecker is the only one I have seen hereabouts during the last three months. The nuthatch has been here about the same time. I have seen them both this week. As Mr. de Neveu appears to know the sapsucker well, perhaps he will be kind enough to state through the medium of the *Farmer* which of these suspected birds he considers guilty. The information may prove as useful to others as to me. It would also be useful and interesting to know if any efforts have been made to save injured trees, and if so, what was done and with what results?

It has occurred to me that there is a way, if skilfully managed, by which Mr. de Neveu may with certainty save his valuable Northern Spy apple trees. The death or stoppage of the growth of the tapped trees is considered to be owing to the obstructions presented to the flow of sap by the circle of holes made by the birds. I think there are some grounds for witholding entire assent to this opinion. Be this however as it may, it is generally conceded that the death of or injury to the trees arises from the presence of these holes; the inference therefore is, that if a ring of bark containing them could be removed before active vegetation commences in spring, and replaced by an exactly fitting ring of perfectly sound bark taken from another apple tree, say a comparatively worthless seedling, that the sap would continue to flow unimpeded, and all

injury from external causes through the medium of the holes be prevented. Lindley in his introduction to Botany, says this experiment may be easily and successfully made; and Andrew Knight, in his paper on the inconvertibility of bark into alburnum, (sap-wood,) states minutely how he went about the work and what precautions he considered should be observed to insure success. "Having," says he, "procured, by grafting several trees of a variety of the apple and crab tree, the woods of which were distinguishable from each other by their colors, I took off, early in the spring, portions of bark of equal length, from branches of equal size, and I transposed these pieces of bark, inclosing a part of the stem of the apple tree with a covering of the bark of the crab tree, which extended quite round it, and applying the bark of the apple tree to the stem of the crab tree in like manner. Bandages were then applied to keep the transposed bark and the alburnum in contact with each other; and the air was excluded by a plaster composed of bees-wax and turpentine and with a covering of tempered clay. * *

A vital union soon took place between the transposed pieces of bark and the alburnum and bark of the trees to which they were applied, and in the autumn it appeared evident that a layer of alburnum had been in every instance formed beneath the transposed pieces of bark, which were then taken off." Mr. Knight, in a foot note, refers to a similar experiment made by one of his cotemporaries, and a knowledge of the reason why it did not succeed may be useful. "Dichamel having taken off and immediately replaced similar pieces of the bark of young elms, subsequently found that the alburnum which was generally beneath such pieces of bark, had not formed any union with the alburnum of the tree beneath it. But this great naturalist did not employ ligatures of sufficient power to bring the bark and alburnum into close contact, or the result would have been different."

If any one not used to grafting is disposed to try this remedy, it may perhaps be well for him to try his skill in the first place on one tree only, and that one the most injured, or else of the least value in the owner's estimation. Ordinary grafting wax, or the handy solution of rosin in alcohol commonly used, I believe, by German gardeners for grafting purposes, will probably do quite as well as the turpentine mixture, and I would also suggest whether it would not be well to try the effect on some trees of fixing a bandage smeared with grafting wax over the holes made by the birds, so as to exclude moisture, and thus prevent the frost from driving its wedges by the alternate freezing and thawing we are sure to have between now and spring. J. T.

Moundville, 1860.

Proceedings of the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association, at their Annual Meeting held at Whitewater January 19, 20 and 21.

Eds. Farmer:—Pursuant to notice, the above association met as stated, President A. G. Hanford in the chair.

The convention was well represented from different portions of the State, and communications received and read from the principle fruit growers of this State, also many valuable papers from able writers in adjoining States. All of which will form a part, I am pleased to say, of the forthcoming volume of transactions.

After preliminary congratulations of the fruit growers' prospects and encouragements received by the number present, participated in by Messrs. Starin, Brayton, Plumb, and others, the chair appointed Messrs. Brayton, Willey and Plumb a committee on business and subjects for discussion. After which a lively discussion ensued, participated in by all—the different members, deciding that a southerly aspect was very injurious, and that there was not much choice among the remaining three, though some of the members would prefer a southern to an unprotected northern; when all agreed that protection of some kind was beneficial, though a portion believed that the best protection was one of nature's, viz: so elevated as to be exposed to a free circulation of air from all sides; then plant close, with low top trees; during winter would raise a mound about the base, and imitate nature by covering the ground with leaves, litter or rotton wood. The want of this was thought the reason why so many trees were root killed, the tops and bodies remaining alive for several months after,—even "currants have been known to be killed without it."

The subject of planting was discussed at some length, but nothing particularly new was elicited, though all agreed that the ground must be well drained, and plant no deeper than the trees stood in the nursery; and one or two members advocated three inches high-

er, principally, however, to avoid becoming too deep by the usual method of continual plowing towards the trees. It was thought that early spring was the only really safe time to transplant, including evergreens. The former, if taken from the nursery in the fall, should be "heeled in" thoroughly; the latter should not be moved under any consideration at that season, but if properly handled in early spring, as early as can be done, are as easily moved as apple trees, when nursery grown in the proper manner, having been transplanted as often as once in two years while there, thus producing a large mass of fibers. Their best mulch was hoeing about them twice a week till past midsummer.

Upon the subject of diseases and insects injurious, and their remedies, all would encourage a healthy growth, as the bark louse seldom if ever attacked a tree that was not diseased or in some way stunted, either by overbearing, wet or otherwise bad soils. The remedies were—in "very bad condition, better cut down and burn;" otherwise prune thoroughly, manure the land, and plow the orchard as deep as possible without injury to the roots; washes of ley any time after coldest weather till middle of April; soap and water two or three times during the summer; tar and oil when the tree's sap is in most active circulation, were remedies recommended as found beneficial.

The discussions upon this point were very full, as well as upon the subject of drainage; but space will not admit of a more extended report at the present time, but will appear in full in the volume of transactions.

The discussion upon fruits occupied Friday evening with a short session Saturday morning, when the convention was necessitated to adjourn, leaving a discussion upon many of the fruits untouched; hence I learned that another session is contemplated by the Society to be held some time in February.

As a business meeting, the Society transacted much of importance. On motion of J. C. Plumb, a committee of three was appointed, whose business it should be to examine at least twenty-five orchards, vineyards, and other fruit plantations of our State, either individually or collectively, making seventy-five in all; and to report at the next annual meeting of the society, upon the following points:

1. The elevation and aspect.
2. If sheltered, and on which side, by belts of trees, &c.; if near and open to the influences of large bodies of water.
3. Of the soil and sub-soil.
4. Of the preparation, planting and culture.
5. How long out, what varieties, general cultivation, prospects, &c., &c.

Messrs. Brayton, Hanford and Plumb were appointed said committee, and it is hoped that the fruit loving community will do all in their power to aid their labors, and freely give them specimens of such fruits as have proven worthy of trial, to be exhibited in the Society's rooms.

The following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:

President—J. C. Brayton, Aztalan, Jefferson County.

Vice Presidents—H. Crocker, Milwaukee; F. W. London, Janesville; J. S. Judd, Waupun.

Rec. Secretary—O. S. Willey, Janesville.

Cor. Sec'y—A. G. Hanford, Waukesha.

Treasurer—O. P. Dow, Palmyra.

Executive Com.—J. C. Plumb, Madison; H. A. Congar, Whitewater; Jas. Ozanne, jr., Racine.

After which the Society voted to offer premiums upon the various fruit tree plantations that may be planted in the spring or autumn of 1860—a copy of which please find enclosed.

The best of feeling prevailed among the members; they fully demonstrating that, where there is a will there *must* be a *way* to raise fruit—even in the Badger State.

O. S. Willey, *Sec. pro tem.*

LIST OF PREMIUMS OFFERED BY THE WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

For the best Apple Orchard of not less than fifty trees planted spring or autumn of 1860, to be awarded autumn of 1863, premium - - - $10 00

For best Pear Orchard of not less than 25 standards, - - - - $10 00

For best twenty-five Dwarfs, - - $10 00

do do Cherries, - - $10 00

do do Plums, - - $10 00

For the best Fruit Garden, - - $10 00

For the best Seedling Apple, of any season, of decidedly superior merit and hardy tree, six specimens to be exhibited, together with history of tree, origin, growth, bearing characteristics, &c., shall be presented to the Society for three years, - - $10 00

For the best Seedling Grape, equal or superior to the Isabella, ripening in the open air by the middle of Sept. $10 00

For a Seedling Gooseberry, equal to Houghton's seedling in hardiness, productiveness and exemption from mildew, larger and of better quality, $10 00

For the best seedling Pear, Plum, Cherry, Currant, Blackberry, Raspberry and Strawberry, each - - - $10 00

and to be exhibited to the Society at the proper time and place, it not being sufficient that they are the best specimens exhibited, but must be equal to tried varieties and worthy of general cultivation.

For the largest number and best growth of Evergreens, not less than 25, planted spring or autumn of 1860, and in most thrifty condition in autumn of 1863, with an account of method of planting and culture, - - - $10 00

O. S. Willey, *Sec. pro tem.*

Earth to Earth! Ashes to Ashes.—Men seldom think of the great event of death, until the shadows full across their own path, hiding forever from their eyes the traces of loved ones whose living smiles was the sunlight of their existence. Death is the great antogonist of life, and the cold thought of the tomb is the skeleton of all feasts. We do not want to go through the dark valley, although its passage may lead to paradise; and, with Charles Lamb, we do not want to lie down in the muddy grave, even with kings and princes for our bed fellows. But the fiat of nature is inexorable. There is no appeal or relief from the great law which dooms us to dust. We flourish and we fade as the leaves of the forest, and the flower that blooms and withers in a day has not a frailer hold upon life than the mightiest monarch that ever shook the earth with his footsteps. Generations of men appear and vanish as the grass, and the countless multitude that throng the world to-day, will to-morrow disappear as the footsteps on the shore.

☞ A correspondent of the *Homestead* found that, in sending milk to market, though it left the dairy perfectly sweet, it was often curdled on delivery to customers. To remedy this, the cans were covered with cotton cloth soaked in salt water. By this method the curdling of the milk was entirely prevented.

☞ The Ohio State Board of Agriculture have located their Annual Fair at one point for two years, and rejected a proposition to locate permanently at any one place.

☞ There are said to be about seventy-five Farmer's Clubs in Illinois, with two thousand members.—*Ex.*

How many are there in Wisconsin? We don't know of half a dozen, although we have often urged their formation.—Eds.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

We Propose to change back to a Monthly.

In accordance with an intimation in our first semi-monthly issue, we have received divers expressions of opinion pro and con—for and against the semi-monthly—and the majority of expression is decidedly in favor of the old monthly form.

Such being the fact, and finding withal that it is full more trouble and expense to us to get out a thin and *shaddy* semi than a plump and well bound monthly, we have concluded to send it forth in a monthly form with the first of March.

Our desire is to please our patrons as nearly as possible, and when the time comes that a weekly issue is warranted, we shall esteem such a change a substantial and useful one, and be ready to adopt it; until then let us return to the monthly, and sustain it vigorously. As a specimen of the expression we have received from our friends we subjoin the following:

Eds. Wis. Farmer: — Gents — Inclosed please find one dollar for subscription to *Wisconsin Farmer* for the ensuing year, and credit accordingly.

If I remember aright you have requested the friends of the *Farmer* to express their views in regard to the change from a monthly to a semi-monthly? Well, I take it as it comes, and derive pleasure and profit in its perusal; but I liked the monthly best; and if, as you say, it is more trouble and expense to conduct it as a semi-monthly, there ought to be some decided advantage to somebody to render it advisable. Now there will be twenty-four numbers lying around loose to look after instead of twelve as heretofore, and it doesn't seem like so much of an institution when we take up a number as it did before. If there should be some who take no other paper, they might desire the more frequent publication of it in order to keep the run of the markets, &c., but aside from such cases I do not see the advantages of it; and I would say, if it does not pay yourselves any better or accommodate in some way, change back to the old plan *just when you please*, and most likely the majority of your readers will be likewise suited. This opinion not costing anything is probably not worth anything, hence don't esteem it too highly! With many hearty wishes for your

prosperity and happiness, I trust you will believe me Your friend and serv't,

EDW. M. DANFORTH.

Summit, Jan. 26, 1860.

The Legislature

Is progressing quietly; doing little yet of especial interest; the assessment law is in process of being amended as is believed for the better.

A bill is also pending for a reduction of the rate of interest; and many think that it will be lowered to ten per cent.; we hope it will, and at no distant time to seven, which is all and even more than any country can afford to pay for any length of time; but we would not recommend too sudden changes in such vital matters.

A Dog Law is before the Senate. and so far as we can learn is meeting with tolerable favor; we think that some kind of a law on the subject will be passed; hope so.

The free railroad tickets as usual are operating very unfavorably to protract the session; they are very apt to induce an adjournment about Friday, to last until Tuesday; thus practically using up about half of each week. This waste of time and money is bad, but the effects may prove even worse in begetting undue favor towards railroad companies. It is a practice that we hope to see discontinued; but do not expect to until it is met at the polls.—The prospect still is that the session will not be a long one.

Machinery and Implements Wanted.

In this connection we would add that we are constantly inquired of by letter and otherwise, where this and that farm machine and implement can be obtained; and are often at a loss to tell them. Dealers in such articles would do well to insert their cards in the advertising department of the *Farmer;* it would often send them scores of customers without much expense, besides being a matter of great convenience to our readers.

The Dog Law.

One of our farmer correspondents winds up his letter in the following graphic manner:

"I hope to God you will bore the members of the Legislature until they will pass a dog law."

To this we say amen. If the wool growers of the State want such a law, let them have it. The sheep interest vastly exceeds that of the dogs, and should be duly protected to whatever extent required.

Enquiries of Correspondents.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Will you please to inform me, and your readers, through the medium of your journal, whether the Hungarian Grass sown on breaking, on the 10th of June last, by Mr. George Wright, of Springdale, Dane county, (as mentioned in your last number,) was on breaking of the same season? Would you also inform me if the extraordinary crop of wheat raised by Col. N. W. Dean, of Madison, and which obtained for him the premium of the State Agricultural Society, was obtained from brined seed? and how much seed was sown to the acre? Last year, I believe, a considerable portion of my brined seed decayed, in consequence, I suppose, of the want of rain, shortly after germination, to continue its growth until the plant was fully developed. A SUBSCRIBER.

We got the impression of Mr. Wright, that his land was new breaking, but do not know certain.

Col. Dean informs us that his wheat was not brined. About one and three-fourths bushels per acre of seed was sown.—EDS.

D. J. POWERS & CO.—DEAR SIR:—Please find enclosed one dollar for your truly valuable *Wisconsin Farmer*. Each number is worth the cost of a volume. Can not, will not do without it, as I am a young hand at farming; and even if I had the experience of scores of years, as many of my neighbors have, I could learn something from each number of the *Farmer* which would be worth more to me than the cost of the volume.

Can you inform me, through your columns, anything about the Chester County, Pa., Pigs? Whether they are equal or superior to the Suffolk breed? and whether they have been introduced into this State, and where they could be procured?

Respectfully, &c., L. R. BINGHAM.

Direct to Tafton, Grant Co., Wis.

Who can answer our friend's question? it is a matter on which we are not posted. We are of course much obliged for his complimentary reference to us.—EDS.

ENQUIRIES.

Sowing Harrows.—"W. H. W." wishes to know where the Sowing Harrows exhibited at the State Fair of 1857 (at Janesville) can be obtained. We are unable to tell him.

Also, if Hungarian Grass is as exhausting as oats? We presume it is more so, as it grows a much larger crop, and would therefore naturally try the soil more severely.

"J. S." wishes to know how long posts should be soaked in blue vitriol to preserve them from decay, as stated in a paragraph on the 440th page of the last Dec. No.?

We have never had any experience in the matter, but publish an article on the 55th page of this number to the point.

Fowl Meadow Grass Seed.

In reply to all who are wishing this article, we would say that we shall send East for some about the 25th of this month, and all who choose can forward us their order and money and we will include it with our own, without charge. We do not know what it will cost per bushel or pound, but should presume somewhere between $2.50 and $5.00 per bushel.

EDS. FARMER.

Are Your Insurance Policies Expired?

A very valuable barn and contents was recently burned in Waukesha Co., which the owner supposed insured; but on looking at his policy, he found that it had expired! It is easier to imagine the chagrin of a person under such circumstances, than to repair the loss.

All careful persons should examine their policies often, and see that they are all right at all times, as there is no time to fix them after the fire commences.

Enclosing Stamps to Prepay.

Among the multitude of letters that we are constantly receiving, there are not unfrequently those from parties with whom we have no acquaintance nor business interest whatever, asking information purely for their own benefit, and enclosing no stamp to prepay the answer.

Now we don't hesitate to inform all such correspondents, that their chances are great of having to wait some time on us for answers in such cases, to say the least. To one that is already over taxed, it is enough to write entirely gratuitous letters, without also paying postage. True, one or two such cases are nothing, but five hundred or a thousand a year are a sum worth counting. Therefore those who want answers, will do well to bear in mind what will bring them—it is usually *a three cent stamp.*

Markets and Prices

Continue much the same as at our last issue. No permanent changes worth noting.

Communications Deferred.

As usual, during the winter months, we are a little over full of communications, and those the least urgent have to lay over; but there will be plenty of room for them all after a little; have patience and don't stop writing.

The State Agricultural Board

Have just closed their winter session—too late for us to report their proceedings in this number; suffice for now to say, that they had a full attendance—a harmonious session, and did up everything preliminarily for the coming year.

Officers of County Agricultural Societies for 1860.

SHEBOYGAN CO.—At the annual meeting of the Sheboygan County Agricultural Society, held January 3d, 1860, the following officers were elected:

President—John Whiting.
Vice Pre'ts—J. O. Thayer, Hiram Smith, S. Cummings.
Treasurer—G. W. Barnard.
Secretary—G. S. Graves.
Executive Committee—B. L. Gibbs, John Grove, B. L. Nutt, N. Sergeant, David W. Gilbert.

PIERCE CO.—The Agricultural Society of this county, held its annual meeting on the 1st and 2d inst., and elected the following officers:

President—D. B. Bailey.
Vice Pres'ts—William Howes, Ellsworth Childs, Milton Webster, Jens Isaacson, W. C. Dennison, John Beardsley, William Teare, John Hurley, E. Quimby, Daniel Taylor, Chas. R. Tyler, A. L. Brown, Amos Harris.
Recording Sec'y—S. R. Gunn.
Corresponding Sec'y—O. Gibbs, Jr.
Treasurer—J. H. Southwick.

OUTAGAMIE CO.—At a meeting of the farmers, held at Appleton Jan. 28th, a Society was organized, and the following gentlemen elected officers for 1860:

President—W. H. P. Bogan.
Vice Pres't—Geo. Knowles.
Secretary—Jas. M. Phinney.
Treasurer—E. H. Stone.

GREEN LAKE CO.—The following are the officers of the Green Lake Agricultural Society for 1860:

President—Elijah James, Berlin.
Vice Pres't—M. H. Shipley, St. Marie.
Sec'y & Treas.—Ira Sherman, Princeton.
Executive Committee—David Lee, Dayton; L. W. Merrill, Princeton; C. E. Westbrook, Manchester; John Davis, St. Marie.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, MARCH 1, 1860. NO. 5.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

THE AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS FOR 1858,

Published in the recent report of the Secretary of State, though, as hitherto, imperfect, are well worth a passing notice. Such material as was furnished to the Secretary of State appears to have been prepared for publication with especial care; but the total failure of seven counties, and among them those of Milwaukee and Grant, to report at all, makes it a very incomplete document as an exhibit of the entire productions of the State.

The year 1858 was so unpropitious for sowed crops that the aggregate showing of products in that line is anything but flattering. The product of wheat as reported was 7,029,273 bushels, grown upon 603,811 acres; being a little over 11½ bushels to the acre. The four counties of Dane, Dodge, Columbia and Rock produced within a fraction of half of it. A very poor crop, at best, both in quantity as well as quality, as many will remember full well.

The corn crop was 5,986,654 bushels, grown on 211,324 acres, something over 28 bushels per acre, (not bad for an average.) The three counties of Rock, Walworth and Dane producing within a fraction of one-third of it.—Clark county reports only sixty bushels as her crop; hardly enough for hasty puddings!

Oats, as all will remember, were also a poor crop, owing to a rust or blight that struck them just as they were ripening; still the yield is reported at 4,743,981 bushels, on 228,578 acres, nearly twenty-one bushels per acre.

Butter 6,694,255 lbs., only varying a fraction from the product of 1856, which was 6,665,686 lbs, showing but little increase in the article during the intervening two years.

Cheese 580,104 lbs., against 444,930 lbs. in 1856; not a large increase, but showing a little gain. Still the State does not probably make one-half the cheese it consumes, although it might easily, and ought to do so.

Cattle 392,114; a fair increase since the last statistical report.

Hogs 250,598, against 177,810 in 1856; a fair gain.

Horses and mules 82,524, against 74,843 in 1856. The horses in the report of 1856 were valued at about $100 each, while in the last report for 1858 they only average a fraction over $55 each, showing a remarkable difference in the valuation of personal property, growing of course out of the difference in the times; too high before, too low now.

Sheep 354,657, against 312,215 in 1856; showing a very small increase to what there should have been in the number of these valuable animals.

The wool product, through some mistake, is reported at only 582,538 lbs., against 929,806 lbs. in 1856—only about three-fifths as much wool from a larger number of sheep, showing conclusively that there must be a mistake somewhere, and probably in the amount of wool for 1858, as it would not, by the above showing, average but about one and three-fourth lbs. per sheep.

Manufactures appear small. They would have been largely increased if Milwaukee had been included in the report; but at the best they are not one-half what they ought to be. As we have often said hitherto, we buy far too much, and often what we might better make at home, No people can buy themselves rich. If they get rich, it must be by selling, and not buying alone.

The entire footing up of the products of the State, or rather the forty-seven counties that reported, after deducting the items of cattle, sheep, horses and hogs on hand, leaves the sum of $23,522,398 as the entire results of the production, labor and income of the agri-

cultural, mining and manufacturing business of those forty-seven counties. Add to these a proportional amount for the seven counties not reported, $3,920,399, making a total of $27,442,797; which, supposing the population of the State to have been 800,000, makes a little less than $34 per head as the average production for each person, including and counting all the various articles of farm production, whether for home consumption or export. Counting only the articles of export, for instance, one half the wheat, which is probably more than we had to spare, $30,000 worth of the wool for home manufacture and knitting, deducted from the gross amount, and all the lead counted in together with a quarter of a million of dollars for lumber, which is not reported, and altogether it makes only about $3,000,000 as the results of all our products sold out of the State for the year 1858, being less than $4.50 per person—a pretty narrow margin certainly with which to meet all our foreign bills of purchase, of merchandise, agricultural machinery and interest on what we owe to eastern capitalists.

The fact of this small absolute income for foreign or eastern trade, may perhaps explain to many why our people get in debt and cannot pay. It is simply because they realise little from their business with which to pay; and teaches the important co-relative fact, that their expenses should also be small, and in fact must be, if we would thrive and keep clear of debt. Probably Wisconsin does not raise for export and sale out of the State more than from six to ten dollars per person per annum, as an average. Every one can calculate how many fine coats, silk dresses, and other fine foreign articles this will buy; and in making such calculation they may he slightly surprised to find that our actual means and resources are as limited as they are, for expenditure and payment of debts. A full knowledge and understanding of the subject will teach the thoughtful a lesson of economy, and enable them to duly appreciate the value of statistical information.

Of course, the foregoing remarks are only supposed to be approximate in their correctness, and to convey merely general ideas upon the subject. We hope the law authorizing the collecting of such statistics will not be repealed, but amended, and kept in force until it is better understood and carried out.—They constitute the great account book of the State that tells us how we stand pecuniarily, and what we are doing from year to year.

CARROT GROWING.

The latter part of last year we promised to punch up the farmers upon the subject of carrot growing before another spring; and as that period is now approaching, we might as well redeem the promise.

A good crop of carrots is, in our opinion, next in value to the stock farmer to a good crop of hay. In fact they are the indispensable thing that all farmers need not only during the winter but about this time at the opening of spring. The farmer that now has from ten to twenty bushels of good yellow carrots to each working ox or horse or milch cow, and a good place to feed them, has no reason to feel bad about it, but on the other hand he may feel safe in bringing his creatures all through in fine condition to work or give milk. With a proper sprinkling of meal and bran, we do not believe that any thing else will do it so well or so cheaply.

One or two thousand bushels of carrots are easier grown by those who know how, or will take the trouble of learning, than any other feeding crop of equal value. With any tolerable success they can be grown for from seven to ten cents per bushel, and put in store ready for use. What else of equal value can be produced so easy?

We would not be understood as recommending the cultivation of carrots to the exclusion of other crops, by any means; but as one of the leading crops for stock feeding in autumn, winter and spring. We say the more on this subject because we are aware that very many substantial farmers do not raise them at all, nor try to, having an idea that it is too much trouble, or that they cannot stow and feed them without too much pains taking and care.

We do not believe that stock can be well kept without some admixture of roots and vegetables during the dry feeding season of winter, any more than *humans* can live on *dry fodder*, without change. "They are nothing but cattle," is a common notion with too many. The time will come when all sensible people will realise that even cattle are half human in their appetites and needs, and that it vastly more than pays to properly provide for them.

Mr. Stilson's premium crop of carrots of 1184 bushels per acre, referred to in a recent num-

ber of the *Farmer*, shows conclusively that our good soils will grow them in abundance. The soil should be rich, clear of weeds, and very deeply plowed for their cultivation. Good seed should be secured in season to try it, to learn if it will vegetate before planting; and some recommend soaking it until it swells and rolling it in plaster or ashes before planting, in order that it may come up ahead of the weeds, thereby saving largely in cleaning them out while small, one of the worst jobs, by the way, in all carrot growing.

We shall be glad to publish whatever may be instructive and useful on this subject from those who have had experience. We wish to induce the growth of ten bushels of carrots where one is now grown, and are confident that the subject only wants agitating and urging upon people's attention to effect it.—Meantime let us have the pros and cons on the subject between this and planting time.

SEEDING THE SOIL.

[Continued from page 37]

BROADCAST SOWING, DRILLING AND PLANTING IN HILLS.

The next, and last question of interest, touching the matter of seeding, relates to the *method*. Briefly stated, it is this: Shall we sow *broadcast*, in *drills*, or plant in *hills*.

Each of these methods has the sanction of good agriculturists in all ages, and has had the benefit of numberless discussions and experiments; still the question is not fully settled in the minds of a majority of the best farmers of to-day. Surely, if there *is* a best method, the farmer ought to know what it is. We have no patience with this blundering, hap-hazzard way of doing business—this doing things because most people do them, when every new improvement proves that the whole world had been going wrong in all time before.

It is certainly a decision of common sense, that, on either *very stumpy* or *very uneven land*, seeding can best be done with the careful hand after the broadcast method. These are the only cases, however, in which we are able to discover that it has the advantage—unless it be in that other case, when the farmer is too poor to buy a good drill or cannot wait for its manufacture or importation.—While, on the other hand, very serious objections, both in theory and in practice, arise against it.

In the first place, broadcast seed-sowing is a difficult work, requiring that skill which can only come of a natural aptness, cultivated by considerable experience. Now, it often happens that the farmer has neither the original aptness or the requisite experience to ensure a good and economical doing of the work; nor if he had them, would it follow that he would, himself, always have leisure or be able to attend to it; in which case, this most particular work done on the farm must be intrusted to some blundering day-laborer, whose interest it is to assume to understand it whether he ever sowed a rood of land before or not, and whose chief care is to get the seed out of his hand, and thus have done the seeding *somehow* and *within the prescribed time.*

Secondly, this method of sowing is quite impracticable in windy weather, as the seed will be blown cut of line and a portion of it fall in the wrong place in spite of the most skillful sower.

Thirdly, under the most favorable circumstances of skill and weather, it is impossible to get the seed perfectly distributed upon lumpy or stony ground; since falling upon these hard bodies its inevitable rebound must carry it where it is not wanted.

Fourthly, it being granted that the seed has been evenly and in proper quantity distributed, the work is still but half done, i. e., it is yet to be *covered*, and so the field must be all traversed again, and thus time, so precious at the season of seeding, is wasted.

In the fifth place, there can be no guaranty that the seed will *all* be covered, no matter how careful the harrower: the fowls of the air and vermin of various species will probably destroy a portion before it is possible to cover it up. Or, there may come a storm just as the sowing is done, driving the harrower from the field and preventing his completion of the work until a re-sowing may have become necessary.

A sixth objection is found in the utter impossibility, even with the most favorable conditions, of giving the seed a uniform depth of covering; the importance of which we have discussed under its proper heading. Some will be found too deep for germination, and others will get no covering at all.

As a seventh objection, the soil is liable, if heavy and a little wet, to be packed down too heavily by the harrow which covers the seed.

Finally, the irregular sprouting and uneven,

helter-skelter growth of the plants, and consequently restricted influence of proper space, air, and sunshine must occasion a want of uniformity in the time of flowering and maturing, &c., and necessarily result in a crop inferior both in quantity and quality.

Here are eight sound, invincible reasons why broadcast sowing should not be practiced, provided a better method can be substituted. *We* believe that *drilling* is that better method, and accordingly proceed to a statement of the following substantial reasons—not doubting that, inasmuch as we have no selfish reason under heaven for offering them, they will be candidly and fairly examined by the thousands of interested farmers under whose notice this article may fall:—

First, because not one of the foregoing eight objections can with any degree of propriety be urged against it; and, secondly, because there are other and important reasons, not enumerated, that may be urged in its favor, to-wit:

1. A well constructed drill is susceptible of adjustment so as to enable the farmer to plant his seed at different depths, corresponding to the differences which may characterize the soils of different fields, or of different portions of the same field, as suggested under the head of "Depth."

2. The tooth of the drill which deposites the seed, at the same time, clears out of the way all hard lumps and stones, so that the seed is left in the finest tilth the soil can afford; while the harrow must bury some of it under them.

3. The drill leaves the seed in regular rows, so that the plants, when grown, may have the benefit of a more perfect circulation of air and access of sunlight. This is a matter of great moment during spells of warm, "muggy" weather, and may often be the occasion of saving the crop from mildew and rust.

4. This same row arrangement allows of that thorough *cultivation* of a variety of hitherto neglected crops, which we are glad to know is beginning to be popular, and is bound to become *universal*.

5. When sown with the drill, the seed lies at the bottom of a little furrow, which serves the double purpose of draining the land in a wet time, and of securing a covering for the otherwise naked roots of the tender plants in the winter and spring, through the natural crumbling down of the little ridges on either side as a result of freezing and thawing. This is also important and not unfrequently prevents "winter-killing," a most prolific source of the failure, in these northern latitudes, of nearly all fall-sown crops.

6. By means of the drill the farmer is enabled to sow *mixed seed* much more perfectly than is possible with the hand—and all at the same time.

7. The drill affords an admirable means for applying various kinds of manure to the soil just when and where they are calculated to do the most good. Lime, ashes, plaster, bone-dust, powdered manure from the henery, &c., as well as the guano, so common in the East, can be applied most perfectly, and almost without extra labor or expense.

8. The drill saves one-fifth to one-fourth of the seed—often enough in one season to pay for the machine.

9. It ensures a more uniform ripening, so that the harvest may begin at the earliest moment; thereby confining the ravages of insects should any attack the crop, to a narrower limit of time, often, also, enabling the crop to escape other forms of blight, and obviating the loss which must otherwise result from the shelling out of that portion which must become too ripe while the remainder is maturing.

Now, some of the reasons above enumerated are double, so that if we make a summary of the whole series of arguments, we shall have the surprising array of *nineteen independent and important reasons why it is better to sow in drills than broadcast!*

1. Drilling requires much *less skill*.
2. It requires *less time*.
3. It requires *less labor*.
4. It requires *less seed*.
5. It can be well done *in spite of windy weather*.
6. It insures a more *even distribution of the seed*.
7. It insures the covering of *all* the seed.
8. It insures the covering of the seed at the *proper depth*.
9. It *facilitates the sowing of mixed seeds*.
10. It *insures the covering of the seed with the best earth*.
11. It *obviates the "packing" of too heavy soils*.
12. It *facilitates the application of fertilizers*.
13. It leaves furrows, and thus *promotes drainage*.

14. It *diminishes the danger of winter-killing.*

15. It *lessens the injury by drouth.*

16. It *provides for convenience of cultivation.*

17. It *secures better airing and sunning of the plants.*

18. It *insures a more uniform ripening.*

19. IT INSURES A LARGER AND BETTER CROP.

PLANTING IN HILLS.

This was undoubtedly the *primitive* method—the one which would naturally be adopted in an age when thorough plowing, and harrowing, and cultivation were unknown. The early historic records contain allusions to it, and even down to within comparatively modern times it was the only method in use. It is certainly meet, therefore, that we pay it proper respect. The new ways are not *always* the *best* ways; every reader of history is probably aware of that. We mean to say, things must neither be laughed at because they are *old* nor adopted because they are *supposed to be new.*

For some crops, planting in hills is still, and probably ever will be, the best method. Plants whose roots go out some distance in search of food and cannot be adequately supplied within small compass, whose foliage is large and must occupy considerable space, and whose necessity is imperative for frequent and thorough cultivation, belong to this class.

Indian corn is an example; and we are not surprised to find the farmers of the corn-growing States coming back to the old-fashioned "check planting" in hills 3x3 and 4x4—not to *hand*-planting, of necessity, for there is no reason why we should not have machinery for this as well as for everything else. Indeed, there are sundry patterns now in use, and, while we are by no means fully satisfied with any that we have yet seen, we nevertheless have an abiding faith in the ability of American genius to invent anything that shall be found necessary or even desirable, and so are always expecting to stumble upon just the thing at the very next fair we may attend.

Other plants belong to this same category—but of them, all and each, under their respective heads.

☞ A Mr. Annan, of Downfield, N. Y., has succeeded in taking honey from beehives by the use of chloroform, whereby the bees were removed to another hive without any injury.

HINTS ON PLOWING, CROSS PLOWING IMPROPER

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—As you have invited farmers in the different parts of the State to write for the *Farmer* and communicate such occurrences and facts as may come under their observation, I shall avail myself of the opportunity, and send you a few of such remarks as are of a general character to the public as they are discussed from time to time, at our club meetings.

At our first meeting we had under consideration "Plowing." Subsoil plowing was generally admitted to be beneficial to nearly all kinds of crops, and in particular to that of corn and wheat. But there was a difference of opinion as to its practical benefits as a fertilizer.

It was contended by some, that if properly subsoil plowed and the surface soil turned below the reach of the plow, and then let lie there for a few years, it would gather new substance for vegetable growth, when it should again be turned to the surface as a new stimulant manure. Others contended that the surface soil could not regain materially any substance or vegetable strength, while lying beneath the surface without being stirred, but that it should be stirred at least every other year so as to keep the soil loose, so that the roots of the plants could penetrate to their proper depth to receive the necessary substances to form grain. In a subsoil the air and heat can penetrate sooner and deeper, and thus warm the soil and stimulate vegetable growth, which in our climate is an essential point in our cultivation.

Subsoil plowing is also beneficial in carrying off a great part of the surface water, wherever the land is not too low and level, and thus it in part is a substitute for draining.—The water will settle down through the loose soil to the hard bottom, following it to the outlet, without injury to vegetation, and leaving the surface in a proper state of dryness.

Regular plowing is a very important item to farmers; but a great many are so neglectful of this duty that we see fields in all forms and shapes imaginable, with the dead furrows running in zig-zag.

To insure good crops, the land should never be cross plowed, (except sod) as it leaves the land uneven, retains the water, and makes the work more difficult; but it should be plowed in uniform sets, with straight dead furrows, of an equal depth, and square corners, with

straight edges, wherever it can be practiced, so that the crops can be of equal quality and quantity at the outside of a field, as it is in the centre. The furrows should be of uniform width and depth, so as to make the surface smooth, that the harrow may perform its functions properly, and the seed be of an equal depth in general.

K. Adland.

North Cape, Wis., Feb. 2, 1860.

SUGAR CANE SEED, AND HOW TO PLANT.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—I saw an inquiry a short time since, in the *Farmer*, about sugar cane seed. I would say, that I have a few bushels of it on hand, that I raised in '58.—That year I raised and manufactured eleven barrels of syrup—yield, one hundred and ninety gallons per acre. The past year I raised two acres, which I have fed to my stock and am well satisfied that it will pay as well or better than any crop the farmer can raise for this purpose. By feeding my steers last fall six weeks on the cane, I could out-sell my neighbors five dollars per head.

A few words with regard to preparing the seed and land for planting. It should be soaked about twenty-four hours in warm water, then put in a bag, and wrapt around with wet cloths, and put behind the stove, that it may keep warm. It will take four or five days for the cane seed to sprout in this way—the Imphee will sprout sooner. The land should be plowed deep for two reasons: First, it will prevent the weeds from making their appearance as soon; and secondly, it is twice as likely to produce a good crop. The seed should be covered very lightly—not over one inch deep. Samuel Hosley.

Lake Mills, Jan. 25, 1860.

Influence of Agricultural Papers.—The Rev. Mr. Choules, in an address delivered some years since, before the American Institute, said:

"He once undertook to tell, in passing through a town, what farmers took agricultural papers, from the appearance of their farms, and missed but once in thirteen times.

"I was lately in the company of a son of a bank president—a young man accomplished in his way—who inquired what neat cattle meant, and how many years it took wheat to come to maturity. I earnestly believe that agricultural papers, generally circulated in our cities, would be productive of the greatest benefit."

INDIAN CORN—BEST METHOD OF CULTURE.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—This is a subject that is not so commonly treated upon through the medium of the *Farmer* as many others, and for this reason, and that of drawing out abler views connected with a more thorough experience than I possess in this matter of corn and its culture, I am induced to scribble some in this line. It is generally supposed that Indian corn is a native of America; that its culture did not attract notice in Europe, Asia, or the north of Africa till after the voyage of Columbus. Still it is not, I believe, known with a certainty of what country it is a native. I think no botanist has ever found it growing wild in any part of this continent—and that it does not so exist in any part of the United States is quite certain. Some have attributed its origin to the western coast of Africa; but let its origin be of whatever country it may, it is like a good principle, the value of which is never overrated.

We have many varieties of Indian corn.—The most prominent are those distinguished by color, as the yellow, the white, the red and the blue; also those that have different numbers of rows, as the eight, ten, twelve, and so on. Those that differ in saccharine matter, as the common and sweet kinds, and those that have different shaped kernels, as the round corn, the gourd-seed, the rice corn and the Texas corn, which has a thick and separate husk for each kernel. The corn crop even in this country is of that value to justify all reasonable efforts to increase its cultivation.—Corn has always been an important article in this country both of consumption and export. It is said that the export of corn quadrupled between 1840 and 1850, while the production did not quite double. The value of the corn crop is hardly estimated by our most accurate farmers.

It has been estimated that seven pounds of corn will produce one pound of pork. This being the case, in localities where the distance from market is so great that it cannot be raised so as to be profitable for market as a grain, it may be used for fattening that greasy diet called pork, upon which, of course, the freight would be less, and perhaps in this way made profitable.

What is there about the corn crop that is not valuable? The very cobs are of much value; so say many farmers. A correspondent of the *American Agriculturist* puts his cobs

into a large half hogshead tub, and covers them with a solution of salt in water. Here they remain until they imbibe enough of the fluid to make them soft. In this condition they are fed out to the stock at the rate of a peck a day to a full grown ox or cow. He says that his animals are fond of them, and that they eat much less hay than before, and that they are in excellent condition.

It is too true that most farmers do not value their corn stalks as fodder—at least so it might be inferred from the manner in which they are fed out upon the ground in large quantities so that but a small proportion of them will be eaten, and the greater portion entirely lost as fodder. Every farmer who would avail himself of the full value of his corn fodder, should pass them through a good corn stalk cutter, and thereby increase the value of them for feed and manure, each year, more than enough to pay the cost of the best machine. By this means every pound of them not eaten is in a fine condition for the compost heap in the following spring. Every farmer knows the inconvenience of handling whole corn stalks as manure with a fork.

These corn stalks thus cut may be fed out, or soaked in water with a little salt added, and then sprinkled with meal, which of course will add to their relish and nutritive qualities.

In the culture of Indian corn, one thing has become an axiom with farmers, and that through experience; which is, that the seed corn should be sound, all right, and adapted to our particular soil and climate. Most farmers are aware that there is a material difference in the yield and quality of different varieties of corn. The largest varieties, under good culture and in favorable seasons, generally give the largest yield per acre; but the smaller varieties ripen earliest. As some one has said, I think farmers should plant those varieties (having reference as far as practicable to productiveness) which soonest come to maturity.

The greatest care should be exercised in the selection of seed corn, not only from the best varieties for the different localities, but also the seed of the different kinds desired; and this should be done before the corn is gathered in the field, where there is an opportunity for comparison. The reason why we have so much bad seed corn is either owing to its being gathered while damp, and allowed to remain so until it freezes, or if dry when gathered, it is placed where it absorbs dampness, and afterwards freezes. Corn gathered when matured and placed, when dried, where it is neither exposed to dampness or frost, will grow *every time.*

After having saved or procured a sufficiency of good seed corn of a kind that is adapted to our soil, we should next (if not already done) examine the condition of the soil with reference to its probable productiveness. This being ascertained, our first, and I may say one of the most important considerations in the whole routine of growing Indian corn, is that of properly plowing the land selected for the crop. Deep plowing should be the motto of every farmer, especially in the preparation of the soil for a crop of Indian corn. On all ordinary soils plowing should be at least from eight to ten inches deep—yes, as deep as it can be well gotten down—as a general rule, the deeper the better; and then, if the soil below that depth appears to be hard and compact, it should be stirred with the sub-soil plow. Then the water can pass up and down freely, and all danger from excessive rains is removed, because the water readily passes away from the roots of plants; also all danger from drouth, or nearly all, because the water will freely pass upward by capillary attraction, and it is true that every particle of which rises towards the surface comes laden with what are called salts, which it brings from deep in the earth, and deposits within reach of the roots of plants. If it enters the roots of plants, it carries with it food to nourish such plants. It is said that by this principle of capillary attraction food for plants is often brought from deeper in the ground than the roots penetrate, and that the water of excessive rains should pass off without obstruction into the earth, and the upward flow of water after evaporation should be unimpeded in order to supply the surface soil after a drouth.

Every farmer who is observing and has tried deep plowing, knows that his fields are drier for it in rainy weather, and more moist in dry weather. There may be some soils lying upon so porous a sub-soil that it would be proper to cultivate shallow.

It is also said that the free passage of air through the soil is almost as important as that of water. Water and air seem to be the plants' waiters. They act as food carriers to the plant, and must have free course—and to this end the soil must be deeply mellowed, conse-

quently the necessity of deep plowing.

My plan, then, in preparing the soil for a crop of Indian corn, would be to plow the soil deeply, turning all grass, weeds and manure under, so that they shall not be visible.

Some farmers are in favor of ridging corn ground. I am of the opinion that it is not the way, unless it be on low, wet soils. I have noticed that corn upon ridges is a great deal more liable to suffer from drouth As a general rule, I should prefer having corn ground plowed in the fall as well as spring. I am satisfied that fall plowing tends to the destruction of the cut-worm, one of the pests of the farmer. I should plow my corn-ground only a few days before the time for planting, which, as a general rule, should be from the tenth to the twentieth of May, or earlier, depending of course upon the forwardness of the season and the kind of corn planted. And here I would say, that I would every time prefer the flint variety for this locality and section of the country, believing that more value may be raised from the acre than from the larger and later kind called the dent. After having the soil nicely turned bottom side up, and disconnected with any ridging process, I should proceed to mark out the land both ways as a guide to planting. The distance that the rows should be apart depends something upon the soil, and more upon the kind of corn planted. In planting dent corn, the rows should be at least four feet distant, and upon very rich soil four and a half feet. In case of flint corn, the rows should be about three and a half feet. In marking out the ground, great care should be given to make the lines as near straight as possible, for there is much advantage gained in cultivating in having the rows straight. This being the case, the corn may be nearly hoed with the cultivator, when if the rows are crooked, there is danger of rooting up the corn in the process of cultivating.

Having the ground properly prepared, the weather all right, and the good seed at hand, the next thing wanted is a good corn planter; and, by the way, a careful man with a good hoe is about my highest conception of that implement.

The corn should be dropped at the point where the lines cross, with a view of having about four stalks in a hill to mature. I think that the corn should be covered about one and a half inches deep, that is upon our sandy loam soil, and the earth packed upon it with a spat of the hoe, which will tend to insure its more speedy germination.

As soon as the corn can be seen in the rows the cultivator should be in operation, going through it both ways, as often as convenient, (if once a week, all the better,) until it be comes so large as to be inconvenient working among the stalks.

The first hoeing should be done as early as possible, for success in raising a good corn crop depends very much upon the early attention given to it. I have found that corn once stunted never recovers from the shock. I prefer using the cultivator first and last in the cultivation of corn. The plow I consider as unnecessary, as it tends to hilling too much, and disturbs the roots, which should not be done. Many cultivators now in use are just adapted to the work. The use of the cultivator during a drouth, tends to make the ground more moist. The cultivator should be used until the corn is so large that it becomes inconvenient. There is but little danger of cultivating corn too much.

During the work of hoeing and cultivating, where the corn is missing, the early kinds may be planted in as late as the middle of June. The King Phillip is one of the best varieties for this purpose.

I think corn should be cut as early as possible after maturity, and set up in medium sized shocks, and firmly bound with straw. Care should be had in having the stalks stand as nearly upright as they can be, for in this way they are much better secured from the rains and storms.

I believe that there is no other crop which the farmer raises that is of more value, everything considered, than that of the corn crop.

At an annual meeting of the New Hampshire State Agricultural Society, holden at Concord January 5th, 1858, a man of that town states that he raised 180 bushels of sound corn, on three acres of land, at a cost of thirteen cents per bushel. The corn at that time was worth one dollar per bushel, leaving a net profit of eighty-cents per bushel, or a profit of $52.20 per acre. This is certainly paying dividends better than railroad stocks at present.

Although this result was in another State, and under circumstances to remunerate the producer with more favorable prices, still I conceive of no reason why we may not approximate to this minimum cost in producing corn. Let us study the condition and adaptation of soils, and not forget to let the plow down.

Palmyra, Feb. 1st, 1860. O. P. D.

MORE TESTIMONY AGAINST THE DOGS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—A few remarks in regard to sheep; we have tried to raise them in this section, but all in vain thus far, on account of the depredations of dogs. I have tried it myself, but had to give it up because they were so tormented by the dogs. Last fall, I borrowed one of my neighbor's bucks—a full blooded French—in order that I might get some of the choicest kind of sheep. But, sirs, the buck was killed by dogs before he was returned home again. The owner says the buck cost him over $70. Is not that enough to discourage a new beginner? It does me. I sold my sheep after that, and declared that I would never keep any more until the Legislature grants us a dog law, or something else to protect our sheep from dogs.—The profit in raising sheep is something of considerable amount; we might say we receive two crops in one season, both valuable. We can say, although they are an animal that requires considerable attention in order to make them pay, there is no reasonable man on earth that expects to get along without trouble; but when his property is devoured by useless dogs, that makes double trouble for him.

A New Beginner.

Rocky Run, Feb. 6, 1860.

THE LUPINE AS A FERTILIZER AND FORAGE CROP.

Jno. Townley, Esq., one of our most scientific and observant farmers, makes the following note of inquiry, and sends us a marked article in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* (English paper) a part of which we copy upon the subject:

Eds. Farmer:—Do you know anything of the *Lupine*, much grown in Germany for sheep feed, and especially to plow under as a fertilizer for light soils? It strike me as likely to prove of great value on our sandy soils and oak openings.

There is an article on the subject in Dr. Lindley's paper (The London Gardeners' Chronicle) which find herewith:

"Among recent interesting additions to the plants of the farm, the Lupine appears to be one of unusual value. It yields a large produce of seed of a very nutritive character, and is adapted to the poorest of sandy soils. Mr. Crisp, of Butley Abbey, states in a recent number of the Journal of the Agricultural Society:

"In 1858 I drilled about one bushel per acre of seed, upon eighteen acres of poor land; from which I obtained fifty wagon loads of sheaves. The luxuriance of this quite astonished all that were acquainted with the sterility of the soil; and the quantity of the grain, before harvesting, was estimated by various persons at from forty to fifty bushels per acre."

"What makes these plants so very important for agriculture," he says, "is their growing luxuriantly on light, poor, sandy soils, in situations where no other of our leguminous plants could live. We have some districts in the northern parts of Germany and Prussia where a miserable crop of rye was nearly the only production, and where even buckwheat would fail in dry seasons; and it is in such situations that farming has become profitable by the cultivation of the Lupines, and where, in consequence, the rent has been much more than doubled. For such poor dry land it has been proved a good plan to sow the Yellow Lupine (especially this because it is more succulent.) * * * * If the seeds are sown in spring, which we here dare not do before the end of April or the beginning of May, sharp night frosts being destructive to the young plant, the vegetation is slow in the first weeks, but it soon becomes very rapid.—In the poorest soil, if any rain falls, the plants grow to the height of three or four feet, and a great quantity of beautiful flowers cover the whole field. The seeds of the first flowers begin to ripen when the top of the plant is still blooming, and for that reason the plant must be cut before finishing its growth; even then there is always some loss of seeds, the ripe pods being very prone to open by the heat of a sunny day."

Who among our readers can tell us anything about this plant? Whether yet tried in this country, and if so, with what success? It strikes us as a matter well worth inquiring into; some of our German people must know all about it.—Eds.

HOME PATRONAGE.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Inclosed find two dollars for one copy each of the *Farmer* and *State Journal*.

And here permit me to say that I am surprised at the arguments of some of our farmers upon the subject of subscribing for a home agricultural paper. Some say, I will take the Rural New Yorker, or some foreign agricultural paper. It reminds me of some men I have been acquainted with—and we find not a very few of them now-a-days—who would go ten or even twenty miles to buy a few goods or get a small job of blacksmithing done when they could get just as good and cheap goods, and

very frequently a much better article, within a stone's throw of their dwellings. Now this sentiment or feeling, of purchasing foreign articles, has so far pervaded the public mind that we rely upon imported manufactures of almost every kind. It is this importing process that has brought on this continued grumbling of hard times. Our country has depended too much upon European fabrics to make cotton shirts for ourselves, and dresses for our wives and children to wear. What we want (I mean the farmers) is to bring the consumer as near as possible, and I know of no better way to do it than to support liberally all home institutions; build up our manufacturing interests by a good and wholesome patronage; increase the number of consumers at home by buying our plows, our threshing machines, our wagons, our farming utensils of home manufacturers, and save transportation not only of those things which the farmer cannot get along without, but that which he has to sell.

The facts are plain, that every blacksmith shop, every shoe shop, and every manufacturing establishment, of whatever nature or kind, increases the price of wheat, pork, or any other agricultural product, in proportion to the number of men employed in other business than producing. Now if we desire to have good blacksmiths, competent shoemakers, well manufactured wagons, sleighs, carriages, plows, carts, rakes, hoes, good and efficient schools and colleges, and above all, good agricultural papers, and cheap, we must support all home institutions deserving of it, and subscribe at once for the Wisconsin *Farmer*, and as many more papers, periodicals and magazines as we can pay for, and no more.

D. B. CRANDALL.

Utica, Wis., Feb. 4, 1860.

"Sound," Brother Crandall, the theory you have promulgated is the foundation rock of our future success and final prosperity. If we remain merely a farming people, and depend wholly upon buying the thousand-and-one articles of every day need from abroad, we shall never rise above a certain line of half-way poverty; but let the workshop and manufactory arise upon every rippling water power, and the steam chimney outskirt our cities and villages, and employment will be found for all our ingenuity and idle hands—markets for all our coarser farm products, and poverty and eastern duns will grow beautifully less.

Therefore let the State Government and every honest and generous capitalist, and every individual to the extent of his ability foster home manufactures and home productions of all needful kinds, nothing will now promote our prosperity so much.—EDS.

SMUT IN WHEAT.—EDS. WIS. FARMER:—I have been looking over some of my old *Farmers* recently, and I notice several articles about smut in wheat, and there medies, such as was washing in lime water, blue vitriol and a good many other things too numerous to mention.

Sirs, I believe it is more in the carelessness of farmers in getting in their grain than anything else. I have raised more or less wheat for the last eighteen years. The first wheat that I sowed was in the fall of '42; I sowed it in October, in rainy and damp weather, and is was very smutty; and I never have known of any being sown in such weather, but what it was smutty.

My remedy is this: first, clean your wheat free from all dirt and dust—twice running it through a good mill is sufficient, providing it is not heated or musty—such should never be sown; second, never roll it in the mud, as a great many do, before the soil is dry and warm. I have never had or known of any smutty wheat when it was sown in clear and dry weather.

A READER OF THE FARMER.

Albion, Feb. 1, 1860.

P. S.—Can you inform us through the *Farmer* where the Mole Drainer can be got and what the cost of it is?

See advertisement of E. W. Skinner, general agent for Wisconsin.—EDS.

A REMEDY FOR DYSPEPSIA NOT PATENTED.—A celebrated English naturalist, whose time and mind were laboriously occupied in a great variety of experiments, had, by intense study and neglect of out-door exercise, so injured his health that his stomach had ceased to perform its functions, and he thought he was fast approaching the end of his valuable labors.—As a last resource he bethought himself to consult an old college acquaintance, (Dr. Baillie,) who since their college days had risen to great eminence as a physician. And the Doctor sent the friend of his youth a somewhat extraordinary prescription: "Take no more medicine; walk more, and think less;" and restored health was the result of following this most excellent advice. J. T.

STOCK REGISTER.

THE VALUE OF CORN STALKS AND FODDER FOR MILCH COWS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—I noticed a short article in the present volume of the *Farmer*, on page 24, condemning the practice of farmers feeding dried corn stalks to milch cows, as they have a tendency to dry up or decrease the quantity of milk, but the writer at the same time admits that its quality is improved.—Now I most respectfully beg leave to differ from the writer of the above article materially in some points. He must either be deranged on that subject, or else he must be wholly unacquainted with that ingredient necessary to make a successful farmer, namely, practical knowledge. For I am positive that the intelligent portion of the farmers of Wisconsin will sustain me, when I make the assertion that there is no other dried fodder (that is uncut or unground) that will produce an equal quantity or quality of milk that is produced from corn fodder. I have had a good opportunity of testing their value the present winter. For with a stock of twenty cows and some fifteen of them giving milk, we have used no hay; fed nothing but corn stalks, with wheat and oat straw, threshed with a machine, which all practical farmers know, deteriorates from the real value of the straw threshed in that way, from the old way of threshing with the flail.

This has been the fodder that my cows have received up to the first day of February, and never have they yielded as great a quantity of milk—never have they been in a healthier or better condition, than at the present time—never, in fourteen years, have we had corn stalks frost bitten like the present year. That farmer that neglects to save, in good order, his corn stalks, neglects one of the great interests of a well regulated farm. Not that I would recommend this *as the best way* of feeding them, but in the absence of the necessary apparatus, it is certainly a great acquisition in the art of good husbandry.

H. W. W.

Rosendale, Feb. 6, 1860.

We agree fully with the foregoing, as to the value of corn stalks and fodder for milch cows; and doubt if there is anything better except good clover hay, but to derive even one-half the benefit from the coarser portion, they need to be cut fine, and all the better yet if steamed, or partially cooked with slops and bran or meal. Corn fodder properly saved and properly fed, is undoubtedly an item of which few know the full value. But the coarser portions fed uncut and mixed up in the barnyard manure are certainly a great nuisance, and probably have done much to prejudice people against them.

How to Keep Winter Cows.—Eds. Wis. Farmer:—One word about the care and management of cows. As the treatment that they receive at this season of the year is felt through the remainder of the year, it is important that they be well managed. My experience is, that a cow wintered in a warm stable and fed plenty of good hay and a little grain, will, if coming-in in the spring, forty-nine cases in fifty, come in well, have a calf that is right side up, give a good quantity of good milk; that is if she is a good cow, if not she ought to have been sold for beef last fall. How many find fault with the country and the old cow because she does not fill the milk pail when she has a good rail fence to shelter her and plenty of good straw to eat!

I have milked two cows this winter, which make fourteen pounds of good butter per week, and some weeks a little more. I keep them in a warm stable all the time, except warm, pleasant days; give them good cut hay, mixed with six quarts of bran wet with twice as much warm water, night and morning. One cow is farrow, the other came in about the first of December. Yours,

M. C. Bushnell.

Omro, Jan. 30, 1860.

CHANGE OF FOOD FOR CATTLE.

Nature seeks variety, and with almost as great pertinacity as she insists on progression. The continuous use of hot food, by man, produces scurvy, while the entire absence of either salt or animal food produces other classes of disease, and refuses to build up an organization capable of enduring disease.

All those things, which by analysis an animal is found to contain, must, of necessity, form of its food, or it cannot be perfect as an organism; therefore, no one kind of food can produce as perfect an animal, developing all its functions equally, and a variety is distinctly called for. The very instinct of an animal shows this fact. The cattle-breeders of England can scarcely be said to have succeeded, until after the production of the various root crops, and still we find many cattle-breeders in America who have never raised roots at all,

and who continue to feed their animals on hay and corn alone. The same area of land used by a herd of milch cows for pasture, when appropriated to a proper variety of crops, will cause them to furnish thirty per cent. more milk, and of a better quality, than when they are confined to the use of one or two kinds of food only. For the same reason that horses flourish best when traveling over an undulating country, rather than when perambulating the plains, viz., that other sets of muscles are brought into action when they leave the dead level, and thus a single set of muscles is not called on to bear the whole fatigue. So with the variety of food: their digestive functions are in turn appealed to, and all the constituents required by the body are in turn furnished, so that a healty result is the consequence. It is true that cows fed on carrots give better milk in winter than when fed on other kinds of food, but if fed on carrots alone, they soon lose their highest state of health.

Look at the cows in the distillery stables of New York, when they are fed altogether on swill, (the name given to that portion of the grain not transformed into alcohol by fermentation,) in a very short time the very membranes of the animal become so tender that they fall to pieces, and are generally diseased. Is this because the residuum of the still is not the proper food for cows? Far from it; no food is better, provided it be used in part, and not exclusively. Mr. John Wilson, at the Wallabout, had as fine cows, and in as fine condition as any man's in America, and with as profitable results; he fed them on the residuum of his distillery *in part*, but at the same time *in part* on various roots, hay, etc., and none of the difficulties arising from the exclusive use of swill were to be seen with those cows. Carrots have a value far beyond that which can be attributed to the mere nutriment they contain; for, in addition to what they furnish in this way, they contain a quantity of pectic acid, and this carries the property of gelatinizing the vegetable and animal matters held in solution, and thus enabling the peristaltic motion of the intestines to seize hold of their contents, so that digestion of all matters of food is perfected by the presence of carrots. If the horse be fed in part on carrots, he ceases to evacuate the undigested shells of oats, bits of hay, etc. His dung is as homogeneous almost as that of a man, and it is for this reason that a bushel of carrots and a bushel of oats are better for the horse than two bushels of oats—not from the nutritious matter contained in the carrot, but in part from the power of the carrot to cause all the nutriment of the oat to be appropriated in the making of muscle, instead of part of it being evacuated in feces. This action is true in regard to all the vegetable substances which go to make up the variety of food for animals; and the very instinct of every animal gives evidence of this truth.—*Working Farmer.*

BALKY HORSES.

The prime requisite for the successful management of a balky horse, is perfect *self possession* and patience on the part of the driver. It is quite common to see men fly into a passion upon the first restive symptoms of the horse, and to deal out fierce punishment until compelled to desist from sheer exhaustion, after which, when the driver has become calm, and the horse recovered from his fright, a start is effected and the trouble is over. Young horses, before they are comp'etely broken, may stop when in the harness, from a feeling of inability to draw their load, from fatigue, from misunderstanding the will of the driver, or from an excitable disposition, leading them to act upon the impulse of the moment. In all these cases, there is necessity for care and coolness in the driver. From the first, and for a long time, the load of a young horse should be such as he can draw with the greatest ease, thus giving him confidence in his own powers. A young horse once "set" will thereafter pull with uncertainty—hence with only half a will; he is then discouraged easily, and balks at trifling obstacles, or if he be of spirited disposition, he will spring to it with might and main whenever he feels extra weight behind him, and if not allowed to work in this way will stop at once. It has been noticed that the worst balks usually occur at or near the foot of hills, and this may explain how the horse learns the habit. The driver should anticipate the wish of the horse to rest, by allowing even more frequent intervals than are required. The practice induces the habit of obedience, the horse willingly stops when the word is given, and thus is accustomed to heed the driver's command, which is the first and great requisite in his education. These commands should be given in a way that can readily be understood. A well trained animal shows remarkable intelligence in perceiving his master's wishes, but it is by long familiarity with his ways that this ability is acquired.

Balky horses are usually "high strung," possessing the very disposition which, if properly treated, will give the best style and action. It is stated on good authority, that such horses may be so wrought upon by a single harsh exclamation, as to raise the pulse ten beats a minute. What wonder if such an animal should prove refractory upon suddenly feeling the lash of an infuriated driver. For this class of horses, a whip need seldom if ever be used when breaking them. They yield readily to kindness, and are as quick to obey, when properly treated, as they are troublesome when "fooled" with—we use this term for want of a more expressive one. These remarks apply more particularly to the prevention of balking by proper management of colts. When the habit of balking is fixed, impatience of the driver only increases the difficulty. The treatment then requires the highest common sense, the first thing men lose

when they fly into a passion. The following directions given by Mr. Rarey, are probably as sound and complete on this subject as anything ever published:

"Almost any team, when first balked, will start kindly, if you let them stand five or ten minutes, as though there was nothing wrong, and then speak to them with a steady voice, and turn them a little to the right or left, so as to get them both in motion before they feel the pinch of the load. But if you want to start a team that you are not driving yourself, that has been balked, fooled, and whipped for some time, go to them and hang the lines on their hames, or fasten them to the wagon, so that they will be perfectly loose; make the driver and spectators (if there are any) stand off some distance to one side, so as not to attract the attention of the horses; unloose their check-reins, so that they can get their heads down if they choose; let them stand a few minutes in this condition until you can see that they are a little composed. While they are standing, you should be about their heads, gentling them; it will make them a little more kind, and the spectators will think that you are doing something that they do not understand, and will not learn the secret. When you have them ready to start, stand before them, and, as you seldom have but one balky horse in a team, get as near in front of him as you can, and, if he is too fast for the other horse, let his nose come against your breast; this will keep him steady, for he will go slow rather than run on you. Turn them gently to the right, without letting them pull on the traces, as far as the tongue will let them go; stop them with a kind word, gentle them a little, and then turn them back to the left, by the same process. You will then have them under your control by this time; and as you turn them again to the right, steady them in the collar, and you can take them where you please.—*American Agriculturist.*

To Prevent Lice on Calves.—A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* furnishes the following recipe to prevent lice on calves:

It is generally conceded that "an ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure," and as I often see remedies for *killing* lice on calves, such as snuff, tobacco water, grease, &c., I will give a *preventive*. It is safe—no injury to the animal will follow its use, and if regularly attended to during the cold months, lice will be scarce. It is as follows: take of shorts one bushel, and a like quantity of corn, barley or oat meal, and mix well together—give each calf a pint of the mixture night and morning—it can be fed on cut hay dampened; a better way, however. is to add boiling water sufficient to scald it, and let it stand until nearly cold, and then feed it in the form of a slop. If oil meal can be conveniently obtained a small quantity may be added to advantage.

PICKLING AND SMOKING HAMS AND OTHER MEATS.

We use the same process for preserving both hams and beef. When cut up, the beef should lie a few days before this operation, rub carefully with fine salt, especially about the bone in the hams, and leave them to drain a few days on a plank; then pack them loosely in a barrel, and cover with a brine made as follows: Six gallons of water, nine pounds of salt, one quart of molasses, three pounds of brown sugar, three ounces of saltpetre, and one ounce of salaratus. Boil the whole well, and skim, and when cold pour it on the meat, which should be entirely covered by it. This will make brine enough for about one hundred pounds. This is the celebrated "Knickerbocker pickle," recommended by the late Judge Buel, and we are satisfied of its excellence by its long trial. At the end of three weeks, take up the hams and re-pack them, and after laying in the brine as much longer, they are ready for smoking.

Hickory wood and cobs make the best smoke. While caution is used that they are not too near the fire, they had better not freeze while being smoked. In this case the smoke only condenses on the surface and blackens it, but does not penetrate the meat. In fact, freezing at any time is of no benefit to the quality of hams or any other meat, but has a tendency to leave them dry. Smoke the hams to a light chestnut brown, not to a black color. When well cured, the hams may be very conveniently and perfectly preserved for use, by surrounding each one with a loose bag made of close cotton cloth. This should be tied tightly about the strings of the ham, so that neither bugs nor flies can enter. Hang them from the rafters in a well ventilated garret, and usually they will escape both mould and insects, and improve by age for one or more years.

We have also kept hams by packing in fine salt. If it is dry, and kept in a dry place, it answers well. They will not absorb much more salt; but if damp, they may become perfectly saturated. We have also packed in clean, dry ashes, but the result was not very satisfactory.

We repeat the requisites for curing sound pork. Sweet, tight casks; plenty of pure salt, so that some shall remain undissolved; the meat to be cooled but not frozen, and kept at a moderate temperature, covered with a saturated brine.

Lard should be tried as soon as convenient. It must not lie in a close heap while warm, or the part about the kidneys will become tainted. In cutting it up for trying, remove all the lean. Use a very moderate heat, especially at first, and cook till the scraps turn of a light brown color and settle. It is then ready to be strained and may be depended upon to keep perfectly.—*Homestead.*

HORTICULTURAL.

GRAPE CULTURE IN WISCONSIN.

BY E. B. QUINER.

[Continued from page 60.]

TRAINING AND PRUNING ON TRELLISES.

The manner of training and pruning on trellises is exhibited in the following cuts, and are simple and easily understood. I have practiced the system in this State, and think that it is perhaps the best way to train the grape in this lattitude.

The treatment of the vines for the first two years, is the same as for vineyard culture.—The vines should be planted twelve feet apart in the rows, and rows six feet apart, running east and west. In the fall of the second year, the vine is cut down to eight or ten inches in height, the posts are set midway between the vines and the wires fixed. During the summer two canes are trained up across the wires, and let grow to their full length, the laterals pinched out during the summer, as previously recommended. At the fall pruning of the third year, the canes are cut to six feet in length, and in the spring tied down horizontally to the bottom wire, as in fig. 13. During

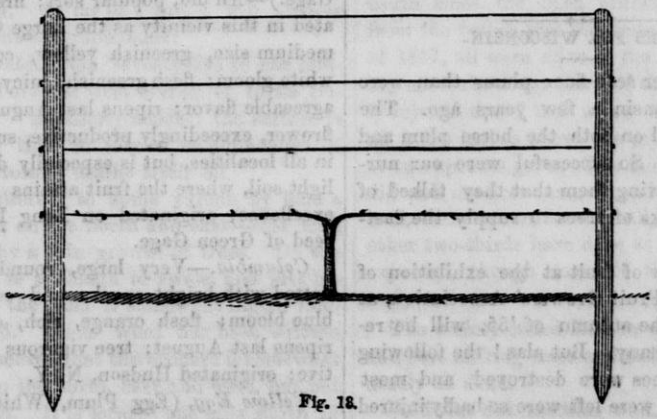


Fig. 13.

the summer, shoots must be trained from these horizontal canes at fifteen to eighteen inches apart, and carried up perpendicularly and carefully secured to the wires. These shoots will also show fruit, and cane *b* may be allowed to bear, as in fig. 14. When it has

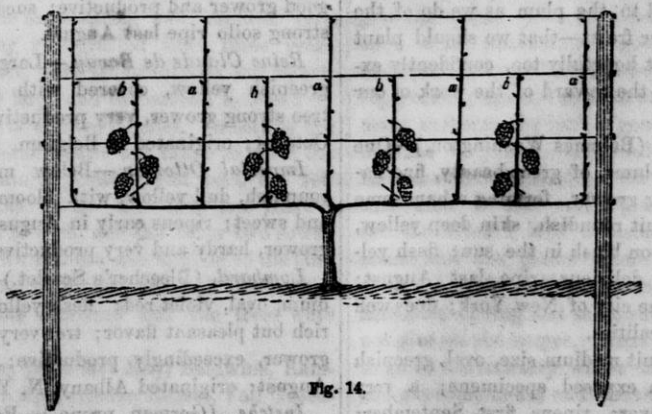


Fig. 14.

grown seven or eight leaves in length, it must be pinched in two or three leavvs above the highest bunch. Cane *a* must have all its fruit cut off, and be allowed to grow to its full length, or one or two feet above the highest wire, when it may be stopped. In the spring of the fifth year, cane *b* is cut out to the lowest good bud, and cane *a* is cut back to the highest wire. This summer, cane *a* is allowed to bear fruit, as indicated in fig. 15, and cane *b* at

the same time is trained up from the spur.—the fall of the fifth year, cane *a* is cut out to the line drawn across it, and a new cane trained up from its spur, while cane *b* is allowed to bear fruit. Thus no cane is ever allowed to bear twice; new wood is supplied every year for bearing the next, which always gives the finest fruit. Section 1 in fig. 15, shows

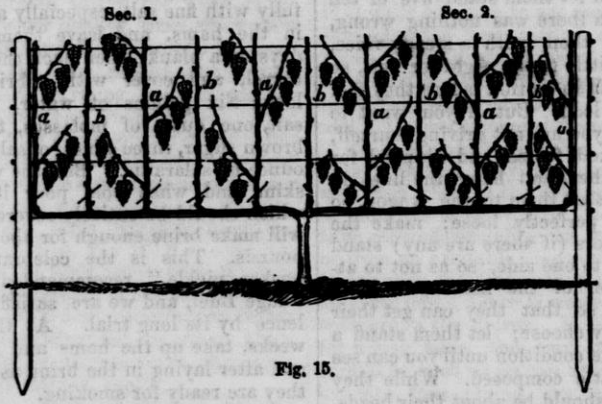


Fig. 15.

one mode of trimming the canes, and section 2 another. Section 1 is more applicable to a higher trellis—say six or seven feet—while section 2 is only adapted to about five feet, from its being more heavily cropped. The trellis represented is only four feet high from the ground, with bearing canes three feet in length. These can very easily be carried one or two feet higher.

Fig. 16 shows another mode of training, the principle of which is the same as the preceding, with the advantage of the vine being more slowly and regularly increased, and without the necessity of such a great bulk of the vine having to be cut away every year. In the former method, all the largest canes have to be cut away every year; while in this we cut away only the small wood, and the great bulk of the vine remains. This mode of taining is readily seen from the cut. In the summer of the third year from planting, two horizontal canes are trained to the bottom wire,

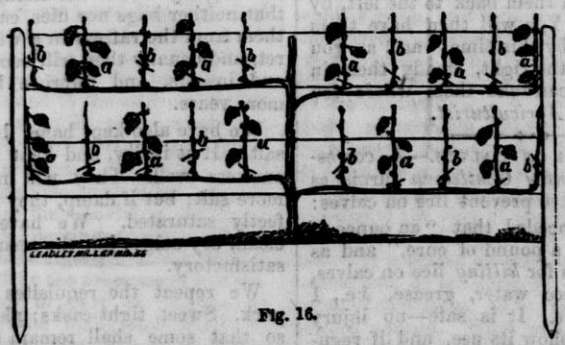


Fig. 16.

and one straight up the middle. In the spring of the fourth season, the upright cane is pruned down to two feet above the horizontal canes. When the vines have begun to grow, and it is sure the three upper buds are safe and secured to the wires, two horizontal and one upright, the other buds lower down the centre cane are rubbed out. The two lower canes are pruned back to six feet in length, the width of the trellis. During this season, while the second tier of horizontal canes are growing, the lower are throwing up shoots (marked *a*, *b*.) The shoots will all show fruit; and those marked *a* are allowed to bear, while those marked *b* must have their fruit all cut off. In the winter of the fifth season these shoots *a*, *b*, are pruned down to the lowest good bud, (indicated by the line drawn across them.) The two upper and horizontal canes are pruned in to six feet, or the width of the

trellis, as the lower ones were last season.—This (the fifth) season, the shoot from spur *b* is allowed to bear, while that from spur *a* is allowed to rest. Thus, each alternate spur is made to bear and rest each alternate year. If this vine be carried up three tiers high, it will then be about seven feet high from the ground to the top, which is high enough for any man to stand on the ground and work at.

I have no doubt that these modes of training may seem a little tedious to the uninitiated; but, when understood, they are as simple as any other; and no one who cannot exercise judgment, care and skill, has any business in a vineyard.

PLUMS FOR WISCONSIN.

We have never seen finer plums than were grown in Wisconsin a few years ago. The trees thrive well on both the horse plum and the wild stock. So successful were our nurserymen in growing them that they talked of getting up stocks of trees to supply the eastern market.

The fine show of fruit at the exhibition of the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association, at Milwaukee in the autumn of '55, will be remembered by many. But alas! the following winter many trees were destroyed, and most of those which were left were so badly injured that the succeeding winters of '56 and '57 completed their destruction.

Such winters we do not expect again in the experience of the present generation, and we feel with regard to the plum as we do of the apples and other fruits—that we should plant again, and plant hopefully too, confidently expecting to reap the reward of the work of our hands.

Washington, (Bolmaes Washington,)—One of the largest plums, of great beauty, fine flavor; tree strong grower, forming a handsome round head; fruit roundish, skin deep yellow, with pale crimson blush in the sun; flesh yellow, sweet and delicious, ripe last August; originated in the city of New York; does well in nearly all localities.

Monroe.—Fruit medium size, oval, greenish yellow blush in exposed specimens; a very rich, sweet flavor; ripens first September; tree strong, handsome grower, and very productive; originated in Monroe county, New York.

Coe's Golden Drop.—An English variety of the largest size and of great excellence; oval, with a well marked suture; skin light yellow, speckled or dotted with red spots on sunny side; flesh yellow, rather firm, adhering to the stone; rich, sweet, delicious flavor; one of the finest for preserving; tree rather slow grower; very productive; ripe first October.

Bleeker's Gage, (German Gage.)—Above medium; roundish smooth skin, yellow, covered with white specks and a white bloom; flesh yellow, very rich, sweet and delicious flavor; tree good grower, very productive and hardy; ripens September; originated Albany, N. Y.

Imperial Gage, (White Gage, Large Green Gage.)—An old, popular sort; first disseminated in this vicinity as the Large Green Gage; medium size, greenish yellow, covered with white gloom; flesh greenish, juicy, rich, very agreeable flavor; ripens last August; tree fine flrower, exceedingly productive, succeeds well in all localities, but is especially desirable for light soil, where the fruit attains the highest excellence; originated on Long Island, from seed of Green Gage.

Columbia.—Very large, roundish, purple, dotted with bright specks and covered with blue bloom; flesh orange, rich, dry, sugary; ripens last August; tree vigorous and productive; originated Hudson, N. Y.

Yellow Egg, (Egg Plum, White Magnum Bonum.)—Very large, showy fruit, much admired; egg shaped; deep yellow, with thin white bloom; flesh yellow, a little acid or rather coarse; fine for preserving; tree hardy, good grower and productive; succeeds best on strong soilo ripe last August.

Reine Claude de Bavay.—Large, roundish, greenish yellow, covered with thin bloom; tree strong grower, very productive; ripe first October; originated in Belgium.

Imperial Ottoman.—Below medium size, roundish, dull yellow, with bloom, very juicy and sweet; ripens early in August; tree good grower, hardy and very productive.

Lombard, (Bleecher's Scarlet.)—Above medium, oval, violet red; flesh yellow, not very rich but pleasant flavor; tree very hardy, good grower, exceedingly productive; ripens last August; originated Albany, N. Y.

Inetche, (German prune.)—Rather large, long oval, deep purple covered with blue bloom; flesh green, firm, sweet and pleasant; valuable for drying and preserving; tree rather slow grower; exceedingly productive.

A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, Wis.

EXPERIENCE IN ORCHARD GROWING.—HOW SHOULD TREES BE PRUNED?

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—There is a communication in the January number of the *Wisconsin Farmer*, addressed to "Fruit Growers." The object, I think, is a good one, and some good ought to result therefrom. As yet I have had but little experience in fruit-growing in this State, having been here but little more than four years. So far as farming is concerned, my highest ambition is to have a good orchard of apple trees—though I might as well confess that I have not met with very flattering success. However, I am not yet discouraged. So far as I can, I will answer the questions as propounded:

1st. Elevated from seventy-five to one hundred feet above the west branch of Little Sugar River. Southerly aspect; the surface is so sideling that in case of an abundance of water it naturally drains itself off.

2nd. Sheltered, to some extent, by land a little higher on the north and east—this land is covered by a thin growth of trees. On the west there is a slough or swale, and just beyond that the land is somewhat higher than the orchard. From what has been written you will discover that the orchard is somewhat sheltered on the north, east and west, but not on the south. It is located one mile north of Little Sugar River, but the stream is not probably large enough to affect it.

3rd. Clay loam—clay subsoil.

4th. The land was broken in the spring of 1856, and the same spring two hundred very nice seedling root-grafted trees, three years from the graft, were set twenty-six feet apart, in holes dug large and the subsoil loosened up to the depth of eighteen inches. In setting the trees considerable care was taken to place the roots in a natural position, and work the soil in among the roots. The first two years it was planted to corn, and the other two sowed to wheat. No manure was applied to the land or to the trees until the spring of 1859, when the land was manured and the trees were mulched.

5th. Three years last May, Baldwins, Rambo, Northern Spy, Golden Russet, Fall Greening, Milan, Holland Pippin, Vandevere Pippin, Rawl's Janet, Vandevere, Spitzenburg, Seek-no-further, Wine Sap, Sweet June and Golden Sweet, have grown what I call moderately.

Prospect not very flattering. The ground was broken about six inches deep when it was quite moist, and a very dry summer following it sun baked hard. The trees, however, all lived, leaved out handsomely, and looked a good green, and grew some; but the winter following was a hard one for the trees, not on account of the severe cold, but on account of a warm spell of weather the last of February. Please remember, my trees were severely injured on their south sides, and, in my opinion, if the last part of February had been middling cool they would have made commendable growth from the first to the present. Nearly all the trees suffered more or less on their south sides, the bark cracking and pealing from the bodies and the limbs. In the spring of 1857, all were alive at the root and sprouting out—about one-third of them were so badly injured that I took a saw and sawed them off a few inches above the ground and let one or two sprouts grow. The most of the sprouts did well the first summer and continue to do well, while others have finally died out. The other two-thirds have done as well as could be expected, though some of them look rather scaly.

The variety called Rambo were the largest and best looking trees and suffered the most—nearly all dead.

Baldwins did middling well.

Wine Sap have done quite well.

Spitzenburg ditto.

Northern Spy middling.

One variety has done *well;* but I cannot give the name. This kind seems to bid defiance to all weather, is a good grower, has a handsome body and a corresponding handsome top growing upward and outward without too many suckers; the bark a good green though inclined to yellow, and made a good growth last year notwithstanding the drouth. With this kind I am much pleas . When I set the trees I kept a memorandum of the names and the places where tney were set so that I could call every tree by its own name, but having lost the memorandum I cannot give all the names. Next spring I intend to go to the nursery where they came from and get some more, and then I can obtain the name.

In the spring of 1858, I sowed a nursery; the seeds came well and grew well the first year. In the spring of 1859, that portion of the root that came in contact with the surface of the soil, to the depth of three inches, was

killed so that the bark pealed off, while the lower ends of the roots and the tops were alive. About two-thirds died, and the remainder did not grow well last season. What caused that portion of the root to die? I cannot tell, unless it was the freezing and thawing of the surface of the ground.

From my short experience in the State, I come to the following conclusions:

1st. Apple trees should be set on high, well drained land. Such a situation will protect them from warm weather and from early and late frosts, which is all the protection they need.

2nd. There are varieties which will flourish in Wisconsin.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I have taken the *Farmer* four years, and have taken especial interest everything in its columns relating to orchards. Considerable has been written in the *Farmer* relating to pruning, but, in my opinion, nothing to any purpose. Every one who has said anything upon the subject, says "Too much pruning is not beneficial—judicious pruning is good," "Too high tops are bad," &c. Any ignoramus can say as much; but no writer in the *Farmer* has given a general rule for the height of a tree, nor for general pruning.

I once wrote a communication for the *Farmer* on this subject, giving my general rule, as practiced by myself in an Eastern State. My rule was this: Have the lower limbs so high that a pair of medium sized oxen could pass under the branches when not bent down by fruit; again, prune the top so that it will grow upward and outward, and so that a man can get among the limbs quite conveniently to pick the fruit.

I would like to know if I should spoil my orchard in following this rule; and it would suit me first rate, if some one who knows how to prune would give some directions in the *Farmer*. Perhaps, instead of looking to the *Farmer* for such information, I ought to consult some author on the subject. One trouble, however, is, I do not know of an author on this subject. I will just take the liberty to suggest, that those who write for the *Farmer* on this subject will say something that has a point.

This communication has been extended much longer than I at first anticipated. My views have been given in short, freely and without reserve, and with the best of feeling. I do most sincerely hope that something may be elicited from different communications on this subject, that will be worthy of a place in the *Farmer*. Yours most respectfully,

DAVID SEARS.

Monticello, Green Co., Feb. 6, 1860.

A LIST OF HARDY APPLE TREES.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Sirs—Will you inform me, through the columns of the *Farmer*, the names of eight or ten varieties of apple trees that are known to be hardy? Also which are sour, sweet, early, fall, or winter fruit? Also a few cherry and plum—not fancy varieties, but such as are suitable for family use, and known to be hardy?

I intend to set a small orchard the coming spring, and an answer to the above queries would greatly oblige, as I have no experience in Wisconsin fruit-growing.

I am inclined to think that apple trees are greatly injured by the partial thawing of the earth early in the spring, followed by severe frosts; if so, could not this be prevented by covering the ground around the trees with straw to a sufficient depth to retain the frost in the ground until late in the spring, and this would prevent the starting of the sap and putting out fruit buds until beyond danger from frost. Two or three boards nailed at their edges in the form of a trough or box, and secured on the south-west side of the trees would, perhaps, sufficiently protect their bodies from the sun.

A word about water for stock. Perhaps some are not aware how easily and cheaply this can be obtained. The way to obtain it is this: Build a long cistern in or near any gully or ravine, or any other suitable place where ten or twelve acres of ground has a natural surface drainage to one point, and the thing is done. The melting of the snow and the winter and spring rains while the frost is in the ground, would not fail once in ten years, of filling a cistern that would hold a thousand barrels, if half the water that could be collected on ten acres was drained into it.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Middleton, Feb. 14, 1860.

In answer to your correspondent, "Subscriber," as well as the numerous inquiries for a list of *good, hardy apples*, we will name the following, which we can recommend from large

experience and observation—those most desirable in *italics:*

Red Astrachan, Early Pennock, Early Red, Sweet June, *Fall Stripe, Fameuse, Fall Wine-sap, Westfield Seek-no-further, Sweet Wine,* Yellow Bellflower, *Golden Russett, Perry Russett,* N. Spy, Rawle's Jannett, Red Romanite.

Ripening in succession from August until June of the following season, and well adapted to the prairies and openings of the North-West.

For description see April No. '59 of the *Farmer,* in which we also gave a list of most excement but half hardy sorts, suitable only for *elevated airy, well drained* locations; also a special ist for a light, sandy soil and subsoil.

Of Cherry, the Old English Morello, and Early Richmond, are truly valuable hardy sorts, which promise quite well in the North-West.

The Black or English Mazzard, which is the type of the Heart and Bigareau class of cherries, is, with most of them, worthless in the North-West.

Of Plum, the Yellow Egg or Magnum-bonum and Lombard seem to be remarkably hardy and successful. Many other choice sorts have done well in past years, and doubtless will again.

"Subscriber's" ideas of the injury done trees in the spring by continued freezing and thawing of the earth, is right, and his remedy of a winter mulch a good one—often nature's pattern.

Also his remedy for the "south-west side" injuries of trees by sun and frost (in frost crack and bark-bursting,) to "tack the edges of small boards together and set or bind on the south side." This should be put in practice at once, especially with long bodied trees, and we hope he will teach it to all around by precept and example.

A word further of "winter mulching." It cannot be too strongly recommended for all plants with tender roots, and now is the time when plants need it most, as the alternate freezings and thawings at the surface will extract the vital sap by evaporation, and the roots and trunk die at this point.

The terrible destruction of young stock and dwarf trees, which western nurseries and gardens experienced last March, was from the same cause, and could have all been prevented by a judicious mulching in mid-winter. Winter mulching is as necessary to the preservation of our fruit trees and shrubs, as summer mulch to secure a vigorous growth.

We believe dwarf pears, and many other tender trees and shrubs, may be successfully grown under this system, which are now a failure with the surface naked through the winter and spring.

We hope to give a favorable report on a new system of winter mulching which we have adopted, and in the mean time would urge the immediate application of straw, coarse manure, leaves, sawdust, or anything of that nature, around the base of trees and plants, to prevent destruction during the months of March and April.

J. C. Plumb, '76 Nurseries,
February 20, 1860. Madison, Wis.

Tea Plants for the South.—The Agricultural Bureau at Washington is about to distribute a number of tea plants in those States south of Virginia, but none will be sent north until April. There are no seeds this year to be given to members of Congress, as has generally been done hitherto. Owing to the limited amount of appropriation on hand the office was unable to purchase any.—*Rural Register.*

Size of Fruit Trees for Planting.—The following sayings are from distinguished horticulturists:

Plant small trees. They cost one-half less at the nursery, less in transportation, and in planting you will lose scarcely none at all. You can form the tops to suit yourself. Form the heads as low as you please, which, on the prairies, is absolutely necessary to success.—*Dr. Kennicott.*

Apple trees two years old are better than those of more advanced age; and an apple tree transplanted at that age, all other things being equal, will produce fruit as soon as one transplanted at four years old, and make a more healthy tree.—*Mr. Buchanan.*

Mr. Loughry, the distinguished peach-grower, uniformly selects his peach trees one year old from the bud. and the same for apples and pears. He has transplanted trees of all ages, from one to five years old, and from his experience, he would prefer them at one year old.

Mr. Mottier thinks, upon the whole, aside from the peach, he would prefer two year old trees, and would not take trees over three. At one year old, the apple, pear, etc., have not their roots sufficiently developed. He has planted trees for thirty years.

Mr. Mears has, in the last ten years, transplanted thirty thousand trees. As to peaches,

pears and plums, he would prefer them at one year old, and the apple at two years old.—Much depends on subsequent cultivation. He condemns the plan of placing a stake by the tree in such a careless manner that it usually becomes the duty of the young tree to hold up the stake.

The foregoing opinions of the most eminent fruit-growers of the country, are well worth the reading of all who purchase or plant orchards. We know from our own experience that their conclusions are sound; and that, as a general rule, small trees are altogether preferable on all accounts.—EDS.

CULTIVATION OF THE BASKET WILLOW.

We have from time to time, through the columns of the *Valley Farmer*, and other publications, urged the importance of the cultivation of basket willow for home manufacture. In almost every town there are Germans, and others, who are practically acquainted with the various forms of manufacture of this article, and so great has been the demand for the raw material by these, that large quantities are every year imported from Europe, notwithstanding the considerable effort that has been made in various sections of the Union to produce a supply at home. The various kinds of willow grow kindly and rapidly in our country, and there are thousands of acres of our Western lands so low and wet as to be of but little value for any other crop, upon which willow may be grown to the best advantage.

The value of the willow-ware manufactured annually in the United States, amounts to some hundreds of thousands of dollars, and much of this is manufactured from imported willow, the freight and commissions on which are nearly equal to the actual cost of growing the article at home, while the imported article is often inferior to that of our own growth, because it is liable to become soiled in handling and from exposure on shipboard and in store.

We have for many years grown the best kind of willow in Kentucky. It grows with such luxuriance as to require but little cultivation after the first year. It is propagated from cuttings with as much certainty as any seeds of grain may be grown. A working with the plow, cultivator, and hoe, a few times, is all the cultivation that is necessary; for when the plants become established, the ground is so much shaded that few weeds will grow among them.

For coarse baskets, for farm or other uses, the unpeeled willow is superior to any other material, while the finer portions of the crop can be peeled and wrought into baskets of a better quality.

The increased culture of fruit for transportation by railroad, requires an immense number of baskets, and this demand will continue to increase as this important branch of horticulture increases with the demands of the population and the increasing facilities for marketing.

Last summer we paid a visit to the farm of Col. Colt, the famous manufacturer of the pistol of his name. His farm is situated on the Connecticut river, perhaps a mile below the city of Hartford, and is inclosed by a heavy dyke, to prevent the overflow of the river. This dike is protected by thick-set rows of willow. The crop of the past season will amount to forty or fifty tons. Offers have been made by dealers in New York for the purchase of the whole of it; but Col. Colt has concluded to add to his other manufactures that of willow-ware, and he is about erecting buildings for the purpose. Besides the willow grown upon the dikes, he has seventeen acres of land established in this crop, and in the spring will add fifty more, and will give employment to eighty to one hundred men in its manufacture. At the time of our visit to his farm he had thirty acres in seed-leaf tobacco, equal in luxuriance and beauty to any that we have ever seen in Kentucky or elsewhere.

There are thousands of acres of wet land in the West that might be devoted to the growth of willow, giving employment to hundreds of workmen in the manufacture, and all find a ready market in the cities and towns at home. —*Valley Farmer.*

RHUBARB WINE.—Mr. B. P. Cahoon of this city, widely known for growing the Mammoth pie-plant, has been the means of bringing the manufacture of rhubarb wine into general notice. A few months since, he sent a quantity of his wine to J. R. Wilson, of Washington city, a scientific gentleman largely engaged in the business of horticulture. Mr. Wilson acknowledges the receipt of the wine, and gives his opinion of its qualities; we are allowed to take the following extract from his letter:

"About four-and-twenty gentlemen, thus far have tasted it, and, excepting one, there has been no doubt of its grape flavor, and that one liked the wine. All are highly gratified and surprised at the product—some said it resembled Sherry, some Sicily Maderia, some Teneriffe. It is very important to me to be certified by your assurance, that the article sent me is rhubarb wine, or simply rhubarb juice, water and sugar unmixed with any juice of the grape. It seems to the uninitiated scarcely to be believed—hence I desire your statement of the fact."—*Kenosha Telegraph.*

We had about eighty gallons of this wine manufactured last season, and find it a very nice article; though yet comparatively new, it is admired by all, and often pronounced superior to much that is ostensibly imported and sold at five times the cost of this native article. We have little doubt but when two years

old, it will equal any grape wine of the same age either foreign or native; and if so, this will prove the way for all the world, of making wine instead of with grapes in this climate. Rhubarb is grown as easily and vastly more abundant than potatoes—a single acre may safely be estimated to furnish material for a thousand gallons; and when once planted and one year started it is ready for use.

We know of no project in a small way in which more money could probably be made. A thousand gallons of good wine from an acre, worth $2 per gallon, counts up largely after deducting all expenses of manufacture.

Rhubarb has also other and ample merits to warrant its cultivation to a vastly greater extent than is now done. Every farmer and family should at least have two or three dozen roots of desirable varieties for family use.—We know of few articles of garden culture of greater value.—Eds. Farmer.

Fruit vs. Meat Diet.—Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Your call on fruit growers will be, I am in hopes, promptly responded to, regardless of the prospect to have the communications published, so that you can have ample materials of which to select the very best, for I think fruit is an essential part of diet for the development of intelligent morality. Mr. Moundville, replying to Dr. May, compares England with France, stating that the people of England, by eating beef, have more bodily vigor than the people of France, who live more on fruits and vegetables, in a more favorable climate. Bodily vigor is essential, but not alone sufficient, for man's happiness. I refer to George Combe's extract from London's Magazine of Natural History, which he gives in his work on the Constitution of Man, appendix VIII, in which it is considered that people in whose diet a large portion of fruit and vegetables enter are of a more wild disposition, by no less bodily vigor; and according to Mr. Landor's observations, the mass of the people in the fruit growing districts of south-western Germany surpass those of England and France in comfort and happiness, in a less favorable climate than France. I would draw attention to this fact for your readers in general, and in particular for those who are able to give good information for our climate concerning fruit-raising.

Yours, very truly,

John P. Kramer.

Alcove, Fond du Lac Co., Jan. 24, 1860.

HOME CIRCLE.

EDITED BY MRS E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

"THE ROCK,"

IN THE VALLEY OF EL GHOR.

Dead Petra in her hill-tomb sleeps—
Her stones of emptiness remain;
Around her, sculptured mystery sweeps
The lonely waste of Edom's plain.

From the doomed dwellers in the cleft,
The bow of vengeance turned not back;
Of all her myriads, none are left
Along the Wady Mousa's track.

Clear in the hot, Arabian day,
Her arches spring, her statues climb;
Unchanged, the graven wonders pay
No tribute to the spoiler, Time!

Unchanged the awful lithograph
Of power and glory undertrod.
Of nations scattered like the chaff
Blown from the threshing-floor of God.

Yet shall the thoughtful stranger turn
From Petra's gates, with deeper awe,
To mark, afar, the burial urn
Of Aaron on the cliffs of Hor.

And where, upon its ancient guard,
The rock, El Ghor, is standing yet;
Looks, from its turrets, desert ward,
And keeps the watch that God has set.

The same as when, in thunders loud,
It heard the voice of God to man;
As when it saw, in fire and cloud,
The angels walk in Israel's van!

Or when, from Ezion-Geber's way,
It saw the long procession file,
And heard the Hebrew timbrels play
The music of the lordly Nile.

Or saw the tabernacle pause,
Cloud-bound, by Kadesh Barnea's wells,
While Moses graved the sacred laws,
And Aaron swung his golden bells.

Rock of the desert!—prophet sung!—
How grew its shadowing pile, at length,
A symbol, in the Hebrew tongue,
Of God's eternal love and strength.

On lip of bard, and scroll of seer,
From age to age went down the name,
Until the Shiloh's promised year,
And Christ, the Rock of Ages, came!

The path of life we walk to-day,
Is strange as that the Hebrew trod;
We need the shadowing rock as they—
We need, like them, the guides of God.

God send his angels, Cloud and Fire,
To lead us o'er the desert land!
God give our hearts their long desire,
His shadow in a weary land!

—*J. W. G., in the National Era.*

A Good Recipe for Vinegar.—Take forty gallons rain water, one gallon molasses, and four pounds acetic acid. It will be fit for use in a few days. Acetic acid costs twenty-five cents per pound. This is the recipe by which most of the cider vinegar is made, which is sold in the country stores.—*Scientific Artisan.*

☞ Actions measured by time seldom prove bitter by repentance.

DIRECTIONS FOR PRESERVING FRUITS, &c.

[The following recipes originally accompanied some thirty varieties of first-premium preserves and jellies exhibited by Mrs. H. W. Hayes, of Palmyra, who is particularly skilled in the preparation of all sorts of delicacies for the table. The specimens in question were as fine as any we ever saw, and commanded the admiration of all who inspected them.—Ed.]

To preserve Apples.—Pare, and core, and cut them in halves or quarters, (whole if preferred;) take as many pounds of the best white sugar; put a teacup of water to each pound; when it is dissolved, set it over the fire, and when boiling hot put in the fruit, and let it boil gently until it is clear and the syrup thick; take the fruit with a skimmer on to flat dishes, spread it to cool, then put it in pots or jars, and pour the jelly over. Lemons boiled tender in water and sliced thin may be boiled with the water.

Crab-Apple—The same as apple.

Pear.—Take the pears and set them over the fire in a kettle with water to cover them; let them simmer until they will yield to the pressure of the finger; then with a skimmer take them into cold water; pare them; then make a syrup of a pound of sugar for each pound of fruit; when it is boiling hot, pour it over the pears, and let it stand until the next day, when drain it off, make it boiling hot, and again pour it over; after a day or two, put the fruit in the syrup, over the fire, and boil it gently until it is clear; then take it into the jars; boil the syrup thick, and pour it over the fruit.

Strawberry.—To two pounds of strawberries add two pounds of powdered sugar, and put them in a preserving kettle, over a slow fire till the sugar is melted; then boil them about twenty minutes, and put the fruit in jars boiling hot.

Currant.—Take ripe currants, free from stems; weigh them, and take the same weight of sugar, with sufficient water to dissolve the sugar, make a syrup and boil until clear; then turn it over the fruit; let it remain one night; then set it over the fire and boil gently until they are cooked and clear; then with a skimmer put the fruit in the jars; boil the syrup until rich and thick; then pour over the fruit in the jars.

Peach.—Pear the peaches, weigh them, and take the same weight of sugar; boil the syrup until it is clear, then turn it over the fruit; let it remain for one night, then take out the fruit upon flat dishes; boil the syrup again, and pour it over the fruit *in the jars*; again pour off the syrup and boil it—this to be repeated for four successive days—the jars not to be closed until the whole is thoroughly cold.

Jellies.—The directions are nearly similar for all kinds of fruit. Express the juice from the fruit. weigh it, and add the same weight of sugar; boil to the consistency of jelly, (the *time* varies for the different kinds of fruit;) then put it in glasses, let it remain until perfectly cold, when seal up.

Plum.—Directions the same, except that the fruit should be cooked up with the sugar; then skim out the fruit; strain and boil the remainder until it is jelly.

Apple.—Stew up the fruit, then strain the juice, add the same weight of sugar and boil until jelly; flavor with slices of fresh lemon.

Raspberry Jam.—Weigh the fruit and add three quarters of the weight of sugar; put the fruit into a preserving pan, boil, and break it; stir constantly, and let it simmer half an hour.

Westphalian Hams.

Westphaliam Hams.—The justly celebrated Westphaliam Hams are cured in a pickle prepared as follows:

Boil together over a gentle fire six pounds of good common salt, two pound of powdered loaf sugar, three ounces of saltpetre, and three gallons of spring water. Skim it while boiling, and when quite cold, pour it over the hams, every part of which must be covered with the brine. Hams intended for smoking will be sufficiently salted in this brine in two weeks; though if very large, more time may be allowed. This pickle may be used repeatedly, if boiled, and fresh ingredients added. Hams, before they are put in the pickle, should be soaked in water, all the blood pressed out, and wiped dry. Much of the excellence of the ham is depending on the smoking. This should be done in such a manner that the ham shall be cool and perfectly dry throughout the whole operation. If too near the fire, they will be heated, and their flavor injured; if the building be too close, the hams will be wet, and taste as if dipped in pyroligenous acid. At Hamburg, where large quantities are prepared, the hams are smoked in the upper story of high buildings, while the fires, which are made of oak or maple chips, are made in the cellars. In passing through such a length of pipe to the chambers, the smoke becomes cool and dry; and the flavor of the hams is excellent. Hams intended for summer use, may be kept in any way where they will be dry and cool, and secure from the fly bug. Washing with lime or putting in bags of coarse cloth, one ham in each, is practiced by many. Some keep their hams through the season in the smoke house, making a smoke under them once or twice a week.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE CRYSTAL BRIDGE.

BY MRS. HOYT.

Oh, ho! for the crystal bridge,
With its diamond piers and [illegible] of light,
The bridge that was built in a part of a night;
Built without sound of saw or hammer,
Of architect's plan, or workman's clamor;
Built without iron, or wood, or stone,
And finished almost as soon as begun;
And yet was built so staunch and strong,
Though nigh as wide as the bridge is long;
The bridge where the poor have no toll to pay;
Where the girls and boys have a right to play
With skates and sleds, and shouting and clatter,
And if nobody's hurt it is nobody's matter,
On the crystal bridge, with its track of light,
The bridge that was built in a part of a night.

And a fig for the bridges owned by men;
Old brown bridges of wood and stone
That need mending almost as soon as done;
Bridges of iron, and bridges of wire,
That are none the safer because they are higher,
And were building so long that when new, they are old.
And have cost such a wonder of labor and gold
[illegible] poor must leave a toll behind,
[illegible] coach and four its fare must mind;
Where a boy may not run, or a pony's feet clatter,
But right on the spot it is somebody's matter—
So here goes, and away on our track of light,
Where we need not mind to the left or right,
On the bridge that was built, without labor or cost,
By the breath of the wind, and the hands of the frost.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR TEETH.

Children, children, what are you thinking of? To get up every morning and wash your face and hands so thoroughly, brush your hair so nicely, arrange your clothes so tidily, and then look as though you were all ready for breakfast. As if you ate your breakfasts with your face and hands, your curly heads, or your clothes, instead of with your teeth! Now you can hardly be too particular about attending to these things I have mentioned; no indeed. The eye is brighter, the skin clearer, the hair glossier, and the whole person more becoming for every careful regard to them all. But there is a scripture passage reading something like this: "These things ought ye to have done, and not to have left the other undone." Now I doubt not but some of you little ones, Sunday-school scholars, can tell whether I have given it correctly, and find it, too, without looking half a minute. Well, it is a good text to begin the day with, and you would do wisely to think of it the first thing in the morning; for it is easy enough to make that one thing which ought not to have been left undone refer to the teeth, which girls and boys are so apt to neglect. Those teeth which were given you to be so useful and so beautiful, do not allow them to become such teeth as no one could love to look at, fit only to be pulled out and thrown away. With clean, white, sound teeth no one can be very bad looking; and with unclean, discolored, unsound teeth no one can be quite good looking. Take care of them, then, children, by washing them every morning, and again after each meal in the day, with pure, cold water. If you begin this in time, and persevere in the good habit, you may have your teeth, even to old age, like the row of pearls in the baby's mouth for beauty as well as for biting.

PSALMS OF DAVID.—The following eloquent extract is from a late lecture by Henry Giles, on the Psalms of David:

"Great has been their power in the world. They resounded amid the [illegible] of the tabernacle; they floated through the lofty and solemn space of the temple; they were sung with glory on the hills of Zion; they were sung with sorrow on the streams of Babel. And when Israel had passed away, the harp of David was still awakened in the Church of Christ. In all the areas and ages of that church, from the hymn which was first whispered in the upper chamber, until its anthems filled the earth, the inspiration of the royal prophet has enraptured its devotions and ennobled its rituals.—Chorused by the winds of heaven, they have rolled over the deserts of Asia, in the matins and vespers of ten thousands of hermits.—They have rung through the deep valleys of the Alps, in the sobbing voices of the forlorn Waldenses; through the deeds and caves of the Scottish Highlands, in the rude chanting of the Scottish Covenanters; through the woods and wilds of primitive America, in the heroic hallelujahs of princely pilgrims."

EDUCATION.—Thewald thought it very unfair to influence a child's mind by inculcating any opinions before it should have come to years of discretion, and be able to choose for itself. I showed him my garden, and told him it was my botanic garden. "How so?" said he, "it is covered with weeds." "Oh," I replied, "that is because it has not yet come to its age of discretion and choice. The weeds, you see, have taken the liberty to grow and I thought it unfair in me to prejudice the soil in favor of roses and strawberries."—*Coleridge.*

☞ A well cultivated mind is a store-house of invaluable wealth; and he who improves the fleeting hours as they pass, in adding to his stock of knowledge, in pursuing a course which will increase his capabilities for future usefulness and enjoyment.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[From the Rural New-Yorker.]

THE FARMER.

Of all pursuits by man invented,
The farmer is the best contented;
His calling 's good—his profits high,
And on *his* labors *all* rely.
Mechanics all by him are fed,
Of him the merchants seek their bread;
His hands give meat to everything,
Up from the beggar to the king.
Our clothes from him must first arise
To deck the fop—to dress the wise—
We then by vote may justly state
The farmers rank among the great.
All hail! Ye farmers, young and old,
Push on your plow with courage bold,
Your wealth arises from your clod,
Your independence from your God.
If then, the plow supports the nation,
And men of rank in every station,
Let kings to farmers make a bow,
And every man procure a plow.

From the Sheboygan Times.

THE SHEBOYGAN CO. FARMERS' CLUB.

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 1859.

The Sheboygan County Farmers' Club met according to adjournment. John Whitman in the Chair.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Mr. Hiram Smith said we wanted the shortest possible constitution that would answer the purpose of the organization and not to trammel the society with any needless rules and regulations.

We have as good a soil as can be found in this or any other State, and we want only to take advantage of its inherent qualities, to make Sheboygan county as good a farming county as is to be found in the world. We want to meet together, give our experience, improve every opportunity to extend our knowledge, and the result will be cheering to us all.

After adopting the constitution, the meeting took up the subject for the evening—"The most economical method of wintering stock."

Mr. Whiting said two years since my oats were nearly cut off, not weighing over eighteen or twenty pounds to the bushel, with straw very light and short. Cut up the oats in bundles and put on a few shorts, and was satisfied that they went nearly as far again as to thresh and feed the oats, and horses were in better condition than when fed on hay and oats as has always been my practice.

E. F. Barrows recommended warm but well ventilated stables, and stated that he was now wintering hiss cow on unthreshed oats, cut up with the straw, at an expense of fifty-six cents a week, having paid forty cents a bushel for oats, not a pound being wasted. The result is highly satisfactory.

Mr. Scribner stated that you can keep stock cheaper and better on wheat chaff and bran, than on hay and oats. Feed for a yoke of oxen or a span of horses, one bushel chaff and one peck bran twice a day and straw at noon. Wet the chaff and then put on the bran with salt occasionally, and it is very healthy and satisfactory food.

Mr. Whiting concurs with the above statement, it agreeing with his experience.

W. D. Kirkland states that he has one-half ton shorts, two bushels corn, and six bushels oats, to be ground and mixed together, and feed on straw. How much must be put on, and shall the straw be wet with warm or cold water?

Mr. J. Richardson answers, four quarts a day and use warm water if possible.

Mr. Ashcroft, if corn stalks are well cured and cut up, my experience is, that cattle will eat them all up.

Mr. Denison, in very cold weather, mixes hay and straw together and cuts them; but finds it a job to cut feed for his whole stock, and few of our farmers do it. Yet thinks it a good plan to cut fine and feed it moist and warm, but finds it difficult to do so, cuts feed in proportion to his leisure time.

Mr. Whiting thought one-third of the value of feed might be saved by steaming, but it was expensive to prepare for it.

Mr. J. Richardson topped half his corn and put tops in barn, then cut up the rest and put straw with it. Cattle eat that which was topped clean, but will not eat the other without cutting.

Mr. Albright, said he fed a few stalks at a time, and in good season cattle will eat well and clean if not cut—his cattle are now doing well on them, and he would not ask to have them cut. He would feed them in cold, dry weather, and never over-feed his stock.

Mr. Paine has fed his cattle nothing thus far this winter but corn stalks, straw and chaff. Found when fed uncut, his cattle wasted more than half the stalks, but for two weeks he has cut and mixed half straw, and half corn stalks, and his stock eat all up and were never doing better at this season of the year, and his cows give as much milk as under any treatment he ever tried.

Mr. Scribner finds uniformity in time in feeding to be admirable. Thinks it takes less feed.

It was then decided to meet once in two weeks on Saturday A. M. at 10 o'clock until further notice.

Subject before the next meeting, "How can stock raising be made the most profitable to the farmers of this county."

Adjourned to meet on the 24th, at 10 o'clock A. M. E. F. Barrows, Sec'y.

We publish the above interesting report of the discussion at a Farmers' Club meeting, not only for the valuable information it embodies, but for the purpose of illustrating the great field of usefulness that these talking clubs open to active and intelligent farmers.

We verily believe that if every town having a good rural population, were to organize such clubs and meet weekly during the long evenings and occasionally during the balance of the year, that vast benefits would result from them, besides proving interesting in the highest degree to parties concerned.

WHAT HORACE GREELEY SAYS OF COOK'S EVAPORATOR.—Although the last season was, by reason of untimely frosts, a very bad one for the production of sugar, and even of syrup, from the sorghum, I hear, with satisfaction, that this manufacture goes steadily forward, and that at least one process or boiling-pan has been devised by which sugar—actual, veritable sugar—is produced from the juice of the new saccharine plant with certainty, expedition and profit. The model of "Cook's Portable Sugar Evaporator" shown me at this place, (Mansfield, O.) with the innumerable certificates of its successful use, and the specimens of sugar thence resulting, leave no room for doubt of the fact. I firmly believe that, with proper appliances and a few years' experience, sugar can be produced as cheaply, pound for pound and hogshead for hogshead, in Southern Illinois or Indiana as in Louisiana. I beg leave to be understood as not commending the above named evaporator as better than all or any of its rivals, but as simply mentioning it as the first ever brought to my notice that gave me confidence that not syrup merely, but unexceptional sugar may be abundantly and cheaply made from the newly-introduced plant by means within the reach of every farmer in the Middle States. In my judgment, wherever corn can be profitable grown at fifty cents per bushel, it is cheaper for the farmers to make their own sugar than to buy it from abroad. And if there be still better machinery than that on which this opinion is based, so much the better for my argument.

THE COOPER INSTITUTE.—One of the practical charities of New York is the Cooper Institute, which was built a number of years ago by Peter Cooper, to enable young persons of both sexes to enjoy the advantages of education for which they cannot pay. Over two thousand pupils now avail themselves of its benefits, and only twelve out of this number pay for any thing. There are lectures and classes every evening, to attend which only requires a certificate of good moral character; besides picture galleries, reading rooms, and other departments of information. The expense of the Institution is maintained by rents of offices and stores beneath, but for a deficit this year Mr. Cooper has benevolently authorized the trustees to draw on him to the amount of $10,000. A man must take a noble pleasure in being the author of so much good.

THE TIMES.—From one of Greeley's letters to the *Tribune* on the North-West, he says:

As to business, I can only reiterate that, though the North-West now labors under very general pecuniary depression and embarrassment, matters are slowly improving. The aggregate indebtedness of this section—I mean the indebtedness of its citizens presumed to be solvent—is less than it was this day one, two, or three years ago. Many illusions have been roughly dispelled by the rugged experience of 1857–8–9, and thousands who fancied themselves rich in corner lots and wild lands have been awakened to the truth that they are poor as Job's turkey, and that the only reliable wealth is that which enures from work.—Hence I note with satisfaction that there will be a far larger area of the North-West in grain next season than ever before—that thousands of broken merchants, speculators, &c., are becoming farmers, and that most men seem resolved to get out of debt, even (where they cannot swear out) if they have to dig—a slow process, but a sure one.

THE PENNSYLVANIA OIL SPRINGS—O. T. Hobbs, writing from Randolph, Crawford Co., Pa, under date of Dec. 29, 1859, in the N. Y. *Tribune*, says:

The Oil Springs at Titusville, Crawford county, Pa., have been known since the first settlement of the county, and more or less attention has been paid to collecting the oil by means of blankets, &c.

The first well was sunk in August or September last, by a Mr. Drake, from Connecticut, from which he is pumping at the rate of sixty gallons per hour. Five or six others have struck veins of oil, and many others are engaged in boring. The prospects of success are flattering. Many oil springs have been found in various places throughout this and the adjoining counties of Erie, Venango and Warren, most of which are along the Alleghany river and its tributaries, from Franklin to Warren county, a distance of sixty miles.—They are not, however, confined to this place. Some fine springs have been discovered in the western part in Crawford county, and some in the south-west of Erie county, a distance of sixty miles from the river. The excitement, though yet local, is intense, and fast extending and increasing, there being now about two thousand persons, more or less interested and engaged in this greasy business—which is not altogether free from casualty. Mr. Drake having had an explosion and conflagration, from a lighted candle being brought in contact with the gas, which has not, perhaps, been surpassed in magnificence since the creation; the oil having been discharged from the vats into the creek, which is about two hundred feet wide, sent up a sheet of flame variously estimated at from two hundred to three hundred feet.

OUR RAILROADS.

The progress and condition of our railroads forms an instructive chapter in *Stow's Capitalists' Guide and Railroad Annual.* It would appear that in nine years, or from 1850 to 1859, the railroads of the United States increased from 7,355 to 27,944 miles in length. In this period the increase in the New England States amounted to 62.74 per cent, while in the eight of the western States the increase was 2,201.41 per cent. At the same time the former gained in population 16.12 per cent, and the latter 46.22. The total cost of the roads, up to 1859, amounted to $365,451,070, of which large sum it is supposed one-third had been wasted in construction; yet by their influence, lands have been advanced in value and the speed of internal communication greatly augmented, and the whole country benefitted. There are at this time 28,000 miles of finished roads in the United States, and about 16,000 miles either under construction or projected, requiring $400,000,000 for their completion. It is estimated, however, that many years must elapse before sufficient capital can be diverted from other objects to carry them through. In the meantime, many projected in a spirit of rivalry to other roads will be abandoned. It is calculated that 20,000 miles of railroad are sufficient to do all the business of the country at the present time, and that 8,000 miles have been constructed, in part, in rivalry to other roads, which have proved a dead loss to stockholders, and in the main will pass into the hands of the bondholders. The average cost of railways per mile has been $36,328. In the middle States, $40,919; in the southern States, $22,906; in the western States, $36,333.

The reason assigned for the cheapness of construction of railroads at the south is that they were built on the cash plan. Among the net earnings, the Panama shows the largest returns, being $29,564 per mile; and those earning the least, or nothing to stockholders, were found in Maine, Vermont, Mississippi, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, New York, &c. The list of dividend-paying roads comprises 78; among which, two pay annual dividends of 12 per cent; nine, 10 per cent; two, 9 per cent; ten, 8 per cent; six, 7 per cent; thirty, 6 per cent; five, 5 per cent; one, 4 per cent; one, 2½ per cent; and one, 2 per cent. The list of delinquent companies on stock or bonds amounts to 33. The total bonded debts of the American railroads, all of which mature between 1859 and 1874, amount to $411,199,702.

EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS, LONDON, 1862.—The Society of Arts, London, which originated the exhibition of 1851, have decided to carry out the project of an Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations in 1862, without reference to the state of the political atmosphere. A guarantee fund of £250,000 ($1,250,000) is to be raised immediately. The location of the exhibition building is to be at Kensington, near the former location, on grounds purchased from the surplus funds of the former exhibition. It is hoped that our exhibitors will prepare themselves in time for this great exhibition.—*Journal N. Y. State Ag. Society.*

THE FARMER'S CURSE—UNCERTAINTY OF TITLE.—The unsettled state of land titles is the great curse of the State. It hangs over us as a dark, lowering cloud, obscuring our hopes as to the future of the country, and, notwithstanding our great natural advantages, and the unsurpassed intelligence, energy and enterprise of our inhabitants, we never can become a permanent, virtuous, and happy people until after this barrier to our progress shall have been removed. Everywhere you go, wherever you turn your eyes, among all classes and conditions of society, you see the baneful effects of unsettled land titles. You see it in the temporary cabins, the dilapidated fences, and the poorly cultivated fields of the farmers. You see it in the careworn, undecided countenances of the men, and in the discontented expressions of the women; and even on the faces of the children you see it stamped in unmistakable characters. You see it, too, in the want of churches and school houses, and the general absence of means for promoting the public good, and in the general disposition among the best portion of our citizens to return to their former homes where they may be able to procure a spot of earth they can securely call their own.—*Cal. Farmer.*

RETIREMENT OF MR. BROWNE FROM THE PATENT OFFICE.—In consequence of the limited appropriation by Congress at the last session for agricultural purposes, and the comparative small amount on hand at the commencement of the present fiscal year, arising from liabilities previously incurred, it became necessary to reduce the expenses of the Agricultural Division of the Patent Office. Mr. Browne, who has long had charge of this division, was informed that in consequence of the small amount of the appropriation unexpended, it had been decided that his salary, unavoidably, would be reduced, or the office which he had held be discontinued; and that, in the event he would not be willing to remain on these terms, he was requested to see that the engravings for the next Agricultural Report, already in progress, were properly executed, and to contribute one or more articles for said report. Of the two alternatives, Mr. Browne adopted the latter, and the unfinished agricultural business of the office is to be performed by the remaining temporary force.—*Constitution.*

How English Duchesses and Countesses Employ Their Time.

The following extract from a recent letter of an English traveler, who has had the best opportunities for observation, may surprise some of our fine ladies :

I can assure you that, having lived all my life about in the different castles and manor houses of Great Britain, and been accustomed to the industrious habits of Duchessess and Countesses, I was astonished at the idleness of American fine ladies! No English woman of rank, (with the exception of a few parvenues) from the Queen downwards, would remain for one half hour unemployed, or sit in a rocking chair, unless seriously ill. They almost all, with hardly an exception, copy the letters of business of their husbands, fathers or brothers ; attend minutely to the wants of the poor around them, and even take part in their amusements, and sympathize with their sorrows ; visit and superintend the schools ; work in their own gardens ; see to their visitors, look over the weekly accounts, not only of domestic expenses, but often those of the farm and the state ; manage penny clubs in conjunction with the working classes, to help them keep themselves ; and with all these occupations by early hours, they keep up their acquaintance with the literature and politics of the day, and cultivate the accomplishments of music and drawing, and often acquire beside some knowledge of scientific pursuits. The late Marchioness of Landsdowne was so well acquainted with the cottages in their neighborhosd that she used to visit and look at the corpses of the dead, because she found that her doing so soothed and comforted the bereaved. I have known her shut herself up with a mad woman in her poor dwelling, who used to lock the door and could not be induced to meet any one else Lady Landsdowne's only daughter used one hundred guineas given her by her father-in-law, Lord Suffolk, to buy a bracelet, to build pig sties, with his permission, at her husband's little country residence. She educated her own children without assistance, teaching the boys Latin, and the girls all the usual branches of education. The late Duchess of Bedford, I accidently discovered when on a visit to Woburn, had for thirty years of her married life risen at 6 o'clock, summer and winter, lit her own fire, made some tea for the Duke and herself, and then, as he wrote his own letters of business, she copied them, and they came down to a large party of guests at 10 o'clock to dispense breakfast, without saying one word of their matutinary avocations; so that you might have been a visitor of the house without finding out that the Duke and Duchess had transacted the necessary business of the day—before perhaps you had arisen.

I rather mention those that are gone to their reward, than write of women still amongst us, but you may believe me when I say that I am constantly among those who live such lives of energy and usefulness—but they so employ themselves without ostentation, or an idea that they are doing more than their simple duty.

Note.—What commendable examples for the young aristocracy and commonality of America. Industry, after all of man's inventions, is the only real source of thrift or wealth, and idleness the cankering rust that consumes, sooner or later, all that it touches.

Educational Interests of Wisconsin.—The following statistics, from the Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, will give some idea of the magnitude of the educational interests of Wisconsin, and of the extent of the supply provided for the educational wants of the State:

Number of school districts in the State, 3,538; average number of months schools have been taught, 5½; total number of children over 4 and under 20 years of age, 278,871; average amount of wages per month paid to male teachers, $22.93; average per month paid famale teachers, $14.29; amount of money paid for teacher's wages, $536,860.66; amount of money raised by tax and expended on school houses, $114,328 79; amount of money raised by tax and expended for other purposes, $80,220,50; total value of school houses, $1,175,191.73; highest value of any school house, $20,000; lowest, $25. Number of select and private schools other than incorported academies, 210; average number of pupils attending such schools during the year, 7,772.

Mining in the United States.—Although America, from its discovery until this day, has furnished the great bulk of the precious metals, mining, as an art, or as a science, has never been well understood here, nor systematically followed, especially in the United States. Gold being found, for the most part, on the surface, or in the alluvial sands, is extracted by the rudest means and the most unskillful operators, the process being unworthy of the name of mining. The few deep mines in Virginia and the Carolinas, where the gold-bearing rocks are wrought, scarcely form an exception to this remark.

The ores of silver, and those of the less valuable metals, are, however, to be procured only by deep mining, and the resources of the United States are to be developed in this direction. The galena—ore of lead—of Missouri and the adjacent regions, has been hitherto dug from beds of clay at a considerable depth. There is no regular lode or vein, and the process of procuring it is even less like mining than the washing of auriferous sands. The native copper of Lake Superior has no analogy in the previous history of mineral exploration.—*National Intelligencer.*

To Resuscitate the Drowned.—As this is the season for fatal accidents in the water and on the ice, we prepare the following directions for the guidance of those who may need to use them. We believe they embody all that is material in restoring a drowned person, though of course a person who has been long submerged would require the treatment of a careful physician after being revived. Use no harsh means, such as rolling on a barrel, rolling on the ground, hanging by the heels, or any of the relics of a barbarous age. Have the body immediately stripped and wiped dry, and either carried to a bed or placed upon dry blankets, with plenty of covering ready to retain the heat that you may succeed in arousing. Then commence to inflate the lungs in such a manner as to make an artificial breathing; this may be done by holding the nose of the person and forcing through the mouth into the lungs sufficient air for a natural breath, immediately expelling it by an upward pressure just below the ribs. Or, the air may be thrown into the lungs by applying the pipe of a bellows to one nostril, while holding the other nostril and mouth firmly closed. This inflation of the lungs is the sheet anchor, and must not be intermitted, except to turn the head and body upon the side to let out any water that may be forced into the throat and mouth. While this inflation is going on, let as many warm, dry hands be rubbing the limbs as can be employed; or let the body be enveloped in hot flannels, and cloths wrung from hot water be applied; at all events, get and keep the body warm. These two points —getting the lungs to breathing and the body warm—are the main chance; and the treatment must not be stopped for anything else until the person is given up for dead. This method of treatment is so simple that it can be conducted by any person of common sense, and should not be discontinued for at least five or six hours. It may be that the application of electricity, after the other treatment is fairly at work, may serve to rouse vitality, but of this we are in doubt, and believe it should not be too freely used.—*North and South.*

Don't make a Fuss.—By all the motives that have weight with man or woman, be adjured, not, in any case, to make a fuss. In the first place, it never does a bit of good.—You can accomplish all you intend, and obtain all you desire, quite as well without it, if not a little better. Nay, sometimes it actually prevents your succeeding, where you certainly might have done so, had you kept cool, and not forewarned and forearmed everybody by a cannonade of fuss.

In the second place, it is exceedingly annoying to others; there is neither peace nor comfort in the neighborhood of a fusser. He is always plaguing you to know if you think it will rain next week, when he is going to the White Mountains; or dreading that the cars will run off the track, or the omnibuses break down, or the hotels be crowded, or some such imaginary trouble, ever so long beforehand.—And, when fairly started on such an excursion, a fusser destroys all the comfort and enjoyment of his unfortunate companions, and makes his own fancied torments *real* ones to them. Therefore his company is sedulously avoided.

Thirdly, no one sympathizes with a fusser. Even other fussers have no fellow feeling with it. The word (and most expressive word it is) means small worryings over trifles; and who cares a straw if Mrs. Briggs did lose her bandbox, which contained her French bonnet? or if Mr. Brown's bedroom was invaded by a shaggy dog that wouldn't go out, so that it quite worried him to death, and made him quite nervous, as he pathetically declares? Nobody cares whether you or I couldn't sleep because the rats ran over our heads all night, or because we had such startled dreams, or such a bad pain in our shoulders, etc. People don't like to have their sympathies appealed to for such nonsense.

Fouthly, it is decidedly vulgar and incompatible with the dignity of a true lady or gentleman. It was an apt remark that a well-bred hostess will not move a muscle, even when John upsets the best china.—*Rural Register.*

Cheap Microscope.—In Dickens' *Household Words* there is an account of a man who stands in Leicester Square, London, selling microscopes at *one penny each*. These microscopes are made of a common pill box, the bottom of which is taken out, and a piece of window glass substituted; a small hole is bored in the lid, and therein is placed a lens, the whole apparatus being painted black. A microscopist of London having examined one of these instruments, found it to possess a magnifying power of 20; and it is well known that the cost of a glass lens of such a power would be from seventy-five cents to one dollar. How then could these instruments be made and sold at two cents each? *The lens was made of Canada balsam*, which, upon being carefully dropped into the hole in the lid of the box, assumed the proper form of a lens. A microscope on this principle can be made by any ingenious person, and of sufficient power to reveal many of the wonders of the before invisible world.—*Scientific Artisan.*

There, boys, those of you who are anxious to examine the small wonders of creation, there is a cheap microscope for you; and if you cannot get the balsam, try a drop of water instead, it will answer the purpose in place of something better. We made such microscopes in our boyhood days, and found them quite interesting. A ten dollar microscope is one of the most interesting articles that an ingenious youth can possess.—Eds.

THE TOLL-GATE OF LIFE.

We are all on our journey. The world through which we are passing is in some respects like a turnpike—all along where vice and folly have created toll-gates for the accommodation of those who choose to call as they go—and there are very few of all the hosts of travelers who do not occasionally stop a little at some one or other of them—and consequently pay more or less to the toll-gatherers. Pay more or less, I say, because there is a great variety as well in the amount as in the kind of toll extracted at these different stopping places.

Pride and fashion take heavy tolls of the purse—many a man has become a beggar by paying at their gates—the ordinary rates they charge are heavy, and the road that way is none of the best.

Pleasure offers a very smooth, delightful road in the outset; she tempts the traveler with many fair promises, and wins thousands—but she takes without mercy; like an artful robber, she allures till she gets her victim in her power, and then strips him of health and money, and turns him off a miserable object, into the worst or most rugged road of life.

Intemperance plays the part of a sturdy villian. He is the very worst toll-gatherer on the road, for he not only gets from his customers their money and their health, but he robs them of their very brains. The men you meet on the road, ragged and ruined in frame and fortune, are his visitors.

And so I might go on enumerating many others who gather toll of the unwary. Accidents sometimes happen, it is true, along the road, but those who do not get through at least tolerably well, you may be sure have been stopping by the way at some of these places. The plain, common sense men, who travel straight forward, get through the journey without much difficulty.

This being the state of things, it becomes every one, in the out-set, if he intends to make a comfortable journey, to take care what kind of company he keeps in with. We are all apt to do as companions do—stop where they stop, and pay toll where they pay. Then the chances are ten to one but our choice in this particular decides our fate.

Having paid due respect to a choice of companions, the next important thing is to observe how others manage; to mark the good or evil that is produced by every course of life—see how those do who manage well; by these means you learn.

Be careful of your habits; these make the man. And they require long and careful culture, ere they grow up to a second nature. Good habits I speak of. Bad habits are more easily acquired—they are spontaneous weeds, that flourish rapidly and rankly, without care or culture.

Take Care of Your Eyes.—One of the most eminent American divines, who has for sometime been compelled to forego the pleasure of reading, has spent thousands of dollars in vain, and lost years of time, in consequence of getting up several hours before day and studying by artificial light. His eyes will never get well.

Multitudes of men and women have made their eyes weak for life, by the too free use of eyesight in reading small print and doing fine sewing. In view of these things, it will be well to observe the following rules in the use of the eyes:

Avoid all sudden changes between light and darkness.

Never begin to read, write, or sew, for several minutes after coming from darkness to a bright light.

Never read by twilight, or moonlight, or on a very cloudy day.

Never read or sew directly in front of the light, or window, or door.

It is best to have the light fall from above obliquely, over the left shoulder.

Never sleep so that, on the first awakening, the eyes shall open on the light of a window.

Do not use the eyesight by light so scant that it requires an effort to discriminate.

The moment you are instinctively prompted to rub the eyes, that moment cease using them.

If the eyelids are glued together, on waking up, do not forcibly open them; but apply the saliva with the finger—it is the speediest dilutant in the world; then wash your eyes and face in warm water.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

Why does Iron Rust?—Few persons, we think, really understand this question or know the cause. The rusting of iron, which proceeds so rapidly when it is exposed to damp air, is caused by the attraction which the metal has for oxygen. It is very remarkable that iron is unable to combine with the free oxygen always in the air, but is liable to take it from water, its compound with hydrogen; for we find that in dry air iron remains bright and clean for a long time, but very rapidly rusts when exposed to the joint action of air carbonic acid gas and moisture, under which circumstances water is decomposed, and oxide of iron formed.—*Chicago Machinist.*

Winter Shoes.—Hall's Journal of Health gives the following sensible advice:

Like the gnarled oak that has withstood the storms and thunderbolts of centuries, man himself begins to die at the extremities. Keep the feet dry and warm, and we may snap our fingers in joyous triumph at disease and the doctors. Put on two pairs of thick woolen stockings, but keep this to yourself; go to some honest son of St. Crispin, and have your measure taken for a stout pair of winter boots

or shoes; shoes are better for ordinary every day use, as they allow the ready escape of the odors, while they strengthen the ankles, accustoming them to depend on themselves. A very slight accident is sufficient to cause a sprained ankle to an habitual boot wearer.—Besides, a shoe compresses less, and hence admits of a more vigorous circulation of the blood. But wear boots when you ride or travel. Give direction, also, to have no cork or India rubber about the shoes, but have placed between the layers of the soles, from out to out, a piece of stout hemp or tow linen which has been dipped in melted pitch. This is absolutely impervious to water—does not absorb a particle—while we know that cork does, and after a while becomes "soggy" and damp for weeks. When you put them on for the first time, they will feel as "easy as an old shoe," and you may stand on damp places for hours with impunity.

WHY DO CHILDREN DIE?—The reason why children die, says *Hall's Journal of Health*, is because they are not taken care of. From the day of birth they are stuffed with food, choked with physic, sloshed with water, suffocated in hot rooms, steamed in bed-clothes. When permitted to breathe a breath of pure air once a week in summer, and once or twice during the the colder months, only the nose is permitted to peer into daylight. A little later they are sent out with no clothes on at all the parts of the body which need protection. Bare legs, bare arms, bare necks, girted middles, with an inverted umbrella to collect the air, and chill the other parts of the body. A stout, strong man goes out in a cold day with gloves and overcoat, woolen stockings and thick double-soled boots, with cork between and rubbers over. The same day, a child of three years old, an infant in flesh and blood and bone and constitution, goes out with shoes as thin as paper, cotton socks, legs uncovered to the knees, neck bare; an exposure which would disable the nurse, kill the mother outright, and make the father an invalid for weeks. And why? To harden them to a mode of dress which they are never expected to practice. To accustom them to exposure, which a dozen years later would be considered downright foolery. To rear children thus for the slaughter-pen, and then lay it to the Lord, is too bad. We don't think the Almighty had any hand in it. And to draw comfort from the presumption that he has any agency in the death of the child, is a presumption and profanation.

☞ In those sciences which consist in mere compilation, as in Natural History and Botany, one could hardly read too much; but in those dependent upon the deduction of general laws, the better course is to read little, and select that little with judgment.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Spring is at hand—are we all ready for it? How to save the State.

In three or four weeks, if the season is favorable, the waiting husbandman will again go forth to sow his seed, to renew the great wheat fields of the almost boundless West.—Millions of rich acres are already plowed in readiness and are slaking in the frosts of winter. And how much depends upon this forthcoming crop in the way of redeeming and sustaining the burthens of the people.

It is needless to say to the prudent that no time should now be lost in getting all ready for the great work. Experience proves that much depends upon the early sowing of the wheat crop in this region of the West. Wisconsin ought to grow at least 15,000,000 of bushels of wheat, which would leave 10,000,000 for sale; an amount that, at fair prices, would tell upon our finances to the amount of $7,000,000 to $8,000,000.

Next, let us plan for a good corn crop, say from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 bushels, and turn at least one-half of it into pork for export which would add $2,000,000 to our cash income.

In beef for export we can do little or nothing; we shall be more likely to import to some extent from Chicago and other points in Illinois; although we ought not.

Our wool crop will be something, but only a tithe of what it ought, perhaps $300,000, when it ought to be four times that sum.

The dog crop will undoubtedly be large, especially if the dog law passes; but what it will amount to in dollars and cents we will not undertake to determine.

The amount of mineral being raised is said to be considerable more than heretofore.—Lumbering we don't imagine will be carried up to a very high figure. From all these resources we may reasonably expect a pretty good return the coming year—perhaps an aggregate of $12,000,000 to $13,000,000; and this sum may be raised several millions more by the money of new comers paid for farms and lands; a considerable number of whom we think we shall see, from the fact that low prices will induce them to come even in the face of dull times.

If from all these sources Wisconsin can realize $20,000,000 of cash into the State during the current year; and in the interim contrives

to pay out as little as possible for merchandise and other commodities that can be dispensed with in times like these, it will sensibly lift the load from off our shoulders, and cause new courage to spring up for the future.

Let all, then, who would help to redeem the State, quit crying hard times, and go to work; and bear in mind that every head of wheat, or ear of corn, that is grown and saved, and every pound of mineral dug, will tell in the great aggregate. Let all workers brush up their arms and be ready for the campaign before them.

The Taxes—What becomes of them?

We find by computation that the young State of Wisconsin raises nearly or quite $3,000,000 annually of taxes, including town, county and State; and what is it all for? Where does it go, and what is the need of it?

We propose to treat this subject at some length in the next number of the *Farmer*, and think we can show conclusively to every sensible and honest mind, how at least one half of it might be saved better than not, if the good people would throw aside the majority of the silly shadows that they now wrangle about, and for a brief period turn their attention to a few simple reforms, that the advancing intelligence of the age loudly calls for. We think we shall be able to show some surprising wastes of money in almost every department of our governmental affairs; wait and see.

The Mole Drainer.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—Accompanying this I send a letter received from H. C. Johns, Esq., an extensive farmer, of Decatur, Ill., giving his experience and observation in regard to the use and utility of the Mole Drainer. It will be noticed that the severe cold winters do not affect the durability of these drains.

Yours truly, E. W. SKINNER.

Decatur, Ill., Dec. 18, 1859.

E. W. SKINNER, ESQ., MADISON, WIS.:—Dear Sir—Your favor of the 3rd is before me. Absence from home for some days has prevented an earlier reply.

I used the Mole Drainer on my farm in the summer of 1854, for the purpose of obtaining stock water, and have had some work done every year since; and in no case has the openings filled up when there was any descent. Nearly every farm in Pratt and Macon counties have had drains made with the Mole machines. Many permanent springs have been opened, and in all cases the land for from two to four rods been sufficiently drained for cultivation. The winters have been severe, several times the thermometer marked 20° below 0. I do not hesitate to say, they will answer all the purposes claimed for them.

Yours truly, H. C. JOHNS.

Double Mole Drain Plow.

Our correspondent, Ledyard, writing Louisville, Ky., speaks enthusiastically of a drain plow now coming into use in the West, and which he thinks is destined to work wonders in the low prairies.

Remarks.—"It must do away with a world of labor and redeem in time the many thousand acres of land existing in the Western States, at present undesirable. There already exists in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, near three thousand miles of this kind of drain, which has been in use several years and is still in perfect order. The plow will cut about 100 rods of drain per day with the attendance of one man and a boy to drive the team. A soil filled with hidden rocks or large roots would render it unserviceable. It seems especially adapted for western land; in fact, it is just the thing. The expense is but 25 cents per rod; the benefits arising may not be enlarged upon here, as the subject of drainage has been frequently and ably urged through the columns of the (Connecticut) *Homestead*."

Officers of County Agricultural Societies for 1860.

WINNEBAGO CO.—The following are the officers of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society for the ensuing year:

President—M. C. Bushnell, of Omro.
Treasurer—J. M. Ball, of Oshkosh.
Secretary—Joseph H. Osborn, of Oshkosh.
Vice Presidents—J. Hunt, Menasha; C. L. Rich, Oshkosh; B. Strong, Clayton, B. Brickley, Orihula; H. W. Nicholson, Rushford; Nelson Olin, Omro; Sam'l Stancliff, Nekimi; J. D. Vandorum, Utica; A. H. Cronkhite, Neenah; F. Billingham, Vinland; J. H. Jones, Winchester; — Graves, Poygun; John Cross, Winneconne; R. C. Wood, Algoma; W. Mosely, Black Wolf; R. S. Moth, Nepeuskun; Joseph Jackson, Oshkosh City.
Board of Control—Eli Stilson, town of Oshkosh; Daniel McAllister, Neenah; John C. Wheeler, Algoma; L. A. Stewart, Winneconne; Samuel Charlesworth, Omro; James Adams, Utica.

Legislature.

Nothing new since our last issue, that calls for special notice; the session is dragging slowly along, with apparently little to do and little done. Nothing definite yet in relation to adjournment, probably not until pretty well into March. In our April number we shall be able to give a final report of their proceedings.

Sugar Cane Seed.

We are inquiring after and will be able to tell those who wish where they can get it in next number.

☞ No changes in market prices worth mentioning—all seem waiting for spring.

☞ Several articles of editorial comment are omitted for want of room until next number.

LITERARY NOTICES.

THE SCIENCE OF COMMON THINGS; A familiar explanation of the First Principles of Physical Science. For Schools, Families, and Young Students. Illustrated with numerous Engravings. By David A. Wells, A.M. Iveson, Phinney & Co., New York.

This is one of the most deservedly popular books of its kind of which our scientific literature can boast. The comprehensiveness of the subject was well calculated to test the univer sality of the author's scientific knowledge; but the work shows that he was not only equal to the task, but he possesses an unusually happy faculty for presenting the truths of science in an attractive manner.

As we have glanced over its three hundred pages, we have thought how much the health, happiness, and intellectual and moral worth of the great body of the people would be promoted by the diffusion of the knowledge it contains, we have earnestly desired that it might be placed in the hands of at least the youthful members of every household in the land. It can be found in the bookstores of all our larger towns, and we are confident that no better use could be made of six shillings or even a dollar than in its purchase.

WELL'S PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS OF CHEMISTRY; For the use of Academies, High Schools and Colleges; introducing the latest results of Scientific Discovery and Research, and arranged with special reference to the practical application of Chemistry to the Arts and employments of Common Life. Iveson & Phinney, New York.

Having devoted many years to the study and teaching of this most beautiful and prolific of all the natural sciences, we naturally feel that we have a right to speak with some degree of assurance of the relative value of the numerous text books which are daily pressed upon the attention of the educational public.

It is the common fault with most class books on chemistry that they overburden and confuse the mind of the learner with a multiplicity of unimportant particulars, while the great cardinal truths are presented in a dry and uninteresting manner. We have always believed that a text book on chemistry might, on the contrary, be made as fascinating as a novel, so that the pupil, having once taken it up would with reluctance lay it down again until he was the master of its contents. Mr. Wells has certainly made an approach to this desirable result, and we have great pleasure therefore, in commending his work to the attention of school teachers and parents.

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICES.

The Wethersfield Seed Sower, advertised by Rodney Kellogg, is very highly spoken of by eastern agricultural papers. We think they may be an excellent article, and have ordered one for trial.

Ellwanger & Barry, of the Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y., are out with their usual attractive list of nursery stock. It is needless to say, that they are at the head of the list of nurserymen in the United States, and can be relied upon.

A. G. Hanford, also advertises a choice nursery stock, and can be relied upon as all right.

Sweet Potatoes, are advertised by J. W. Tenbrook, of Rockville, Ind. He is the gentleman that has presented them as premiums to the State Agricultural Society for the last two years. Those wishing to order can rely upon him for a first rate article.

J. M. Thorburn & Co., advertise their usual ample list of seeds &c.; they can be depended upon for everything in their line.

Loudon & Robinson, of the Badger State Nurseries, Janesville, advertises a large stock in the nursery line; we hear them well spoken of.

Lawton Blackberries—See advertisement.

Also of *Webster's Unabridged, Illustrated Dictionary.*

The Excelsior Farm Mill will be noticed more fully hereafter, when we become better acquainted with it.

SEEDS, BULBS, PLANTS, & FRUIT TREES,

FOR THE SPRING TRADE,

AT THE DANE COUNTY STORE, MADISON, WISCONSIN.

The undersigned takes pleasure in announcing to their friends and the public, that they are in receipt of a very full and select stock of

FIELD, GARDEN, AND FLOWER SEEDS,

Selected expressly for Wisconsin Cultivation, embracing every thing desirable, and many articles not usually met with in ordinary stocks.

Among the more prominent articles may be enumerated the following, in all their varieties.

Field Seeds.

CLOVER SEED; large and medium varieties; Western grown and pure.
TIMOTHY, RED TOP, AND KENTUCKY BLUE GRASS.
FOWL MEADOW, AND HUNGARIAN GRASS.
SUGAR CANE; both Southern and Western grown.
IMPHEE, imported and native.
SEED CORN of most of the popular kinds.

ROOT CROPS,
CARROT,
PARSNIP,
BEET and
TURNIP SEEDS, of all the desirable varieties, and in quantity.
TIMBER AND HONEY LOCUST SEEDS; new, and sure to grow.

Garden Seeds,

Nearly all the varieties of the following articles.

ARTICHOKE.
ASPARAGUS.
DWARF, or SNAP BEANS.
POLE, or RUNNING BEANS.
BEETS.
BROCOLI.
BRUSSEL'S SPROUTS, (best.)
CABBAGE.
CARROT (all American growth.)
CAULIFLOWER, (very scarce.)
CELERY.
CHERVIL.
SWEET CORN.
CRESS.
CUCUMBER.
EGG PLANT.
ENDIVE.
KALE.
KOHLRABI.
LEEK.
LETTUCE.
MUSK MELON.
WATER MELON.
MUSHROOM SPAWN.
MUSTARD.
NASTURTIUM, (Tall.)
OKRA.
ONION, (all of American growth.)
PARSLEY, (extra curled.)
PARSNIP.
PEAS, (extra early—early—general crop.)
PEPPER,
PUMPKIN,
RADISH,
SALSIFY, or Vegetable Oyster.
SORREL.
SPINACH,
SQUASH.
TOMATO,
TURNIP.
HERB SEEDS.

JOHN BUDD, an experienced Seedsman and Florist, assists in handling said Stock, and carefully tests every kind of seed that is in the least doubtful, in his Green House, before offering them for sale, so that all may rely with entire confidence upon their vegetation.

FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES,

SHRUBBERY AND BULBOUS ROOTS,

Of the desirable and hardy varieties, mainly of Wisconsin growth. mostly small and low grown, with EXCELLENT ROOTS.

We can make select lists of FRUIT TREES, both *Summer*, *Fall*, and *Winter* varieties, that we will warrant to *stand our Climate* beyond all peradventure, with proper cultivation and care.

In the way of SMALL FRUITS we have an uncommon fine stock, mainly *hardy* and *reliable;* many things of *bearing sizes.*

GRAPES of all the new and old varieties—fine large roots.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS of all the new and approved kinds: Wilson's Albany, Hooker's Seedling, etc., etc.

For prices see advertisement of J. C. Plumb & Co.

Bedding Plants.

Our collection of Bedding Plants consists in part of the following, together with a great number not ennumerated in this advertisement:

VERBENAS, all choice named sorts.
DAHLIAS, " "
FUCHSIAS, " "
GERANIUMS, " "
PETUNIAS. " "
CUPHEA, " "
HELEITROPE, " "
CINERARIA, " "
DIELYTRA SPECTABLIS,
DELPHINIUM FORMOSUM.
PHLOXES, VINCAS.
CARNATIONS, PIEOTEE, & PINKS.
ROSES, a choice collection.
WIGELIA ROSES.
DAISIES, some double sorts.

AMARILLIS AND JORMOSISMA.
OXALIS of Sorts.
TIGRIDIA PAVONIA.
" CONCHIFLORA.
TUBEROSES, double white.
GLADIOLAS, several fine sorts.
AGERATUM of sorts.
ALONSOA "
ANTYRHINUM of sorts.
CHRYSANTHEMUM of sorts.
IPOMOPSIS "
MAURANDIA "
OLEANDER "
PANSY "
PRIMROSE "

Flower Seeds.

In all their varieties, fresh and warranted to grow.

The foregoing articles will be fowarded by Express or Legislative Members, to all who may order, without any extra expense for packing.

Orders are solicited, and all who can do so are invited to call personally and select for themselves, no pains will spared to give the most entire satisfaction to all.

Machines and Implements.

We are Agents for many things desirable in this line, and can furnish at once, or on short notice, anything desired, at the lowest retail prices.

☞ All letters of inquiry ENCLOSING STAMP, will be promptly answered.

Madison, Wis., Feb. 25, 1860 POWERS & Co.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, APRIL 1, 1860. NO. 6.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

WISCONSIN MUST MANUFACTURE MORE, AND BUY LESS FROM ABROAD.

No fact is clearer to every observant mind, than that our Wisconsin people must supply more of their own wants at home. Hitherto, almost every article of manufacture and use, however simple, however easily produced at home, has been purchased from abroad. This was all natural and proper in our earlier stages of settlement; but the excuse for its continuance has now in a great degree passed away.

There is now no good reason existing why we should not make the great bulk of our agricultural implements and machinery in our own cities and villages throughout the land, instead of freighting down railroads in bringing them from the east. Instead of paying out millions annually to rich eastern establishments, which should be earned by and paid to our own citizens, many of whom—and among them the most ingenious of workmen—often spend six months in the year doing comparatively nothing, and simply because there is no shops and manufactories in which they can find employment, at any price. Thus we suffer a double and ruinous loss, first in the labor of our citizens; second, in the money sent out of the State.

How many good mechanics, during the past winter, have found themselves utterly idle, who might have been making reapers, threshers, plows, grain drills, seed sowers, cultivators, and a thousand other equally useful and indispensible articles which our farmers have got to have, and will necessarily buy from abroad if they cannot get them at home? and all for the want of shops and employers to set them to work.

We are aware that not a few will be ready to reply that the experiment has been tried and found unsuccessful, and that manufacturing cannot be done in the West, with either profit or safety. We reply that this has to some extent been true, but not necessarily nor uniformly; we know of some establishments in different parts of the State, that were started small and almost without capital, that have held on through all the changes of the times, and worked out fortunes for their owners; being now well established and extensive concerns, doing a large and profitable business. We have a few such in our eye at the present moment, but will not name them, although they thoroughly demonstrate the fact, that with the right kind of men many kinds of manufacturing can be profitably done even in Wisconsin.

The passing away of the miserable hot-bed times of speculation and insanity in corner lots and useless unproductive property, is absolute and certain; in fact we may take it for granted that they are already passed, not to return soon again. All men, from the day-laborer to the capitalist, are getting thoroughly awakened to the consciousness that our whole system of production, income and economy must absolutely be revolutionized and renovated, that both capital and labor must go back to first principles again and earn and produce instead of extorting, spending and wasting.

In this reorganization of the business of Wisconsin, let manufacturing attract its due share of attention, both of capital, business ingenuity and capability. Let all who own real estate realize the fact that they will make more in the end by investing their means safely at six per cent. in many kinds of manufacturing in their own towns, than by getting twelve, or twenty even, in some exhausting and eventually ruinous operation.

Let all who own property in the State and

wish it to prosper, look more to its permanent interests hereafter, than to the *momentary grab*, too common hitherto; and never forget that if we prosper eminently it must be by the united efforts of all, in adopting and carrying out sound policy; and no policy or practice is sound for us that leaves our own ingenuity and labor idle at home, and sends what little money and means we can save from grain-growing out of the State to buy what we can vastly better make at home.

Let us hope that the day is dawning when those who assume to be our *principle men* will sooner patronize and favor a good mechanic who starts a shop than some thief of a speculator who is watching to dispossess his less lucky neighbor who per chance may be pecuniarily embarrassed; when a factory, though humble in character, shall do its patrons more credit than a wild-cat bank, a broker's shop or a saloon. Then, and not till then, will Wisconsin again put on its permanent robes of prosperity, and discard its weeds of mourning.

Every farmer when he buys an article of manufacture, should not forget that he adds to the value of his property when he patronizes home industry and ingenuity, and that he impairs it when he allows his money to go out of the State to pay some non resident or foreign mechanic, instead of his own neighbor or fellow citizen. Home mechanics, well employed, have plenty of means with which to purchase the farmers' surplus crops at good prices. Let every one remember this, and become a protectionist as fully as possible.

We pay at least $3,000,000 annually for boots and shoes, of which not over $500,000 are made at home. What hinders a vast and rapid increase in this indispensible article of manufacture? Why should we send our hides and flour, pork and beef to Massachusetts to employ and feed her surplus population, and then buy back their work at a high price, while multitudes of our own people in our cities and villages are almost starving for steady and paying employment?

Why sell our wool to eastern factories at low prices, and buy it back half cotton in the shape of light, trashy cloth at high figures? and thus continue to rear palaces about New York and Boston, while our own people continue to live in mortgaged cabins. Let all who wish our State to prosper think of these things, and study upon them; and as often as opportunity offers, however humble or remote in its bearings, strive to ballance up the business of the State, and to develop its leading and essential sources of prosperity.

ON THE BEST MODE OF RAISING CARROTS, AND THEIR VALUE FOR STOCK.

The varieties of carrots most commonly raised are the long orange, white Belgian, and the improved Altringham. I believe that the long orange carrot is generally preferred as a field crop, although the white Belgian will sometimes produce larger crops. Like all other crops designed for field culture, the carrot has been wonderfully improved in its nature and the abundance of its produce. Such is the great productiveness of this crop, under the best culture, that few, if any others, can equal it in value. The soils best suited to the culture of carrots, are deep, rich loams, and rich reclaimed bogs. Good sandy loams will also produce abundantly. Light, sandy soils will yield good crops, if well manured and thoroughly pulverized; in short, any soil sufficiently rich, and that can be cultivated to the depth of ten or twelve inches, will bring excellent crops The soil must be thoroughly pulverized to a considerable depth—not less than ten inches will answer, at any rate. All weeds, roots, and stones should be raked off. As many of the weeds as possible should be caused to vegetate and be removed before the carrots are sown, which will save much after-trouble in keeping the rows clean. Old, well rotted manure should be used, as unfermented dung is apt to cause the "fangs" to grow instead of the long roots.

The manure should be plowed in and well incorporated with the soil as early in the spring as possible, and the ground plowed several times. By plowing the last time with a side-hill plow—thus turning the furrows all one way, and when four or five furrows are plowed, raking them, the raker standing in the last furrow, and drawing all the rubbish into the furrow, then plowing more, etc.,—we obviate the necessity of trampling on the ground, and leave it light and smooth.

Put in the seed in drills twenty inches apart, with a machine. I think they yield quite as large a crop drilled at this width, or even at two feet, as if they were closer together, and with less rows to work. We find they can be grown with greater profit by working the carrot-cleaner, or a small horse cultivator, between the rows, than if all the work had to be done by hand. We plant from the middle to the last of May; and do not know but those planted late do as well as those planted earlier. Two pounds of seed are sufficient for an acre. A little white mustard seed may be mixed in to good advantage, as it serves to mark the rows by its more rapid growth, and enables us to keep the weeds down without disturbing the rows. As soon as the carrots show their

third leaf, they should be hoed and cleaned from weeds. Thin them out to about six inches apart in the rows; after this, hoe and weed them often enough to keep them clean. Clean culture is absolutely necessary, to have carrots do anything. The frequent use of the carrot-cleaner will greatly expedite this business.

For digging, a sub-soil plow may be used, running it on the left hand side of the row, which will raise them, if your team work steady, so that two men can pull them and keep up with the team. We harvest them from the 10th to the 25th of November. The freezing of the top of the ground does not injure them; but it is not safe to let them stand too long, lest they should be frozen in solid, so that they cannot be pulled. Throw them in heaps and cart them to the barn, as it is more comfortable cutting off the tops there than in the fields. The tops may be fed to the cows as soon as they are cut off; they make excellent feed, increasing the richness of the milk and butter. The roots will keep better if cut off about an inch above the crown. A cellar that will keep potatoes is too warm for them; they keep better where they can be kept cool. If piled in large quantities, there should be chimneys, made of slats, and set up every few feet through the pile, in order to ventilate them and keep them from heating. In this way they may be kept well till June. If buried in the ground, they must not be piled too deep, and the ventilators should be kept open as late as possible.

Carrots are the most valuable of all roots for horses. Every person who keeps a horse should feed some, as they aid in the digestion of the other food, and keep the horse in better condition than when fed on grain alone; they also keep his coat as smooth and sleek as if it had been oiled. I can keep a horse in better condition on four quarts of oats and four of carrots a day, than on a peck of oats. When fed to cows, they make the milk richer and the butter yellower. Their fattening qualities are proved to be superior to those of any other roots. Six or eight hundred bushels to the acre is a common crop, and larger crops have frequently been obtained.

MYRON E. TANNER.

Clarkstown, Rockland Co., N. Y.

SMUT IN WHEAT.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—In the last number of the *Farmer* I notice an article from a correspondent, discarding the use of blue vitriol and lime as a preventive of smut, and attributing the cause of smut mostly to sowing wheat in the mud. Now, I agree with the writer, that sowing wheat in the mud is to be avoided if possible, and that if the wheat is smutty, and has not been washed with vitriol, brine, or been limed, it will most assuredly help to increase the amount of smut in the crop. I will give a rule that every farmer that follows it closely, shall not raise one kernel of smut in the next ten years. First, sow clean, sound, healthy seed, without any smut in it; now do not claim that you are following the first part of the rule when you are sowing wheat with only now and then a grain of smut in it. Like produces like; smut produces smut. Every producer of smutty wheat will answer, "You do not believe that smut grows?" I do not believe that the kernels of smutty wheat vegetate like wheat. Take a handful of smutty wheat, remove all the smut balls, and then look at the wheat and see the smut adhering to the sound grain still; smell of it, what a disagreeable odor. These fine particles of smut are spores belonging to the family of *parasitic fungi*, which live by the destruction of vegetable life. A single ball of smut contains about four millions of these spores, and unless these spores are removed from the sound grain by washing, or killed by some poison, as blue vitriol, arsenic, &c., they will produce smut again, varying in amount according to favorable or unfavorable circumstances, such as variations of seasons, sowing in the mud, &c.

The second part of the rule is to apply blue vitriol as follows to the seed: Having measured out the amount of seed to be dressed, dissolve one and a half ounces of blue vitriol for each bushel of wheat by pouring hot water on it, and after dissolved, add cold water so as to have two quarts of water to each bushel; let an assistant shovel over the wheat while the vitriol water is sprinkled on; shovel it over at least three times, sweeping up the scattering each time, so as to wet every grain of the seed. I have strictly followed this rule for the last six years, and have not raised *one* kernel of smut in the time. My crop of 1859 was 2200 bushels, and I have a part of it on hand yet to spare, and I will give any man 100 bushels of as clean wheat as he ever saw if he will find one kernel of smut grown in it. As this may appear like buncomb to those that raise smutty wheat, I will cite a circumstance to the point. I sold 1000 bushels of the crop of 1857 to Messrs. Smith & Proctor, of Neenah. Mr. Proctor remarked to Prof. Hoyt, of Madison, that I offered to give them the whole of that amount if they would find one grain of smut; yet they failed to find the first grain of smut.

Last year I sowed wheat the same day, and in the same field side by side, with another farmer, who sowed smutty seed and without vitriolizing it, and his wheat produced at least two bushels of smut per acre, while mine was perfectly free from it.

Blue vitriol undoubtedly stands at the head of a long list of preventives of smut. If no seed can be found in reach that is perfectly clear of smut, take that that comes nearest to it, and the first year by the use of vitriol will render it nearly or quite perfect; and do not fail to repeat the use of the vitriol each year, though no smut be found.

I am not prepared to say whether the manure made from the straw and chaff of very smutty wheat would injure the next crop of wheat if coming in contact with the seed. Neither have I had any experience to prove that wheat heated in the mow will not produce smut sometimes; none such should ever be sown. Mould and mildew are a species of fungus; but they are so different from the spores of smut that it does not seem probable that one can produce the other.

Yours, Respectfully,

ELI STILSON.

Oshkosh, January 6, 1860.

PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL.—Pennsylvania has established a Farmer's High School, in the geographical centre of the State. The buildings are now completed. The State appropriated $25,000 on condition that individual subscriptions should be obtained to a similar amount. Thus far $30,000 have been expended, $15,000 by the State, $10,000 by individuals. It is intended to be a practical school for farmers' sons, to teach them, in conjunction with manual labor, the science of agriculture. There is so much poor tillage of the soil that it is a national benefaction when a farmer can be taught how to grow more produce on the acre, with no more labor, and perhaps with no more expense, simply by a better application of his labor.

The institution was opened on the third Wednesday in February, and applications are already being made in great number.

☞ Gov. Morgan justly remarks that "the moderate annual appropriation for the encouragement of agriculture in the counties, and in support of the State Agricultural Society, has been fully returned to the treasury in the enhanced valuation of property, and a hundredfold in the general prosperity."—*Co. Gent.*

THE YALE COLLEGE AGRICULTURAL LECTURES

We have made but little reference to this interesting course of lectures, and for the reason that they were so fully reported in the *Tribune* and other papers of wide circulation, and for the further reason that the discussions and lectures during an entire month were too voluminous to even admit of a synopsis. But the closing remarks of Prof. Porter contain a few important fundamental facts that cannot be too well understood; and that all may see them we copy. We hope the time is not distant when our own State University can secure such a course of practical lectures.

THE COURSE CLOSED.

New Haven, Feb. 25, 1860.

After Mr. Mason C. Weld's lecture, as I yesterday stated, there followed an address by Professor Porter, and a sort of discussion upon the success of this plan of agricultural education. Prof. Porter has modestly refrained from speech-making from the very commencement, and has stooped to none of those tricks to make popularity which the engineers of less important enterprizes often employ. He deemed it incumbent upon him at the close of his course, to give a sketch of its inception, and show what reasons he had to believe its permanence secured. I give you his own words, as nearly as I can recall them, preferring to let him speak for himself:

"Why was it worth while," he said "for the gentlemen engaged here quietly and pleasantly in their scientific pursuits to busy themselves with an outside movement on Agricultural Education? One reason was, that they felt that they had the *power*—such as is possessed at few other points in the country—to accomplish something in this direction. It was the name and fame of YALE COLLEGE, equivalent to a large money capital in such an enterprise.

"In view of the immensity of the agricultural interest, it was a thing worth doing, and to nothing could the venerable College more worthily lend its aid. Five-sixths of the fixed capital of this country is invested in agricultural pursuits. The yearly product of her agriculture is estimated at sixteen hundred millions. An addition of one single per cent would be an addition of sixteen millions annually to the wealth of the country.

"Did any one doubt the practicability of adding, not one per cent merely, but ten per cent, or even fifty per cent, if the knowledge in possession of the few could be made the property of the many?

"The average hay crop is certainly not one ton to the acre, yet two or three tons are often realized; 100 per cent increase is here easily within our reach. The average turnip crop in New York is less than one hundred bushels

to the acre. Mr. Gold tells of a carefully measured crop in his own county which reached 2,000 bushels. Here is 2,000 per cent, or a twenty times multiplied product, as a result of skill in cultivation, and the whole structure of English agriculture rests on the turnip crop.

"We were somewhat startled," said Prof. Porter, "the other day, when Mr. Allen told us that the difference between the old breeds of cattle of the country and the substitution of improved breeds would amount to $50,000,000. This was altogether too modest and moderate an estimate. The number of the neat cattle in the country is estimated at 18,000,000. Fifty millions of difference would be less than $3 per head, which every one knows is not a fraction of the real difference of value. Yet once introduced, the improved breeds cost no more to keep than the old sort. Here is a difference of a hundred millions again, at the least, in the item of cattle and horses, between knowledge and ignorance."

After dwelling briefly on various agencies of agricultural education, giving the first rank to the introduction of elementary science into the common school, Prof. Porter remarked on this new movement at Yale College. He defined it as the Agricultural Convention, combined with a college for instruction in which experienced agriculturists meet for their own mutual enlightenment, and at the same time give the benefit of their lectures and deliberations to young men who assemble to avail themselves of the advantages afforded them.

The Professor returned cordial and hearty thanks to the agricultural, political, and religious press of Connecticut and the whole country, for the liberal and public-spirited manner in which it had sustained this important educational movement. He deemed it of national rather than local interest, and the success of the enterprise was to be attributed mainly to this generous aid of the press.

Prof. Porter remarked that he had been warned against encouraging any reporting of these lectures. People would sit at home in their chimney corners and read the reports in the *Tribune*, instead of coming to the lectures. On the contrary, he had encouraged and desired it. Any other course would be as if the farmer should begrudge his seed. After returning thanks to the convention for the decorum of the whole proceedings, and to the lecturers for their generous aid, Prof. Porter announced another convention and course of lectures for February, 1861, its features to be as follows: First—A thoroughly practical character. In the judgment of the lecturers, though not in his own, some trimming of sails had been necessary in this course between the probable city auditory and the possible audience of practical men. Now that it was demonstrated that the farmers, young and old, *could* be brought out, no such necessity existed. The lectures could and would be made thoroughly and exclusively practical. Secondly—An agricultural museum, which shall provide complete illustration of future lectures by its collection of models, products, drawings, &c., so that it shall not be necessary for a lecturer to talk of anything hereafter without being able to point at the same time to the thing itself, in the shape of living animal, agricultural implement, or real vegetable product, or its representation in wax or plaster, or on canvas. Thirdly—A reading-room containing all the agricultural journals, and a library to which valuable agricultural works shall be added as they appear.

To furnish a guaranty for the fulfillment of these pledges, Prof. Porter remarked on the present position of the Yale Scientific School. By the liberality of a friend of the institution, the school was now expending some forty thousand dollars in the erection of a building. The building was designed to accommodate the Mathematical and Engineering Department, on the one hand, now in operation with three instructors; and also the Chemical and Agricultural Department, which has its corps of four professors. The building would contain, beside the rooms of the Engineering Department, a large lecture hall, a laboratory unsurpassed in this country or in Europe, and an agricultural museum and library.

The school had, besides, $25,000 at its disposal for carrying out its objects. Of this sum, $7,500 had been given to-day, $5,000 by O. F. Winchester, of the firm of Winchester & Davis. In addition to all this, a new subscription toward an agricultural museum had so far progressed that abundant means for procuring an ample collection *during the present year* would be at the disposal of the institution.

Prof. Porter closed by congratulating the gentlemen in attendance at these lectures on their enterprise in perceiving value in the new movement before it had been demonstrated to the whole world. That was just the difference between the man of enterprise and the man destitute of it. He judged quickly of the value of new ideas, and, mounting them, dashed forward to the accomplishment of his objects, while his neighbors stood with their hands in their pockets, and were only ready to start when the new ideas had grown old and decript. He proposed that they should take advantage of this assembled enterprise, and organize ourselves into a body of experimenters. Our slow progress in agriculture was not so much for want of experiments, as for lack of combination in experiment. A hundred careful experiments on the same point, collated and compared, were worth a thousand loosely made, and spread over many years. He proposes to send printed directions for some one experiment—which is to be simple, and requiring little outlay of time or money—to each person who has attended the lectures, or to others who would feel a willing-

ness to unite with them, and be governed by the directions which may be furnished.—*Cor. N. Y. Tribune.*

PORTLAND, HOUSTON CO., MINN., February 23, 1860.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—The farmers of Portland and vicinity, held a meeting January 12th, at the district school house, and organized a Farmers' Club, adopted a constitution, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President—D. Temple.
Vice President—J. McNelly.
Secretary—Cornelius Metcalf.
Treasurer—Chas. Maxwell.

We have met every two weeks since, and find the meetings to be very entertaining and highly instructive. "We have proved them, and found them to be good." A. E. G.

SAP-SUCKERS AGAIN.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—I just read the interesting communication of your correspondent "J. T.," page 61. I am delighted to find that I am not quite alone on my side of the sap-sucker question! "J. T." talks like a man of sense, who cares as much for the poor trees as for the poor birds. I dare say that if many persons had orchards near timbered land, as I have, there would be less sympathy for the sap-sucker. With regard to the information asked by "J. T.," I would state that I am not much of an ornithologist, but that I can draw some with pen and ink and will send you a likeness of the sap-sucker if you will have it engraved. My impression is that it belongs to the wood-pecker tribe; he migrates during the winter, as I scarcely ever see him then. With the return of spring, sap-suckers become abundant, tapping maples, elms and hickory trees, particularly the latter; also apple and other fruit trees; but during summer they let them alone. About the middle of September they begin their savage depredations, trying every apple tree in the orchard; they fly like wood-peckers, light near the spot which has been tapped, hop to it, jumping right and left, generally keeping the body of the tree between them and the enemy, suck away for five or ten minutes, and fly off, returning to the same spot within at most half an hour when the field appears clear of danger, and every time enlarge their incisions right and left, cutting out the bark in squares of about half an inch, leaving between each little strips which makes their work frequently look like a diminutive window sash. Sometimes they merely cut small roundish incisions, tier above tier, completely around the body of the tree. About the 15th or 20th of October they cease troubling, and we then see but little of them until next year.

They have, if I recollect well, four claws, two turned up and two down; their tail is of the true wood-pecker sort, and they invariably rest on it in climbing or while sucking and tapping, like wood-peckers. Their tapping is almost noiseless; they do not *drum* like some wood-peckers; their bills being very sharp, they only strike two or three strokes at a time, then jump sideways and repeat. They are about five inches long from tip of bill to end of tail; bill straight, three-fourths of an inch long; root of bill hairy; a dot of red (blood color) between the eyes and bill, sometimes a like dot just under the bill. When wounded, they raise the ash-colored feathers on the top of their heads like a little top-not. The under part of their body is a greenish gray, dotted; wings dark, tipped with white, and the ends, when at rest, exhibit many round specks of white on a round field: tail dark brown with feathers pointed and very stiff, feeling like a bush. I cannot give a better description of the fellow, short of a drawing. Their *music* resembles the mewing of a cat with a cold.

As for the sap-sucker eating flies, I suppose it is very likely, but generally humble-bees, wasps and large flies come to suck the sap which the sap-sucker causes to run; yet I never observed him close enough to know whether or not he eats any of them. I think he does not. I have seen them flying all around him waiting for him to get through so as to have a sip likewise. I have also observed a smaller bird come and drink at the same spring, but he had nothing to do with the boring any more than the flies.

I wish it were in my power to say that the sap-sucker eats insects; it would be like an oasis in the desert to discover in him a single useful quality.

Now, the king-bird has been charged with eating bees, and I actually detected one doing it; shot him, opened its crop, and found lots of drones in it, but not a single working bee. I am happy to be able to state the fact. If I find a useful trait in the sap-sucker, I will publish it likewise.

With regard to saving injured trees by re-

placing nicely strips of bark at sap time, I have tried it, and actually saved one tree by the means; but I find the operation very difficult and uncertain. In spite of all care, cavities will be left between the bark and the wood, and it will get mouldy and the tree perish. I have succeeded but once. In several instances alburnum was found under the inserted bark, but in spots, without continuity, at the places where the bark touched the trunk. The rest looked dead, dry and mouldy. The great difficulty is to make the new bark *remain in contact every where*, without which there can be no success.

Yours, G. DE NEVEU.

NOTE.—We do not know just when we could get such a cut engraved, if drawn, as we have no engraver at hand at present.—EDS.

TO CULTIVATE PARSNEPS.

Soil.—The soil should be light, deep, and free from stones. It should be dug or trenched before sowing, one good spade deep, at least, (some writers say two spades deep,) being careful to pulverize the soil thoroughly, that the roots may have no obstruction to prevent their running down long and straight.—If the soil be proper for them, it is said they will not require much manure; and what is used should be perfectly decomposed, or, if recent, be deposited at the bottom of the trench. They do not impoverish the soil, but like onions, may be raised many years in the same spot.

Seed estimate, and Sowing.—Sow as early as the ground is thawed, if not too wet.—Deane observed that "some sow them in the fall; but that is not a good practice, because the ground will grow too close and stiff for want of stirring in the spring; which cannot well be performed in gardens, without danger of injuring the roots. And weeds will be more apt to abound among them if they be sown in autumn." Loudon says, "For a bed five feet by twenty, the plants to remain thinned to eight inches distant, half an ounce of seed is the usual proportion." Deane recommends sowing them in rows across beds, fifteen inches apart, and to allow six inches from plant to plant at the last thinning, which may be early, as they are not often hurt by insects.

Culture.—When the plants are about one, two or three inches high, in May or June, let them be thinned or cleared from weeds either by hand or small hoeing. Keep them afterwards clear from weeds, till the leaves cover the ground, after which no further culture will be required. Parsneps will continue growing till the frosts are very severe, and are not good for use until they have become ripe, late in autumn. Anything which is to be used early in the season may be sown with parsnips, such as carrots to draw young, radishes, lettuces, &c.

Preserving during winter.—The parsnep is not so liable as the carrot to be hurt by frost if left in the ground, and some let them remain where they grew through winter. But the best way is to dig them some time in November. They should not be wounded nor bruised in digging; neither should the tops be cut off very close to the roots, nor any of the lateral roots cut off. In either case the roots will rot or become bitter. "Many lose their parsneps, or make them sprout, by putting them in a warm cellar. It is better to keep them in some out-house, or in a cellar that freezes; for no degree of frost ever hurts them. But to prevent their drying too much, it is best to cover them with dry sods, or else bury them in sand that has no moisture in it. Beach sand is improper, because the salt in it will make them vegetate."—*Deane.*

Field culture of Parsneps.—In giving an account of the agriculture of the island of Jersey, an English writer says: "Parsneps are grown by every farmer, either by the spade culture alone, by the plough and spade, or by the small and great plow; any soil in good heart and tilth suits them, but peculiarly a deep loam; and in the same spot, generally, are raised beans, peas, cabbage, and occasionally potatoes.

"When the plowing or digging is completed, the field is once harrowed; straight lines are then drawn across, by means of a gardener's rake, usually from north to south; women then proceed with dibbles and set the beans in rows, at a distance of four inches, or five inches, from bean to bean, in four, three, and sometimes two ranks of beans, leaving intervals of between five and six feet between each of the sown rows. In the use of the dibble, and in dropping the beans, the women have acquired considerable dexterity. In many instances they are followed by children, who drop into each hole made by the dibble, after the bean, three or four peas; the parsnep seed is then sown at the rate of one-third to one-half of a bushel to the acre."—*Quayle's General View of the Normal Islands.*

Use.—The writer above quoted, asserts that in the island of Jersey, parsnep "is eaten with meat, with milk, and with butter; but not, as is the common mode of using it as human food in England, with salt fish, or, as in Ireland, together with potatoes.

"The next most valuable application of this root is hog feeding. At first it is given to the animal in a raw state, afterwards boiled or steamed, and finally, for a week or fortnight, with bean and oat-meal. A hog treated in this way is sufficiently fatted for killing in about six weeks. Its flesh is held superior to that arising from any other food, and does not waste in boiling.

"Bullocks are also fatted with parsneps in

about three months; their flesh is here considered of superior flavor to any other beef, and commands, on that account, an additional half-penny in the pound on the price. To milch cows they are also usually given; on this diet, the cream assumes a yellow color. By the accounts here given, it appears, in proportion to the milk, to be more abundant than when the animal is kept on any other food whatever. When the cow receives at the rate of thirty-five pounds per day, with hay, seven quarts, ale measure, of the milk produce seventeen ounces of butter. It is generally allowed that the flavor of the butter is superior to any other produced in winter.

"Geese are sometimes shut up with the hogs to fatten on parsneps, which they will eat raw. The root is also given boiled; and for a week before killing they are fed with oats or barley only. Horses eat this root greedily; but in this island it is never given them, as it is alleged that, fed on this food, their eyes are injured. About Morlais, horses are not only ordinarily fed on parsneps, but they are considered as the best of all food, superior even to oats."

To save Seed.—Transplant some of the best roots as early as the frost will permit in the spring, two feet asunder, inserted over the crown. They will produce seed plentifully in autumn.—*Fessenden's Farmer & Gardener.*

The policy of parsnep cultivation by our farmers is held by some to be doubtful. We would invite discussion to the subject, from those who are familiar with it.—Eds.

THE ONION.

Soil and Culture.—The onion, "to attain a good size, requires rich, mellow ground, on a dry sub-soil. If the soil be poor or exhausted, recruit it with a compost of fresh loam and well-consumed dung, avoiding to use stable dung in a rank, unreduced state. Turn in the manure to a moderate depth; and, in digging the ground, let it be broken fine. Grow pickles on poor, light ground, to keep them small. The market-gardeners at Hexham sow their onion seed on the same ground for twenty or more years in succession, but annually manure the soil. After digging and levelling the ground, the manure, in a very rotten state, is spread upon it, the onion seed sown upon the manure, and covered with earth from the alleys, and the crops are abundant, and excellent in quality."—*Hart. Trans.* i. 121.

Deane's *New England Farmer* says: "A spot of ground should be chosen for them which is moist and sandy, because they require much heat and a considerable degree of moisture. A low situation, where the sand has been washed down from a neighboring hill, is very proper for them. The most suitable manures are old, rotton cow and horse dung mixed, ashes, and especially soot. A small quantity of ashes or sand, or both, should be spread over them after sowing, especially if the soil be not sandy. And it is not amiss to roll the ground after sowing, or harden the surface with the back of a shovel."

Mr. Armstrong says: "It is propagated either by the seed or by the bulbs. In the first case you sow in shallow drills, twelve or fourteen inches apart; cover with mould, and when the plants come up thin them, so that they may stand three or four inches from each other. The sooner this is done in the spring, after the earth has acquired a temperature favorable to vegetation, the better will be your crop. It only remains to keep the earth loose and clean about the roots, and, if the vegetation be too vigorous, to break down the tops, so as to determine the juices to the bulks. In the other case you but employ the small and half-grown onion of the previous fall instead of seed."

Mr. Hubbard, of Concord, Mass., in an article published in the *N. E. Farmer*, vol. iii., p. 89, says: "The soil ought to be a *deep, black loam*, that will crumble fine when the plow passes through it; such as is easily raked smooth and pulverized. A heavy, clammy soil, that adheres together when both wet and dry—a dry, clayey, or a sandy soil, will not answer. I know of no vegetable that is so difficult to please with a soil as the onion; though they will grow well, yet they will not ripen, but hold green throughout the fall, and many of them will be what are generally known by the name of *scullions*, with the neck stiff and green; whereas those on suitable ground are ripe and dry by the first of September. Rotten stable-manure, made in the winter preceding the spring in which it is put on the land, is generally made use of, to be spread on the ground and plowed in. I have a piece of ground four rods square, on which onions have been raised, I suppose, these *eighty years;* and since I have improved it, I have yearly spread upon it five cart-loads of manure, such as are usually drawn by one pair of oxen; and have raised from *four to seven hundred* bunches of onions upon it, at three and a half pounds to the bunch, of which about sixteen make a bushel."—*Fessenden's Farmer & Gardener.*

☞ The two great fleeces of wool, the finest and heaviest yet recorded, were those we had the pleasure and satisfaction to exhibit for the owners at the State Fair at Sacramento, and at the Alameda County Fair at Oakland. At both places they attracted great notice. The fleeces of the buck "Grizzly," from Messrs. Flint, Bixby & Co., San Juan, weighed forty-two and one-half pounds, and was of superior style and fineness, and was esteemed the best ever shorn. The fleece of the buck "Samson," from John Searle, Esq., of San Juan, was thirty-four pounds, and very superior—equal in quality and fineness to any ever shown.—*Cal. Ex.* Fishy.—Eds.

SUGAR CANE CULTURE IN WISCONSIN.

That the almost entire failure last year in the cultivation of the sorghum crop, has considerably dampened the ardor of many who had embarked with zeal in its cultivation, cannot be doubted. But when it is borne in mind what a peculiar season it was, and how destructive even to Indian corn, we think there is little ground for much disheartening in the cultivation of the sorghum. Old men remark that so singular and unpropitious a season has not been experienced since 1816. Let us hope there will not be again for as long a lapse of time. Let us hope also, that those who have faith will still continue to persevere in their efforts until a fair trial at least is given to this new product of our soil.

When it is remembered that from two to three millions per annum is yearly paid out of our young and poor State for sweets, every economist must certainly be impressed with the great importance of counteracting this large and increasing draft upon us if possible, by so apparently feasible a home production; sound policy for the State as well as economy and profit to the citizen, seems to call loudly for success if practicable in this direction; and we certainly see no season to the contrary.

All past experience proves that wherever dent corn will grow and ripen, either sorghum or imphee can also be grown and matured sufficiently for syrup at least, if not for sugar. We think, nay we expect, that failures will occasionally happen, with the utmost experience and care; still not oftener than with corn or wheat. The seed may not ordinarily ripen well in our climate; but in that case it will be but little trouble or expense to obtain it annually from the south, after the practice is once well established. But we think it will yet ripen here at home, and thus save the trouble.

Many portions of Iowa and Minnesota raised fair crops of cane last season, and it is said are supplying their home wants mainly from its products in those localities, greatly to their advantage in these hard times, when they really have little or nothing with which to pay for such articles from abroad.

Let those, then, of our own State, who are properly situated to do so, still plant small fields of the sorghum or imphee, which they think will do best, and give it another trial.

So far as the machinery goes for manufacturing, it has been greatly improved within the last year or two, beyond a doubt, not only for grinding but for clarifying and boiling. There are mills now offered for sale that will do efficient work without breaking, and which are not very expensive. While on the subject of boiling or evaporating pans there is no doubt but great perfection has been attained to already; we have seen one or two in use that did the best of work, and did it both rapidly and efficiently, even making good brown sugar with well ripened and selected cane. Some may question this last item, but it is nevertheless true beyond doubt. We shall speak more at length and specifically in relation to this machinery hereafter. We think we have watched the matter so closely for the last year or two, that we are perfectly well posted in relation to it.

As to the matter and manner of cultivation, we shall say but little, as it is a part of the subject that has already and often been well explained and demonstrated; but one of the first essentials of that is good seed, not only such as will vegetate, but such as will have some vigor to aid its early development. We have seen but little if any seed ripened in the State that seemed as mature and full as that of two hundred miles south of here. Perhaps further experience may disprove this idea.

Then the seed should always be tested before planting, an easy job for any one, if got about.

It should not be planted until the ground is warm and promotive of vegetation. Soaking and rolling in plaster or ashes so as to hasten its coming up ahead of the weeds, and to hasten its usually slow early growth, is highly important, and should never be omitted. A wise gardening friend recently suggested that he always soaked such seeds in new milk, instead of water, and found it vastly more efficacious; he claimed to have got up sugar cane seed in less than three days from planting, which, if so, is a deal better than lying in the ground from two to three weeks, as is almost uniformly the case with seed planted unsoaked.

Low rich lands are not adapted to the growth of the cane in this short seasoned climate; it neither comes forward early, nor matures in season. Such land if well underdrained would undoubtedly do well, but in case of early frosts would be much more likely to be cut than if on high land. We demonstrated that fact last year, by ripening good

cane upon a high piece of ground, where it continued to grow and mature for three weeks after all was whitened with frost upon surrounding low lands; therefore we would especially prefer high and airy locations, with a rich warm soil.

The trouble and expense of obtaining machinery to manufacture the cane when grown, will undoubtedly deter many from further planting at present. But this obstacle is no greater than what is presented by many other operations. When three or four neighbors can club together and get a good stout mill and evaporating pan, such as are fit for the purpose, the further trouble and expense of their use will be found but trifling. A desire to get the mills up cheap, so as to be within the reach of all, and at the same time to pay a large profit, has hitherto mainly made them failures, and proved the worst economy to all parties.

In closing this article, we cannot do less than express a hope that the cane will again be extensively planted the coming season, and syrup and sugar enough made from it to at least half supply the State for the ensuing year. It would cut off a large drain upon our scanty incomes, and in no great while be sensibly felt in our financial prosperity. Let not our farmers give up so promising a resource on so scanty a trial.

FARM HEDGES — THE ENGLISH GOLDEN WILLOW.—I have on my premises a large amount of interval and marshy ground, and, in laying out my land and ditches, I throw up embankments where I want my fences. As soon as the bank becomes sufficiently decomposed and rotted, I drive my posts into the bank of the ditch, and one pole on the top of the posts is enough to keep the cattle off until the hedge is large enough to protect itself. I stick my willow sprouts each side of the line of posts, one foot apart, and having two rows one foot from each other. The sprouts should be set in each other's intermediate spaces, which will bring them six inches apart.

I have twenty-four rods of willow hedge which has been set and grown two summers, and it looks beautiful both summer and winter. My cattle have run by the side of the hedge this last fall without molesting it in the least. The hedge stands, on an average, about eight feet high, and when leaved out will be almost impenetrable to the eye. The coming spring will give me a large amount of slips, enough perhaps to set one thousand roots.

My mode of setting willow hedge is this:—Drive my posts first, by a line, six or eight feet apart, according to the lumber I happen to have. Saw off and level the tops; two and a-half feet is high enough; then set my willows by making holes with an iron bar.

March is the time to set, or as soon as the frost gets out of the ground. The English willow never spreads from the roots, but grows into a bushy top in any shape you may desire to train it. I design to have an ambrotype likeness taken of my hedge.

E. WEEKS.

Napoleon, Feb. 18, 1860.

NOTE.—We have experimented some with this Golden Willow, as a hedge for low lands, and are of the opinion that it is a good article for that purpose. We have failed once or twice in cutting our slips too late in the spring. The earlier they are cut and set the better; they ought also to be set down near enough to the water line to give them ample moisture, a highly essential thing with the willow.

Our experiments have thus far proved best upon the banks of ditches; i. e., into the sides of ditches a little below the surface of the land. Those that we have planted upon the bank or fence cast up above the surface, have usually made a slender growth, and sometimes died out in midsummer. We have planted far enough apart for posts for a fence usually, calculating that after they are grown to a moderate size boards or poles can be attached to them for a cheap fence.—EDS.

PLASTER TRADE.—The demand for Grand Rapids plaster seems to be rapidly increasing. The amount shipped by the Detroit & Milwaukee railway, and sold at retail, by the three manufacturing firms of this city, for the four weeks ending February 27th, is as follows:

Hovey & Co., by railroad,	999 tons.
Sanford & Co., "	588 "
McReynolds & Stewart, do,	569 "
Retail sales combined,	263 "
Total,	2,419

We are acquainted with Messrs. Hovey & Co., and can recommend both them and their plaster, as all right. They will probably establish agencies through our State soon. —EDS.

THE PEA-BUG.—In Landreth's *Rural Register* for 1860, we find the following in relation to the pea-bug. We have no doubt the method recommended will prove a remedy, as MR. L. speaks only of his own knowledge. We tried last year the remedy suggested in, we think, the London *Gardiner's Chronicle*, of scalding the pea before planting; but it did

not prove of the least benefit, except in causing the pea to germinate some days earlier:

This troublesome little insect, which deposits its egg in the pea while in the pod, might be even more mischievous than it is, for by some wonderful provision it is taught to avoid the germ or seat of life; and strange as it appears to the inexperienced, peas which are nearly eaten to a shell vegetate with almost as much certainty, though not with equal vigor, as those untouched. It would be well, however, if we were rid of his attentions, and a method seems within our reach. It is simply as follows: so soon as the pea is dry enough to harvest, let it be placed in a *tight vessel* and pulverized camphor, at the rate of two ounces to the bushel, or a table spoonful of sulphuric ether to a similar quantity, be applied; in a few days, if not hours, the bugs will be found sickened, and ultimately dead. If each person who saves peas would adopt the course described, we should ere long rid ourselves of a pestiferous insect.

[From the Country Gentleman and Cultivator.]

How to Farm Profitably.—*Messrs. Editors:*—You have done me the honor to quote me as saying that there are in my neighborhood twenty farmers, owning on an average twenty acres of land each, who carefully cultivate their own acres, with their own hands; and who by their culture, lay up a net profit of from three to five hundred dollars each year. This is so, and I can easily name the individuals referred to. They are all situate north of me. On the other side, between me and the neighboring cities, is another farmer, owning as much land as all the others, and who has all the facilities for advantageous cultivation that wealth can afford—and all the ambition to be reputed a good farmer, necessary to secure active exertion. He moves about his grounds and his barn-yard with his gloves on, and gives all orders to his laborers as though he knew what he was about—at least, as though he thought he knew. For twenty years or more I have watched the movements of these men—those who worked with their own hands early and late; and he who, sitting in his carriage, gave his orders after breakfast with his gloves on. What has been the result of these different modes of farming? I have no hesitation n saying, that one-half of the proprietors of *only twenty acres* have realized at the end of the year more *clear profit* from their operations than has the proprietor of the *four hundred acres*. Hence we learn the true policy to be pursued by New England farmers. Cultivate so much land as can be well done, and work yourself.

J. W. Proctor.

Essex County, Mass.

☞ It is not sufficient for legislators to close the avenues to crime; they should open those which lead to virtue.

Cheap Paint.—A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman*, writing from Clifton, C. W., gives the following recipe for cheap paint:

I see in the "Co. Gent." an inquiry for a cheap paint. Enclosed is one I sent to the "Niagara Mail" in January, which I *know* to be first rate.

Take one bushel of unslacked lime and slack it with cold water; when slacked add to it 20 lbs. of Spanish whiting, 17 lbs. of salt, and 12 lbs. of sugar. Strain this mixture through a wire sieve, and it will be fit for use after reducing with cold water. This is intended for the outside of buildings, or where it is exposed to the weather. In order to give a good color, three coats are necessary on brick and two on wood. It may be laid on with a brush similar to whitewash. Each coat must have sufficient time to dry before the next is applied.

For painting inside walls, take as before one bushel of unslacked lime, 3 lbs. of sugar, 5 lbs. of salt, and prepare as above, and apply with a brush.

I have used it on brick, and find it well calculated to preserve them—it is far preferable to oil paint. I have used it on wood, and assure you that it will last longer on rough siding than oil paint will on plained siding or boards.

You can make any color you please; if you wish straw color, use yellow ochre instead of whitening; for lemon color, ochre and chrome yellow; for lead and slate color, lampblack; for blue, indigo; for green, chrome green. These different kinds of paint will not cost more than one-fourth as much as oil paints, including labor of putting on.

Experiment with Potatoes.—There exists among farmers a great diversity of opinion respecting the most profitable way of planting potatoes. Some plant *whole* seed, and some *cut* it. Mr. Alfred Lapham, of Burrillville, has for several years made experiments in this respect. This year he experimented anew. He planted 23 hills with *whole* potatoes; 23 hills with *cut* potatoes, *three* pieces in a hill; and 23 hills with *two* pieces. The seed was averaged by weight and size. The result was as follows: The 23 hills of *uncut* potatoes yielded 55¼ lbs.; the 23 hills with *three* pieces, 27½ lbs.; the 23 hills with *two* pieces, 34 lbs. The potatoes were weighed in presence of Mr. William E. Vallet, who certifies to the above facts and figures. Mr. Lapham tells us the potatoes were all planted together in the same field, side by side, and the same quantity and quality of manure put in all the hills.—*Woonsocket Patriot.*

☞ Chief Justice Taney, of the Supreme Court of the United States, is in the 85th year of his age, and all his eight associate justices, except one, are over seventy years.

STOCK REGISTER.

[From the New York Tribune.]

CASSIUS M. CLAY ON STOCK-BREEDING.

New Haven, Feb. 22, 1860.

Mr. Clay's first lecture was given in the Baptist Church, to an audience of several hundred persons. He commenced by stating that he had come here as a progressive farmer, to lend his aid and influence to a movement which he deemed of great importance, and the necessity for which he had for years appreciated. We hear it said on every hand, and especially by politicians, that farming is a respectable business; but he thought that no amount of honied phrases or plausible talk would make any calling respectable. If farmers would be really respected, they must refine themselves, and not wait for it to be done by others. They must carry their capital into the country and use it judiciously in advancing their farm practice. Taste should be cultivated; and rural architecture, landscape, gardening, and other things which render a country attractive, should especially be fostered. To further this great object this convention had been called—thanks to the sagacity and enterprise of Prof. Porter; and although it would have been perhaps more convenient to him, Mr. Clay, if it had held its session in Kentucky, yet it being in Connecticut he was willing to come hither; for what tended to promote the advancement of New England farming was as dear to his heart as if it were especially pointed at Kentucky interests. It is the sheerest madness for farmers to rob their farms and invest their funds in stocks and bonds, for the application of capital to farm improvement would give as large comparative profits as it would in any other business. The introduction of better classes of farm stock, Mr. Allen had told us, would add from forty to sixty millions of dollars annually to our wealth. If we took this sum for a few years and applied it to farm improvement, what magnificent results would be attained! Through the interior of Kentucky the farmers were so sensible of the profit derivable from improved stock, that they would no longer purchase common scrubs at any price, nor even give them standing room on their farms. For they had found, and others would find, that to purchase them at any price was, in the long run, poor economy.

He would not attempt to describe all the multifarious breeds of the civilized world, but would confine his remarks to the five leading British breeds—the Alderney or Jersey, the Devon, the Hereford, and the Short-horn. In size and weight the Alderney is the smallest. It is supposed to have come from Normandy, but has been improved in the Channel Islands, and is generally superior to what it formerly was. It is a picturesque looking animal in appearance, rather than a strictly beautiful one. Those which he had seen were mostly ewe-necked, sway-backed, high in the withers, full-bellied and gaunt. But he understood that by skillful breeding there had been many individuals of the breed made up to symmetry and development quite creditable. The Alderney, he conceded, gives the richest of all milks, but little in quantity. Taken to the country, it was an active animal, capable of getting a living on scanty pastures. It will thrive in some degree almost any where with us, but undoubtedly does best in districts which are the same isothermally as its native land.

The Devons are said to have been brought to England with the Celts, and are perhaps rightly regarded as the oldest breed of the British Isles. They are a degree larger than the Alderney, are heavy in the head, do not carry out the rump well, but are a very good animal withal. They give rather more milk than the Alderney, and of almost as rich a quality. They are not very heavy in the brisket, and being narrow between the shoulders, are enabled to move briskly, and are thus adapted to working under the yoke, although rather light for heavy draft, and hence they have been improved by a cross of the Short-horn. The long-horns have been tried in Kentucky, but abandoned, for they did not prove either famous milkers or feeders. The Devon is too small for Kentucky, and for other districts like it where there is abundance of heavy rich pasturage. They do not aim at getting single famous milkers in his State, for they keep many animals, and a little milk from several is fully adequate to their purpose.

The Hereford he does not deem an original breed, for they were formerly of a dun and dark color, and are now white faced and throated; a peculiarity which he thought owing to a cross with the Glamorgans. Their greatest inferiority was that they were miserable milkers; a very bad fault, for there are doubtless a thousand persons who wish a milking animal, to one who wants to make beef. The Hereford, as compared with the Short-horn, is coarser in the shoulder and thicker in the hide, besides wanting that general symmetry which characterizes their great rivals. A good handling quality of hide is highly prized by the butcher, for a mellow, spongy skin indicates a good quality of beef, and that well "marbled." In this important feature he had found the Hereford deficient. He was aware that this breed is a favorite with butchers, but thought it greatly due to the fact that it lays on its fat in patches, on the inside of the carcass, and thus goes in the "fifth quarter" as the butcher's perquisite.

The Short-horn he deems an original, and not, as is generally supposed, a created breed. They vary much, it is true, in color, but these variations are well defined, and evermore re-

peated. He had never seen a real short-horn without some patch of white spot on it. The phisiognomy of the race is the same as in olden times; a fact which he thought demonstrated in their resemblance at this day to the outline of an old Yorkshire cow sculptured centuries ago upon a marble slab in an old church at Durham. The Short-horn has not only perfection of form, but size, fattening properties, and milking qualities as well. In England, Scotland and this country, any dairy which is famous will generally be composed of short-horns, either thoroughbred or grades. We may breed out the milking quality, but we may on the other hand develop it to a great extent by careful breeding from milking families. He has had an animal give thirty-two quarts of milk daily, and he believed the breed will make more butter and cheese than any other. In early maturity they are unrivaled. At two years old they have been sent from Kentucky to the New York market in prime condition.

He was not of those who admitted that the improved short-horn family had been created by Charles and Robert Colling, for Colling himself admitted that he had bought fine animals wherever he could find them before he began to breed for himself. He had bred judiciously, and improved the breed, but its origin must be sought prior to the days of Charles Colling's Hubback. Perhaps it may not be advisable to use them in New England to the exclusion of other cattle; but throughout the whole interior of this country, where the climate is fair and the pasturage good, they would, as they had in Kentucky already, run out any other of the leading breeds which might be placed in competition with them.

The Ayrshire is essentially a modern breed. At least there was no such breed famous in Ayr a hundred years ago; and he was of the impression that it had originated in a cross of the short-horn with the West-Highlanders. It has many of the characteristics of the short-horn; is, next to it, the heaviest feeder, and its great milking properties he thinks due to that part of its parentage. Carried to our poorer pastures, the Ayrshire does not thrive as well as on its native fields. Some public-spirited farmers in Kentucky have recently imported some of the breed, and will give it another fair trial; but Mr. Clay believes the same unfavorable result will follow as has heretofore.

Mr. Clay claimed that his favorite breed possessed all the essential points of true beauty. Beauty, he thought, was composed of five elements. 1st, Propriety: That is the adaptation of means to an end. The full impression of beauty is never conveyed to the cultivated mind if the eye is shocked at seeing an unsuitableness of form to the purpose in view. 2d. The elliptical line or the oval: We make our picture frames oval because that is the most beautiful shape, and so do we our plats of grass and the leading feature of a landscape garden, while the female face is never absolutely faultless unless it presents the oval form, when viewed in front. 3d. Color: The brightest gems are the best, and the greatest luxuriance of tints are lavished by nature where she makes her loveliest handiwork. 4th. Smoothness of surface: The angular form is not admissible in a connection with the subject of the beautiful; and roughness is merely angularity infinitely multiplied. 5th. Proportion, or the harmonious arrangement of parts: All these qualities he thought combined in the perfected Short-horn of our time; and we are bound to respect the beautiful, for we spend at least ten times as much for it as we do for the purely utilitarian.

Mr. Clay illustrated his remarks with the aid of a large painted sketch of one of his Short-horn cows, which was suspended at the back of the platform. He was loudly applauded on resuming his seat, as also was the announcement by Prof. Porter that the second lecture would be given to-morrow morning.

STOCK-WATER CISTERNS. PROTECTION TO FRUIT TREES, HUNGARIAN GRASS, &c., &c.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Sirs—I wish to inquire of "Subscriber" in your March number, how he builds his cisterns for "stock water" near a ravine where there is a natural surface wash? I am not certain of my acquaintance with "Subscriber," but I remember a conversation between a Middleton farmer and myself, in which he advocated cisterns situated in such places—*cemented* on the sides; but I am sure I convinced him that his plan of a cistern constructed thus, near the surface of the ground, would *surely fail* on account of the action of the frost. Probably he now means to construct them on the usual plan—sinking them so far below the surface of the ground as to be beyond the reach of frost. I would then ask, if the surface water would not deposit such an amount of mud, &c., in the cistern as to rot the cement? His plan may turn out a good one; but I am inclined to think that a well could be made as cheaply, in most places. The absence of stock water amounts almost to a curse in many parts of Wisconsin; and I have long contrived to find some means to get a supply by a cheaper method than blasting through a rock, which sometimes costs more than the farm is worth, and useless from their great depth when obtained. I know of one well in this neighborhood which has cost $700, and is about seventy feet deep, and another one hundred and twenty feet deep, cost unknown. The rock

in each instance was a conglomeration of *flint pebbles*, limestone, and something like dried mortar; which defied the attacks of the best tempered chisels, and when a blast was discharged the power would be exhausted in some hidden seam, and rumble away under the ground like a "young earthquake."

How early in the winter should those boards be placed on the south-west side of the trees, and how long remain in the spring? The damage may be done early in the spring, but the trees generally do well till the intense heat of summer comes on, in July or August, and then die. Should the mulching be removed in May, or should it remain all summer? I have noticed that the ground bakes and cracks severely, when it has been thus uncovered in hot weather. Would not an old piece of carpet or canvas answer better than these boards, and be less liable to injure the tender bark of the trees, and less in the way when removed, and easier to apply?

I hope "Subscriber" will answer these questions as soon as possible—the time is at hand to practice on them.

S.

BIG YIELD OF HUNGARIAN GRASS.

P. S.—I have deferred giving you an account of the yield from *one* acre of Hungarian grass. Many persons have doubted the yield, but the stubble field can easily be measured now. I cut about seven tons of hay at one crop, and kept three horses (and part of the time four) from the middle of July until the middle of February, besides using a large quantity to bind my corn stalks, and have a small quantity still on hand. Had the season been a wet one, I should have cut eight tons the first and about three tons the second crop, from *one* acre. The hay was well cured, small straw, heavy heads, large blades, abounding in sugar, and my horses were never in better condition. I fed it as I would timothy hay, and cannot believe that it is inferior to timothy in quality. As to marsh hay, I would prefer Hungarian grass by "great odds." I presume it is exhausting to the soil; but select an acre of poor land, and put on the manure that is suffered to go to waste in nearly every Wisconsin stock pen. It won't be much work to manure *only one acre*. I would not recommend more than one acre to many farmers, on account of the dislike to saving and applying manure.

S.

SHEEP AND WOOL IN CALIFORNIA.

The following tables show the number of sheep, and the pounds of the wool-clip in the various counties in the State, the figures for those counties marked with an asterisk being taken from last year's reports:—

Counties.	Sheep	Counties.	Sheep.
Monterey	94,364	Tulare	6,570
Solano*	51,655	El Dorado	5,552
Sacramento	35,660	Santa Barbara*	5,503
San Luis Obispo	30,021	Mariposa	5,000
Napa	23,087	Santa Cruz	5,000
Alameda	23,000	Calaveras*	4,530
Colusi	22,000	Merced*	4,000
Los Angeles*	20,910	Amador	3,998
Sinoma	20,063	Mendocino	3,967
Butte	20,290	Fresno	3,440
San Joaquin	19,785	San Francisco	2 003
Contra Costa	19,545	San Mateo	1,997
Yolo	15,866	Tuolumne	1,600
Sutte*	13,231	Shasta	1,500
Marin	9,459	Humbo dt*	1,506
Placer	8,295	Del Norte	960
Tehema*	6,943	Siskiyou	500
Total,			491,738

Counties.	Wool	Counties.	Wool.
Monterey	870,000	Sacramento	37,412
Yolo	74,320	Yuba	30,000
Santa Clara	67,000	Stanislaus	25,000
Colusi	66,000	Mendocino	12,820
San Joaquin	60,380	Santa Cruz	12,000
Alameda	56,410	El Dorado	10,000
Placer	50,000	San Bernardino	10,000
Sonoma	40,467	Butte	9 966
Napa	40,000	San Mateo	8,000
San Luis Obispo	40,000	Contra Costa	4,000
		Del Norte	3,000
Total,			1,026,725

From these tables it appears that two pounds of wool are clipped for each sheep. But the wool-clip and the number of sheep bear a very uneven proportion to each other, as we compare the leading counties one with another. Monterey shows an extremely large wool-clip, because a great flock from Mexico were sheared in that county, and then sold and scattered. Yolo is the second among the wool counties, but the thirteenth among the sheep counties. Solano, the second sheep county, does not appear in the wool list, and Santa Clara, the third in the wool list, does not appear among the sheep. The wool yield of the State is 1500 pounds per day; enough to keep several mills in activity.—*Cal. Farmer.*

It will be seen by the foregoing that California has almost one-half more sheep than Wisconsin, a fact that is not probably so understood.

Wisconsin is in our view more inexcusably shiftless in sheep matters than in almost any other. We publish the foregoing to enable us to make the comparison with young California, whose sheep soon bid fair to shear as golden fleeces as will be yielded by her mines.—EDS. FARMER.

CHESTER CO. PIGS.—HOW TO PREVENT SOWS EATING THEIR PIGS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—In the course of my reading this evening, the *Farmer* of the 15th inst. has been duly attended to, (having only received it to-day,) yielding its usual quota of instruction and gratification; enabling me to endorse fully and heartily the remarks upon that point contained in the communication of your subscriber and correspondent, L. R. Bingham, of Grant county, who evidently has a fair appreciation of a *practically* conducted journal. However, all that, though very pleasing to me, would not have induced the writing of this at this time o' night, especially just after seeing a few modest and friendly suggestions, penned in a quiet sensible way, paraded in stiff type before the huudreds who care nothing for our views about such matters; though, I suppose, it has not hurt us nor any one else, *very* badly. But being always ready to impart any information in our possession, this is merely to reply to Mr. Bingham's inquiry respecting the White Chester Pigs, of Pennsylvania. Though not able to speak of them from a long experience, I have derived considerable information respecting them from parties who are well posted.

They are much larger than the Suffolk pig, and of course not so fine, nor with quite as great a tendency to early maturity and rapid fattening on very light feed; but on the other hand they are more hardy, having rather more hair to shield them from the changes of our climate, and have naturally stronger constitutions, hence are more easily raised. In the region of country where they are bred, they are held in high esteem, much above the Suffolk, and there is no disposition to cross them upon any other breed, they being considered *just about right*, as they are. Though coming under the head of large breeds, they are not coarse, having small heads, and a small proportion of offal, and fatten easily—at ten months they can be made to dress 400 lbs., and at eighteen to twenty-four months from 500 to 700 lbs., the latter age being the one at which most all packing pork is slaughtered, yet it will be noticed that the weights given are much above the average of packing hogs. I have for a number of years bred the Suffolks, and now have them pure, and have been well satisfied with them; but they need good care, being inclined to tenderness—and many think them too small; packers usually like a heavier hog, but for nice family pork they are hard to beat!

Last summer I procured some of the White Chesters for the purpose of crossing them upon the Suffolks, and of testing the respective breeds side by side under like circumstances; and at some future time I hope to be able to speak more positively respecting the comparative merits of the two breeds, from personal experience. Should I be favored with "pig luck" we may have some to dispose of in the spring; several have already engaged Chester pigs, provided there is any surplus.

By the way, having been replying to pig inquiries, I would like, in closing, to make one in turn, viz: What will prevent a sow eating her offspring? The thing seems quite unnatural, and is extremely repugnant to witness or even to think of, nevertheless the beasts will sometimes do it! I have been troubled with such cases, and having heard that salt pork would satisfy the craving in the sow for meat, have given that, but it don't meet the case. It is certainly a great disappointment to see a fine litter of pigs going so nearly the same way they came! In one case I strapped the sow's mouth shut, leaving only a space sufficient for receiving a gruel diet, which in connection with a rod was substituted for the *cruel* diet, and thus saved a portion of the litter.

Respectfully yours,

Edw. M. Danforth.

Summit, Feb. 23, 1860—11 P. M.

[Who can give the desired information as to the above mentioned cannibalism? We are not posted on the subject.—Eds.]

More big Hogs.—*Eds. Farmer*:—Gents—In looking over the *Farmer*, I see several articles in relation to the weight of the best four hogs; but will say that I can boast of better ones. I slaughtered in December, 1859, five hogs, which weighed in the aggregate 2,410 lbs.; their average weight was 482 lbs. Who can beat that? Marcellon, please try again.

Yours truly, S. Newton.

Princeton, Green Lake Co.

☞ Some breeders of animals say the male always confers the external structure of the offspring, while the female gives the internal. The offspring will bear the external conformation and locomotive powers of the sire; and the internal, i. e., the vital organs or constitution, of the dam.—*Ex.* Doubtful.—Eds.

LICE ON CATTLE—GOPHERS AND BLACKBIRDS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—As I have been in the habit of reading the *Farmer*, and have received much valuable information from it, I take this opportunity of giving some of my experience in destroying lice on cattle and calves, and ticks on sheep. I have tried almost every recipe that I have heard of, but found none that had the desired effect without injury to the animal, such as feeding sulphur, and copperas in sufficient quantities to saturate the blood more or less according to the weather at time of feeding. My way is to smoke them with tobacco, blowing it into the hair about the nose, head and neck, along the back and wherever the lice are most to be found. I have used this for four or five years to a perfect satisfaction. It makes the hair soft and smooth, and makes it smell so much like a tobacco smoker that they cannot stand it. What it does not kill, the rest run for their lives; they cannot stand the smoke.

The instrument I use is made of tin shaped like a tin horn, about six inches long, with a cover that fits tight over the big end, two and a half inches in diameter, with a small tube in the centre soldered to the cover to blow through. Put the tobacco in with a coal of fire on top, and the cover fitting tight, the smoke goes through the tobacco, which makes it all the stronger. Last fall I bought several calves, some of them were poor and covered with blue lice; I have smoked them twice and now there is not one to be found on them, and they look slick as kittens.

If I do not weary you with my rough way of writing, I will tell you and the readers of the *Farmer*, how I used up the gophers and blackbirds last spring, which were very troublesome here. I took two quarts of small corn and soaked it well in warm water, until it was swelled full; took one quart one morning, without anything on it, and sowed it over the field where they worked the most; the next morning took the other quart, drained the water off, took two spoonsful of sugar and mixed it well, and all disolved and dry enough to be sticky; took one-fourth of a bottle of strychnine, put it in little at a time, stiring it well to have it well mixed, and sowed it around the field. They followed me close and picked it up as they did the day before, but they found themselves caught, and not enough left to tell the story. There was hardly another bird seen about the field for a long time.

Yours, W. Emerick.

Oxford, Feb. 21, 1860.

WOOL GROWING IN IOWA.

The following letter is furnished us by H. W. Fyffe, Esq., of Iowa City, to whom it was addressed by its author. We are permitted to publish it:

"I cheerfully contribute my testimony in favor of wool growing in Iowa. I have about six hundred sheep—Spanish and French Merino. I prefer the Spanish, but consider a cross of these preferable to either, thus securing the heavy fleece of the Spanish upon the larger frame of the French. I have always found I could buy a partial improvement, say three-fourths, cheaper than I can make it. I never saw sheep do better than upon the prairies up to about 1st October. Every wool grower should be provided with tame grass, or some equivalent. I have found pumpkins, and perhaps some grain, fed judiciously, an excellent substitute. My principal feed is Hungarian grass or millet and carrots.

And in this connection, let me say a word in favor of the former. I have tried it thoroughly, and prefer it to any thing I ever saw given to sheep. I prefer it to tame hay by, say, two tons of the millet to three of the tame hay. Of course, a change of feed is desirable, and have found corn fodder, sown and harvested similar to grain, the best. In point of economy, the Hungarian grass is unobjectionable. I believe it can be raised cheaper than prairie hay can be cut.

Roots, I believe, are indispensable to the perfect health of sheep. I feed to each 100 sheep 300 bushels carrots, with 10 to 13 tons of millet. Have had no diseases to contend with, although I have had as high as 1,100 herded together during the summer. Do not believe a healthy flock of Merinos will contract disease, with proper care. Always keep salt with a little sulphur mixed within reach of every one. I generally keep from 75 to 100 in each yard; provide straw or hay shelter, and feed outside in the common board rack with bottoms. Intend all shall have access to running water. There can be no objection to wintering sheep upon the prairie, provided they are *completely protected from the wind.*

I think the climate of this State admirably adapted to wool growing, the winters being dry, and sufficiently cold to give the fine quality and good staple necessary to a profitable fleece. I believe southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois the best section in which to buy sheep; farmers there having devoted more attention to sheep raising, and sheep brought from there suffer little or none from acclimation. Would advise purchasers by all means to ship by railway in preferene to driving.

Stanley McFarland.

—*Prairie Farmer.*

To cure Scratches on Horses.—Wash their legs with warm soap-suds, and then with beef brine; two applications will cure the worst case.

FARMS AND STOCK IN DODGE COUNTY.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—In looking over the town of Oak Grove, Dodge county, we find many of the finest farms in the State; and much superior stock, sheep, and horses—with excellent buildings.

At A. H. Atwater's farm we saw some handsome Essex pigs, and superb sheep of the improved Leicesters. At O. H. Crowl's some fine native and grade cattle. We visited the farm of Tom Marshall, where we saw some spendid Durham cattle and beautiful Spanish sheep; and had a glorious ride after his magnificent horse, "Flying Cloud;" which is, indisputably, one of the noblest horses in this State for action, figure and display; while a number of his colts, in this neighborhood, can't be beaten in the country. He is the purest Black Hawk.

We also saw much good stock and sheep, and fine farms, in the neighborhood of Cole, Vesper, Medbery, Drown, Classon and Barber, where the *Farmer* is much read. Spring work has commenced in good earnest—improving this beautiful weather—which is wise.

D. S. C.

FROM EGYPT.

Eds. Wis. Farmer.—Seeing an inquiry about Chester White Hogs, in the last number of the *Farmer*, I would state that their proper locality is where there is a large amount of coarse grain to be condensed into pork. Any person having a Suffolk boar and Yorkshire sow can raise their own Chester Whites. We have known them sell at $50 per pair; however, at the St. Louis fair last fall good pigs were selling at ten dollars each. Having made more exhibitions of pigs at fairs than any other man in the Western States, I have had abundant opportunities to become posted on all the popular breeds.

Egypt.

South Pass, Union Co., Ill., March 1, 1860.

SALES OF STOCK IN KENTUCKY.

We understand that John M. Clay, Esq., has sold his fine race-horse, Daniel Boone, by Lexington, out of Magnolia, by Glencoe, for $3,000, to Mr. Cockrill, of Tennessee.

☞ Deputy Sheriff Risk, of Scott county, sold at the Court House, on Tuesday the 17th inst., a negro boy for $1,300.—*Kentucky Farmer for Feb.*

HORTICULTURAL.

FRUIT GROWERS OF THE NORTH-WEST.

With the issue of this number of the *Farmer* comes the principal season for setting fruit trees, shrubs, vines, &c.

That you will plant largely, yet judiciously, we confidently expect; and we advise you to give the subject an earnest consideration, as to the best location on your grounds, the most reliable nurseries from which to order, the class and sorts of trees the most desirable and suitable, the manner of planting, of culture, &c.

On these we offer a few brief suggestions:

First, Choose the bluff, the hill, the ridge or knoll, as the case may be—generally the higher the elevation the more sure of success; be not anxious about *shelter*—let the winds blow—they give health. If elevations are not accessible, take any uniformly dry soil, or render it so by successive plowings, (as we recommended in the April number of the *Farmer* last year,) forming ridges of any desired height, the higher the better usually, on which set the row of trees, well up, and preserve the ridge form by plowing the following years, but never seek to raise the ridge after setting.

Bear in mind that thorough surface and under drainage is of the first importance in the location of the orchard, which may be accomplished by ridging and sub-soiling, or the different modes of tile brush, &c., underdrain. If upon descending ground liable to wash, the dead furrows should run at right angles with the descent, with an occasional cross-cut for the water.

Order your trees and plants only from reliable nurserymen, that you may have, first, only the genuine article desired. Second, if there should be found any pernicious mistake the honorable dealer will make full restitution; and here bear in mind, "western trees for western soils;" but more than all, select from a *well tried western list*, or allow the nurseryman to select for you.

There is a certain adaptation of trees to soils, which should be observed. Thus: trees of feeble growth require a strong soil to give increased vigor; those of vigorous growth and inclined to grow late should have a dry, lean soil, to mature them early; while there is a class of trees of great vigor and hardiness adapted to almost all soils. The sandy soil, with loose sub-soil, should have only the most vigorous sorts.

For general and special lists see catalogue, or the new issue of the Agricultural and Fruit Growers' report for 1858–9.

We offer the same suggestions on planting that we did last year. We are more than ever convinced that too deep planting is a fruitful source of the diseased condition of the orchards of the West. Give immediate and thorough mulching after planting, and thorough culture of the whole ground the first few years.

Let them stake themselves with a double brace of good roots, with tops so short as to be little effected by the wind, and so low as to effectually shade the bodies and immediate surrounding surface, thus affording perpetual mulch and preventing bark-bursting, grub-eating, and really one-half the evils incident to fruit trees.

Finally, having rightly purchased and planted your orchard and fruit yard, resolve that henceforth to you, your heirs and executors forever, it is sacred to the original design, and all cultivation, uses and purposes whatever, shall be directed to the growth and development of the choicest fruit.

J. C. PLUMB, '76 Nurseries,
March 14, 1860. Madison, Wis.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

This is a busy season in this department. The crops noted, will, of course, be dependent on the arrival of the *season*, which is rather indicated by the ground becoming warm and dry, than by the almanac. It is very important to have crops early; as soon as the ground is therefore in good condition, put in the seed. Possibly a cold rain might come and injure them, and you may lose and have to make a new sowing. Even so, it is but the loss of the seed and labor, while if the seed do *not* die, the early crop will more than repay that risk.

In the hot-bed, pepper, egg-plant, tomato, and cucumbers may be sown,—and in a cooler hot-bed frame, early york cabbage, cauliflower and celery. Those who have not got a hot-bed can sow a few pots or boxes, and keep them near the light in a warm room.

In the open air, peas and potatoes are about the first crops to be attended to; of the former, the varieties have now become so numerous that even "new grapes" will soon have to give way in that respect. The difference, too, is so slight that we are in doubt whether yet to recommend to our readers any other as the earliest than the Prince Albert, so long cultivated, or the "Extra Earlies" of our own seedsmen. The "Daniel O'Rourke" has become *the* early pea in England, as we see by foreign journals; but we cannot see that it is materially, if at all, different from the Extra Earlies so long grown here. It may be the same thing taken from here, re-baptised, and sent back again to help swell the $700,000 which staticians tell us we sent to Europe last year to pay for our annual little bill of "garden stuff." Of early potatoes, we think Fox's seedling is the earliest, though in some localities the preference is given to the Early Walnut. Beets, the Early Six Week Turnip rooted, is perhaps the earliest. Carrot, the Early Horn. Cucumber, the Early White Spine, or Early Cluster. Lettuce, the Silesian or Early Curled—to cut before heading; and the Early Butter left to head, are the first in season. Amongst the radishes, the Old Short Top and Red and White Turnip are still ahead; and in Spinach, the Old Round Leaved; so that on the whole there has been little advance made on early kinds of vegetables.

In addition to sowing of the above, onions, leeks, parsnips and parsley must be sown at this season—not for the main crop, but to have a few in advance of the rest. To keep over the winter, almost all kinds of root crops become tough or coarse if sown too soon.

The old Green Globe Artichoke, though a delicious vegetable when rightly cooked, is seldom seen in gardens. Now is the time to make beds; they require no peculiar cultivation; what would suit a crop of rhubarb does for this exactly; and the rhubarb—see that your garden is well supplied; now that it can be dried like apples, and preserved in so many ways, it can be had on the table all the year round.—*Gardener's Monthly.*

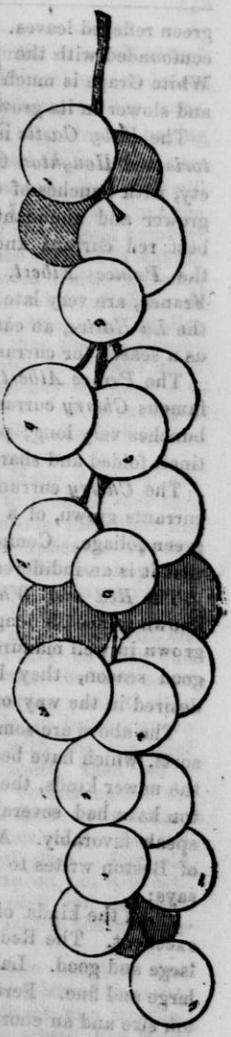
THE OKRA PLANT.—The consumption of this plant has materially increased within a few years. Mr. John Buckland, of Monmouth county, N. J., now raises seven acres per annum. When the pods are in a fresh state, they are used for soup, and give off a mucilage which enriches the soup materially, while the less soluble portions of the pod are softened together with the seeds, and produce an admirable potage. The "gumbo" of the South is made with this plant. The soup is always easy of digestion, and very nutritious. When the plant is suffered to ripen, the seeds are large and hard, and the amount produced is very great; these by being burned produce an imitation of coffee, scarcely inferior to the best Mocha, while the fibrous character of the pod strongly recommends it to paper-makers. It is perfectly evident to those who have examined it, that neither the aloe, the beech-wood, ordinary straw, or any of the substances now being made use of in place of cotton or linen for paper, can surpass it for this use; and we are surprised that it has not found its way into general consumption.—*Working Farmer.*

A CHAPTER ON THE NEW CURRANTS.

WHITE GRAPE.

None of the smaller fruits are more worthy of attention in the northwestern States than the Currant. In view of the fact that the culture of tree fruits, owing to the peculiar character of our climate, has so far proved a precarious business, the smaller fruits, which can, in a measure, be protected, assume a position of great importance among our horticultural products. Probably the currant, on the whole, is the most important of them all, when we consider how largely it contributes to good living in the way of tarts, jams, jellies, wines, and for use upon the tea table in a ripe state. Easily cultivated, requiring little space, patient under ill treatment, it appears to be a fruit eminently calculated for a new country, where the large fruits are scarce and costly.

As usually cultivated, however, the currant appears to great disadvantage. By almost common consent, it appears to be the most ill used of any of the tenants of the garden—thrust into out of the way corners, and refused even the commonest attention, except when the fruit is sought for, it seems to have retrograded rather than improved under common cultivation. Let it, however, but receive only a small degree of attention in the way of pruning and manuring, and even the old common Red Currant will show a product perfectly astonishing.



RABY CASTLE.

We are induced to believe that greater improvement can be made on the currant by *thorough* culture than on any other of the small fruits. Let the experiment be tried on a few bushes—let our friends apply the pruning knife—trimming out the suckers and dead wood, thinning out the top branches, and apply plenty of well decomposed manure at the roots, and the result will be highly gratifying. We have by this means so increased the size of the common red and white currant that they could not be distinguished from the largest of the red and white Dutch.

Currant bushes as usually grown are mere nuisances. In the red and white varieties the annual shoots should be shortened in order to keep up a good supply of lateral fruit spurs. The Black Currant bears its best fruit on the last year's wood.

By the introduction of new varieties, the season of the currant is now greatly prolonged, occupying all the summer months. Some of these new kinds are being tried by cultivators at the east, and promise to be a great addition to our lists of this valuable fruit. One catalogue in our possession enumerates *thirty varieties*, many of them, undoubtedly, only slightly different in character.

The cuts at the head of this article represent two varieties, which have been a few years before the public and their qualities well tested.

The *White Grape* is the largest and finest of the white currants. Bunches long and berries very large and pale. Plant a slow grower, with stout irregular shoots and dark

green reflexed leaves. It has been, sometimes, confounded with the *White Dutch;* but the White Grape is much larger than that variety and slower in its growth.

The *Raby Castle* is synonymous with *Victoria* and *Houghton Castle*; is a pale red variety, with bunches of enormous length; a fine grower and abundant bearer; probably the best red currant known. This variety and the *Prince Albert*, another variety from France, are very late in ripening, and with the *La Hative*, an early French sort, will give us a season for currants of nearly four months.

The *Prince Albert* is nearly as large as the famous *Cherry* currant, of a light pinkish red; bunches very long; plant vigorous, with distinct, folded and sharply serrated foliage.

The *Cherry* currant is one of the largest currants grown, of a vigorous habit and dark green foliage. Complaint is, however, made that it is an indifferent bearer.

The *Red* and *White Dutch* are too well known to need a lengthy description. When grown in well manured ground, and pruned in good season, they leave but little more to be desired in the way of currants.

The above are some of the best of the older sorts, which have been satisfactorily tried. Of the newer kinds, the cultivators around Boston have had several under cultivation, and speak favorably. A well known pomologist of Boston writes to me in regard to them, and says:

"All the kinds of currant you named are excellent. The Red and White Gondouin are large and good. La Versailles are also very large and fine. Fertile de Pallnau is of medium size and an enormous bearer. Caucasse is also large, but this variety and the Hative de Bertin we have not fully tested ourselves. Victoria is one of the best—large, productive and late. The new striped variety, Gloire de Sablons, is very pretty, distinct, medium sized and fine flavored. It will be greatly sought after on account of its beauty, &c. White Transparent and Grosse Rouge de Angers are also fine sorts."

Of course these new varieties are yet to be tried in the Northwest, and we have great hopes that extensive propagation will enable our horticultural friends soon to possess all that are valuable of the new kinds, at a reasonable price.

Of the Black currants the Black English is the one commonly cultivated. The Black Naples, Bangup, Black Ogden and Large Black Grape are highly spoken of.

We would not advise a large investment in the newer varieties, until further experiments decide upon their adaptation to the Northwest.

For the manufacture of wine, Mr. Barry, in the *Horticulturist*, says:

"The best currant wine we have ever tasted, indeed we may say the only sample deserving the name of wine, was made last season, from the *White Grape* variety. It was made thus: To every gallon of clear drained juice was added two gallons of soft water and nine pounds of extra refined loaf sugar, making three gallons of wine. Nearly all the currant wine we have tasted, has been spoiled with alcohol being added in some form or other. The currant is a fruit for the North, and we are perfectly satisfied that where the grape cannot be grown for wine, the currant may become an excellent substitute." E. B. Q.

GRAFTS vs. SEEDLINGS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—A question of some importance is at present agitating the minds of the farmers and fruit growers of our State, as to the propriety of cultivating seedlings for orchards instead of grafted fruit trees. It is thought by this class of pomologists that trees reared from the seed here are thereby rendered constitutionally adapted to our climate. It is, however, my opinion that I represent the views of every practical horticulturist in the State, when I say that this idea is without foundation in fact. The objections to the above may be stated briefly as follows: Many inexperienced fruit growers are not aware of the great responsibility that has attended the selection of our present catalogue of the apple varieties. Each variety is tested by the most thorough scrutiny before it will find a place among the standard works on the horticulture of the age. First, the quality of the fruit is considered; then follows the examination of the tree in regard to its hardiness, fruitfulness, and its growing qualities under all conditions of soil and climate under which the tree is supposed to thrive. Hence the tree is pronounced worthy of further trial, while hundreds, thousands, yea millions, which grew around it were rejected as worthless. Yet it is an established fact that the present list of the apple is not hardy, productive, and thrifty alike under all conditions of climate and soil—each variety is congenial to certain

locations, or rather certain locations are congenial to each variety. While other locations do not furnish the essential qualities requisite to make it a thrifty and fruitful tree. As a general rule, varieties that succeed in northern latitudes, such as Vermont and Canada, will do best here; but it is not without exceptions. The Keswick Codlin, of English origin, and Gravenstein, of German origin, succeed very well here, while there exists quite a difference of climate between the places above mentioned. But as this forms a subject of itself, I shall trace it no farther. Permit me, however, to say that when the fact is demonstrated which varieties are adapted to the different locations of our State, we will have no further difficulties in raising fruit; and when customers leave the responsibility of the selection of the trees to the nurserymen, instead of making demands for their old favorite Baldwins, Pippins, Greenings and Spitzenburgs, which the force of circumstances induces the good nurseryman to fill as ordered; then, customers, you will raise fruit, if you give your trees the proper attention. On the other hand, if you do not take this advice, we will do what we can for you in the seedling line.

The seed of an apple possesses the full characteristic of the tree it is destined to produce, from the time that the hand of nature developed it in the blossom upon the tree. This fact is well known to those who are engaged in developing new varieties of fruits by hybridization. Hence it follows that each seed possesses as perfect an identity as a scion taken from a living tree. And no change of location can effect the former to any greater degree than it can the latter. Each will possess the natural characteristics of its parent, while it exists a distinct tree; and all effects produced upon either of them is purely external, having for its origin the changes of climate, protection, exposure, soil, training, &c. You can sow seeds from now until doomsday, and you get trees possessing the constitutions and bearing exactly the same fruit that they would have borne if they had been sown in New York, Virginia, or Jerusalem, and being in all respects the same only as they are acted upon by the external surroundings that make up the difference in the different localities where the seeds are sown. Do not understand me as condemning the idea of developing new varieties from seedlings; nurserymen sow and raise thousands yearly, and when one bids fair to make a tree of worth, it is well enough to give it a trial; but when they are raised for sale they have to be taken as they come. Just pause for a moment; the idea of buying a thousand seedlings, and with great care from them to procure but one tree that will bear decent fruit. This, I think, is about the average, when I think of the almost numberless millions that have been rejected in making up our present list of grafted fruit. Farmers and others buying trees, think of this. A well selected lot of grafted trees are hardier and better in all respects than the same number of seedlings can possibly be. But I must close the present article already too long.

Yours truly, J. Wilcox.

Omro, Winnebago Co., Feb. 25, 1860.

Early Vegetables.—Many farmers are deterred from attempting to produce very early vegetables, by an erroneous idea that the making of a hot-bed is a complicated and difficult operation, while it is just as simple as making a hill of corn. Every man who has a garden of whatever size, if he will once try the experiment of making a hot-bed, will, we venture to predict, find the task so easy and the result so satisfactory, that he will never forego the luxury afterwards. All that is necessary is to make a pile of horse manure two and a half feet deep, with the top level or sloping a little to the south, then set a rough frame made of four boards nailed together at the corners, upon the bed of manure, fill the frame with six inches of garden soil and cover with a window of glass. Any old window will answer the purpose, but it is better to have the bars of the sash run only one way, and to have the glass laid in the manner of shingles.

The best plants to force are tomatoes and cabbages, which may be transplanted from the hot-bed to the open air without any trouble. We have removed tomatoes when they were in blossom, and had them all live. If melons or cucumbers are forced, they should be planted in flower pots, and in trasplanting them you turn the pot over upon your open hand and give it a gentle thump, when the earth comes out in a solid lump and the roots are not disturbed in the least. While the plants are growing, they should be watered frequently, and in warm days the sash should be raised a few inches to give the plants air. We have found the growing of plants under glass, from a small hot-bed, four feet by six, up to a large grapery for raising the black Hamburg and Frontignac grapes, the most satisfactory of all horticultural operations. Having the control of the climate both in heat and moisture, the plants can be made to grow with a vigor which they rarely if ever exhibit in the open air. A hot bed should be made from four to six weeks before the time for planting corn.—*Scientific American.*

HUBBARD SQUASH.—*Messrs. L. Tucker & Son:*—Several articles have appeared of late in the "Co. Gent.," in which the value of the "Hubbard Squash," as a culinary vegetable, has been variously estimated. I propose to record my experience. In the spring of 1859, my attention was called to a flattering notice of it, and I immediately ordered one pound of the seed from J. J. H. Gregory, Esq., which came promptly to hand, and was planted with great care in very good ground. At the expense of much labor and trouble, I succeeded in saving through the frosts of June, something like half an acre of my plants, all more or less injured, but most of which finally grew; and from which I gathered in the fall over three hundred squashes fit for table use, varying in weight from eight to twenty lbs., the greater proportion weighing from twelve to fifteen lbs., and of every possible shade of color, from light yellowish slate to the deepest green. The color, however, has with me indicated no difference in quality whatever. I was prepared to see something very good when I came to try them, but that expression is entirely too tame when used in speaking of the Hubbard Squash. It is so far superior to anything I have ever seen growing upon vines in the shape of a squash, that for me to attempt to describe its excellence by comparison is impossible. I have distributed specimens freely among my friends, and their unanimous opinion has been, that anything better would be too good. It is truth, all that is claimed for it.—Jno. S. Gould, of Duquesne Boro, Pa., in the *Country Gentleman.*

ASPARAGUS.

How many of our farmers are familiar with this spring luxury? Yet while no other fresh vegetables may be had, this *can* be provided as cheaply and readily as potatoes. Having once enjoyed a full supply, you would never be willing to have it banished from your garden and table. Though we do not believe in living to eat, yet since we have to eat to live, it is not beneath our thought and care to provide for the maintenance of these wonderful bodies a suitable variety of food; especially such as is simple, relishing and wholesome.

Our bed, about fifty feet long and five feet wide, was made eight years ago. The soil was dug three feet deep; the lower foot of soil removed; three loads of rotten manure, several barrels of hen manure and ashes, and an indefinite quantity of old bones, shoes, woollen rags and chip dirt were all thoroughly mingled and incorporated with the soil; a few inches of good top soil was spread over the whole. Two year old plants were set in rows twelve inches apart each way, making four rows to the bed; (eighteen inches would have been better, as we find the plants are too close.) The second year we had a moderate supply; since then, all that a family of a dozen or more could wish from early spring till green peas take its place. It is quite a relief to one's housekeeping contrivance in the spring to feel sure of one good dish for breakfast or dinner. A big heaping one was ours, and while the season lasted it never produced satiety though presented every day, and we yet had some to spare for those who had none.

Though it may seem troublesome to make such a bed, it is after all the cheapest luxury, perhaps, which a farmer can supply for his family; for that bed once made is there for twenty years or more. The only care needed is to spread over a few inches of old manure in the autumn, which must be carefully forked under early in the spring. Strewing the bed quite thickly with salt in the growing season is an advantage. The Asparagus was originally a sea plant, and loves salt.

A bed may be prepared with less care than ours, and yet serve a very good purpose—simply by plowing or spreading very deep with plenty old manure, always remembering that the deeper and the more manure the better. The latter is the way which market gardeners prepare their beds.

To Cook Asparagus.—A little contrivance and ingenuity will avoid sameness, by varying the mode of cooking. Experience will soon teach the quantity of water required; let it boil; then lay in the stalks, the older ones at the bottom and the younger tenderer ones on top, where they are not of uniform ripeness. Sprinkle a little salt among them, cover tightly and keep closed till done. The steam and the juice of the stalks do away with the necessity of having much water; use as little as possible. If prepared with toast, have the bread nicely and evenly toasted, and moistened either with some of the Asparagus water or clear water, buttered and laid on a platter; take up the Asparagus carefully and lay over this, pouring over the whole a little cream or milk gravy or drawn butter; or it may be taken up with a skimmer and laid in a dish and a little butter or cream spread over, or some of the water in which it was boiled thickened and poured over. ELSIE.

Waukesha, Wis.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THIS LITTLE LIFE.

BY MRS. HOYT.

A little bird, on a little tree,
Is singing a little song,
While a little sock for my little boy
I am knitting, by little, along.

A little crumb the little bird
Its little birdie feeds;
A little bread and a little milk
My little baby needs.

Then the little plans, for these little ones,
With a little care are made,
And the little bird and the little babe
In their little beds are laid.

To the little birdie's little nest
Comes a little stray moon-beam;
To my little baby's little rest
A little shining dream.

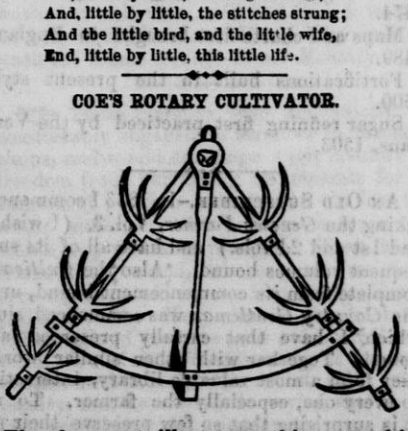
A little night, and the little day
Is peeping a little in,
And the little work and the little play
Of the little world begin.

A little while, and the little bird
Is singing its little song;
A little while, and my little sock
I am knitting, by little, along.

Then the little crumbs and the little cares,
For the little bird and boy,
The little dreams and the little prayers
The little day employ;

Till, little by little, the song is sung;
And, little by little, the stitches strung;
And the little bird, and the little wife,
End, little by little, this little life.

COE'S ROTARY CULTIVATOR.



The above cut illustrates this new thing among cultivators, and is certainly a novelty in its way. It will be seen that the teeth or acting parts are conical circles, pointing forward, and made to revolve when the machine is drawn ahead; thereby producing both a forward and a lateral action upon the soil. It is said to very effectually pulverize it.

We expect the patentee will send us one to try, one of these days, when we shall be able to state more definitely what it will do. It looks a little as if it might rather too readily catch the grass and stubble, and thereby clog, but perhaps not.

WHEAT—SPRING WORK—FALL PLOWING.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Much of the *Winter* wheat is injured in Columbia, Dodge and Monroe counties—both by the winter and the fly. Some farmers are already plowing up the "fall-sowing," and putting in spring grain.

Others are sowing their spring wheat on last fall's plowing—thus making a good use of the fine weather which blessed the first week of March. And herein they see one of the great advantages of *fall plowing*—it allows them to do their spring work in good season, without slip shod hurry.

But if it is done early enough, so that there will be sound freezing after it, there is no injury to land by *plowing it when very wet*—either in spring or autumn—because the freezing slacks it, and prevents it from becomming *cloddy*; still it is better to plow in the fall, all that is possible, as the winter freezing kills many enemies, and prepares our fine loamy prairies better than spring plowing; and the last two years have convinced us, beyond any doubt, that *rolling* after sowing and harrowing is a very great benefit on these prairie soils; it gives a snug, compact surface, while the wind and weather do not disturb so much as where there is no rolling. But then, the land should be *plowed deep*, so as to have a loose, mellow soil below.

The rolling, also, does something to prevent the evils of drouth, by preventing so much waste of moisture by evaporation from the surface; while *under-draining* and deep plowing allows moisture, in a dry time, to rise from below; and in a wet time allows the surplus to run off, thus working a double benefit.

D. S. C.

Stamps to Pre-pay Postage.—Thanks for your suggestion on this subject. To one receiving many letters a day, requiring an hour or more for the answering, the additional tax of paying postage should not be added, when the benefit is to the inquirer.

All letters of inquiry should inclose a stamp.

H.

Waukesha, Wis.

MASON AND DIXON'S LINE.—On the 4th of August, 1763, Thomas and Richard Penn and Lord Baltimore, being together in London, agreed with Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two mathematicians and surveyors, to mark out, settle, and fix the boundary line between Maryland, on the one hand, and Delaware and Pennsylvania on the other. Mason and Dixon landed in Philadelphia on the 15th of November following, and began their work at once. They adopted the peninsular lines and the radius and tangent points of the circular of their predecessors. They next ascertained the north-eastern coast of Maryland, and proceeded to run the dividing parallel of latitude. They pursued this parallel a distance of 23 miles, 18 chains and 21 links from the place of the beginning at the north-east corner of Maryland to the bottom of a valley on Dunkard creek, where an Indian war-path crossed the route, and here, on the 16th of November, 1767—ninety-three years ago—their Indian escort told them it was the will of the Souix Nation that the survey should cease, and they terminated accordingly, leaving 36 miles, 6 chains and 50 links as the exact distance remaining to be run west to the south-west angle of Pennsylvania, not far from the Board Tree Tunnel, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Dixon died at Durham, England, 1777; Mason died in Pennsylvania, 1787.—*Railway Review.*

WISDOM FOR WINTER.—Never go to bed with cold or damp feet.

In going into a colder air, keep the mouth resolutely closed, that by compelling the air to pass circuitously through the nose and head, it map become warm before it reaches the lungs, and thus prevent those shocks and sudden chills which frequently end in pleurisy, pneumonia, and other serious forms of disease. Never stand still a moment out of doors, especially at street corners, after having walked even a short distance.

Never ride near the open window of a vehicle for a single half minute, especially if it has been preceded by a walk; valuable lives have thus been lost, or good health permanently destroyed.

Never wear india-rubbers in cold, dry weather.

Those who are easily chilled on going out of doors, should have some cotton batting attached to the vest or outer garments, so as to protect the space between the shoulder-blades behind, the lungs being attached to the body at that point; a little there is worth five times the amount over the chest in front.

Never begin a journey until breakfast is eaten.

After speaking, singing or preaching in a warm room in winter, do not leave it for at least ten minutes, and even then close the mouth, put on the gloves, wrap up the neck, and put on a cloak or overcoat before passing out of the door; the neglect of these has laid many a good and useful man in a premature grave.

Never speak under a hoarseness, especially if it requires an effort, or gives a hurting or a painful feeling, for it often results in a permanent loss of voice, or a long life of invalidism. —*Hall's Journal of Health.*

IMPORTANT DATES.—The following will refresh the minds of our readers as to the date of the most important inventions, discoveries and improvements, the advantages of which we now enjoy:

Violins invented, 1477.
Pumps invented, 1425.
Paper first made of rags, 1417.
Almanacs first published, 1470.
Spinning wheels invented, 1330.
Spinning jenny invented, 1759.
Camera Obscura invented, 1515.
Printing invented by Faust, 1441.
Engraving on wood invented, 1460.
Roses first planted in England, 1505.
English shilling first coined, 1505.
Diamonds cut and polished, 1489.
Punctuation first used in literature, 1520.
Gun locks invented at Nuremburg, 1517.
Watches first made at Nuremburg, 1504.
Soap first made at London and Bristol, 1504.
Theatrical exhibitions first given in England, 1378.
Muskets invented and first used in England, 1421.
Post offices established in England, 1464.
Printing introduced England by Caxton, 1474.
Maps and charts first brought to England, 1489.
Fortifications built in the present style, 1500.
Sugar refining first practiced by the Venitians, 1503.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—In 1833 I commenced taking the *Genesee Farmer*, Vol. 3, (I wish I had 1st and 2d vols.) and have all of its subsequent volumes bound. Also the *Cultivator* complete from its commencement bound, until the *Country Gentleman* was commenced, since which I have that carfully preserved and bound. Together with other similar works, they form a most valuable library, interesting to every one, especially the farmer. To me it is surprising that so few preserve their papers. Surely a paper that is worth taking and reading is worth preserving. I know of no way that so cheap and valuable information can be procured, as through our several agricultural and horticultural publications. They are and have been exerting an influence for good to all classes of our country that is not appreciated, and cannot be easily estimated. Success to your efforts.

JAMES MCLALLEN.

How to Wash—Or how to save labor in washing, is a subject over which many inventive heads have tired themselves without much profit. Not but that some of the washing machines, and some of the washing recipes, are a little help—but we believe that the chief good in most of them is thorough soaking previously given to the clothes by their recommendation. A good soaking of a day and a night, in a water of the right temperature, will almost wash clothes that are only moderately soiled. Not quite, it is true, for probably there must be some hard hand labor in all washing. The mere work of putting the wash of a good sized family through the requisite changes of water, and wringing them properly, is something that well deserves the name of work. And anything that will lighten the labor of washing-day to the thousands of women who have it to do, is surely a blessing. Let the beds be changed Saturday morning, and the table linen, &c., gathered, and during the Saturday evening's preparation for the Sabbath, most of the other soiled clothing of the week can be brought in. Then have a boiler of hot water ready, in which you have dissolved borax—from a tablespoonful to half a teacupful, according to the size of your wash. Make the water in the tub or tubs lukewarm, or as warm as the soiled clothes will bear.—Soap the clothes—not too much—and put them in—cover the tubs and leave them undisturbed until Monday morning, when on wringing them from the water, a very large amount of the dirt will be left behind. We think the borax saves soap enough to pay for itself, and those who find trouble in getting their clothes washed to suit them, will find this a wonderful help to the hands of Biddy who *will* not wash the seams clean.—*Home Monthly.*

☞ Those persons who are quietly and comfortably engaged on farms or in mechanic shops, and would exchange their comfort and freedom from harrassing excitements for the turmoil of politics, don't realize the loss they would suffer, or the boiling cauldron into which they would be plunged. If we have a friend in the world, whose peace we would consult, we would say to him, keep clear of political strife. Keep clear of the trickster's influence, and preserve your unimpaired manhood. Political life will bring a person in contact with some of the worst sides of humanity, and we are safe in saying that it is a poor school in which to strengthen one's faith in the dignity and uprightness of human nature.—*Bath Times.*

Coddled Apples.—Take fall apples, wash them, and put half a peck into a preserving kettle; add half a cup of water, sweetened with a large cup of sugar, or half a cup of molasses. Cover them, and boil gently until tender.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

BESSIE AND HER KITTEN.

Fie, fie, naughty kitty,
That cake was my own;
And now only see,
The most of it's gone!

Nay, don't round your back up,
Nor rub up and down;
I'm sure you're the naughtiest
Kitten in town!

Be still with your purring,
Nor look so demure;
You're the thief, little pussy,
Of that I am sure!

Ay! roll yourself up,
In a round little heap—
With your tail coiled around you,
Pretending to sleep!

There's a crumb right before you—
Ah, now you're awake!
You do not feel sleepy,
When smelling of cake?

There's a portion for you,
And a portion for me,
I'll divide with you, kitty,
If you will agree.

All is gone! every mouthful!
Now pick up the crumbs;
And let us look tidy,
Before mother comes.

Come! wipe off your whiskers,
And lie on my knee,
And see, little pussy,
How still you can be!

Now hush-a-by, kitty,
To sleep—go to sleep!
But you must be still—
What a stirring you keep!

Ah! now you have scratched me,
A wicked old cat!
You shall go from the parlor—
So scat away—scat!

—*Home Ballads.*

Home.—How touchingly beautiful are the relations of home! There each is bound by an electric chain that seems to pass to all hearts in the family group, so that one cannot enjoy that which is not participated in by all. If one heart is oppressed, all sympathize; if one is exalted, all must share the happiness. It is in the seclusion of home that the aching heart is soothed—where the oppressed are relieved, the outcast reclaimed, the sick healed, or, failing, the tear of sincere sorrow drops from the mourner's eyes when the loved ones are gathered to their fathers.

"Be it ever so humble there's no place like home."

The Slaughter Which Sustains us.—When we ride, we sit upon the skin of the pig; when we walk, we tread upon the skin of the bullock; we generally wear the skin of the kid upon our hands, and the fleece of the sheep upon our backs. More than half the world are human beings in sheep's clothing. We eat the flesh of some creatures, of some we drink the milk, upon others we depend for the cultivation of the soil; and if it is a pain for us to suffer hunger and cold, we should scrupulously avoid inflicting wanton misery upon the animals by which we are warmed and fed.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Western Debts and Repudiation.

The New York *Tribune* of the 6th of March, devotes nearly a column of its valuable space to the subject of "Western debts and repudiation." The article evidently bears the earmarks of the old man himself; and while it contains some correct ideas and sound logic, it equally evidently embodies some of the most erroneous notions and wild conclusions imaginable, and shows conclusively what we have long known, and that is, that while Mr. Greeley may sometimes be a safe guide to follow politically, except when he recommends fossils of a past age for presidential candidates, yet as a financial expounder and leader, he would probably be as unsafe as a jack-o'lantern—the last man in the world, probably, that could pilot either himself or others through very troublous waters of pecuniary embarrassment.

He takes occasion to glorify himself to a great extent, that the *Tribune* has only occasionally lent itself to the work of misleading and fooling capitalists into making western investments. And now when the West has got a little involved temporarily, and quite as much through the cupidity and cravings of eastern as western speculators, he very sagely and vehemently advises his eastern friends not to loan her another dollar on any pretext or occasion whatever, even to save the most deserving from ruin; and assures all *poor* western devils that they need not look to them for help, as it will be in vain. (We presume so, for more reasons than one.) Hear him:

"Yes, friends in the Great West! we wish you collectively and distinctly to understand that, should you hereafter succeed in borrowing money in the East to pay your debts or sustain your various business operations, you will be indebted to others than to us for such present relief at the cost of future embarrassment and misery. Whatever you may for the moment suffer, you ought not to borrow money away from home, and will not be benefitted by so doing. One in twenty may derive advantage from such loans; but the great majority will be harmed by them. It is the readiness with which Eastern capital has been invested (much of it irrecoverably) in Western operations, which has raised the price of your wild lands so high that poor men cannot buy and improve them. It is the facility of borrowing money at the East—most of it at 12 to 30 per cent per annum—which has whelmed so many of you in bankruptcy. And now, if you could severally borrow the additional sums that you think you need, it would only be the drunkard's remedy for his shattered nerves and palsied limbs—more rum! We shall regret to hear that you can borrow another dollar, even to pay what you already owe and to avert what you doubtless consider ruinous sacrifice. If you are embarrassed, better surrender your property to your creditors, let them divide it equitably, with the least possible cost and delay, and go to work with unfettered hands and nothing in them. This may lead to individual and general relief, which borrowing will never secure."

The sage of the *Tribune* gave the same advise when writing from the West two years ago, to those who were embarrassed, "to give up their property to their creditors, the sooner the better, rather than borrow money at high rates of interest." We thought it very stupid then, as a general thing, and have not yet changed our opinion. Let us inquire a little into the soundness of this wholesale advice, and see what it would lead to if followed. Take for illustration a western farmer, with his one hundred and sixty or two hundred acres of land improved into a comfortable farm, with his buildings, stock, tools and fixtures upon it, worth at a moderate calculation say $5,000. That man, through short crops, sickness, or, if you please, indiscreet trades, has got into debt $1,000. This is owing in various sums, perhaps to twenty persons, all of whom must have their pay. In hard times like the present, it would be next to impossible for a man thus situated to raise that sum out of any ordinary resources, and if it was collected of him by law, it would consume all his substance and turn his family and himself penneyless into the streets. In this dilemma (and it is the one in which thousands of worthy men have found themselves placed during the recent revulsion) the money lender is sought, and $1,000 is loaned on a mortgage upon his farm, at twelve per cent, which pays off all pressing debts and leaves the farmer again to attend to his business. Think you, Mr. Greeley, in all your immaculate eastern wisdom and conceit, that that man will not, in the great majority of cases, pay the interest annually upon that sum, even though $120, and finally in the course of a few years of different times from these scrabble and save and pay up the principal? We think he will; and in so doing, do much better than to take your fool-hardy advice, and give up in despair his homestead and property to his creditors, to whom it would not usually be worth one half

as much as to him. No, Mr. Greeley, western men, who have scrabbled here amid toil and poverty for a term of years, and got a comfortable home, except a moderate incumbrance upon it, will not let go of it as readily as you may imagine, even on the advice of the *Tribune*.

We think that, after a twenty years' and over residence here in the West, and after seeing the people crawl out of at least one as bad a wreck of speculation before, that there is still salvation short of bankruptcy or repudiation, for very many of those among us who are badly enough in debt, and even paying high rates of interest. We think we can judge of this matter as well as flying eastern travelers, who simply pass through the railroad towns, the greatest hot-beds of speculation and debt, and hear the bar-room talk of such broken down home and sore head eastern speculators as are usually met with in such places. We repeat, that, in our opinion, the West, and even Wisconsin, will get along very well, with a little time and patience, if their eastern and undoubtedly well meaning friends will hold their tongues and quit crying "mad dog" at every little speck they see or imagine.

Notwithstanding all the newspaper blowing we will risk the State of Wisconsin, *morally*, against the State and city of New York to-day, however compared. How many weeks since we saw a great bluster in the *Tribune* itself, because the railroad men had gone to Albany with money to buy up the legislature upon the *pro rata bill*? Why this fear, if they were not supposed to be as marketable as some others have been farther west of them? Bosh! talk about morality! Where did Rob. Schuyler belong, who set the pattern in wholesale railroad swindling? Where is there another city in christendom that fits out more slave ships in open day for prosecuting that blackest work of hell than New York? What city sends its armies of worse than bastard and orphan children to Wisconsin annually to find homes and bread? Talk about moral aspects, will you! The people of the new West are bad enough, but neither the city nor State of New York should pharisaically accuse; it don't become them.

Will the *Tribune*, or its really troubled senior editor, put its finger on a debt that Wisconsin or its people have repudiated, or tried to repudiate. We would laugh to see them do it. Our present embarrassments, arising in part, at least, from causes wholly beyond control, may in some cases be causing temporary suspension; but is that repudiation? The bank of England has done as much at least twice, and once for ninety-seven years.—We believe, if we recollect aright, that even the New York *Tribune* has done it. In fact we have no doubt but what that establishment notwithstanding its philosophic heads, has seen its tight pecuniary pinches, when it was really "embarrassed," and still did not give up to its creditors; but doctors seldom take the medicine they prescribe.

We very much doubt if Wisconsin is more in debt to-day, compared with her property and population, than the city or State of New York. The only difference being that in their excess of honesty, they charge us but about twice the rate of interest that they charge each other, besides exacting more prompt payment when the principal is due. It is the opinion of our best informed men, that not one-fourth of our whole people are in debt at all; and further, that a large portion of those who are, are getting out even in the present hard times, one or two good crops will not only put our people again upon their feet, but will silence all this eastern clack that for the want of better employment is now turned upon us. The moment we have a surplus, as of yore, to sell, those same noisy *curs* east who are now yelping so loudly at a safe distance, will wag their tails and fawn through all our towns soliciting our merchants to buy their goods to an unlimited extent and to hire their money at shave rates, (just such rates as ought to cheat them out of it.)

No, gentlemen and eastern friends, Mr. Greeley included, the West, not even Wisconsin, is quite dead yet; but will shake off the dust of her present troubles, may be sooner than you imagine, and live yet not only to feed but to assist the balance of her Western brotherhood in prescribing laws even to great and purse-proud New York; and we think they will not be laws of repudiation either, even though some crack-brained member of her legislature should introduce a bill to abolish all collection laws, more as a joke than in earnest.

Keep cool and be patient, *Mr. Tribune;* don't go out of the way to kill us with your kindly advice in our present weak state; wait until we have gathered a little more strength,

and then we can bear your well-meant caresses better. Wisconsin may yet live to greatly increase her list of *Tribunes*, if let alone; who knows? We hope so.

High Taxes; How to Diminish them.—To be Read the Night before Town Meeting.

We intimated in our last that we would give this matter some little attention in this number, and now propose to do so; but we confess that on approaching so formidable a subject, we feel almost staggered at the thought of meddling with it, and all the more because we incline to the opinion that the most of the evil arises from two human weaknesses, to wit, selfishness and ignorance.

The first principle leads by far too many to covet office, especially all of those that pay or admit of stealing—we dont mean stealing direct and literally in all cases, but what, in thousands of instances, amounts to the same thing. Yes, every office from a fence viewer up to a judgeship or governor, has a host of itching aspirants after it; partly, sometimes, perhaps, from the honor it is supposed to confer, but quite as frequently for what can be made out of it. If any doubts the fact of the hosts of office seekers, we will simply refer them to the forthcoming town meetings. Let him who would be convinced, stand back and watch; he will soon see how many are ready, nay, anxious to serve the public in every capacity, no matter what. And this to a certain extent is all well enough; the excess of desire to work for others is the mischief, often leading to the filling of offices with very unsuitable men; and almost equally sure of leading to too much official work, and too much expense on the part of those desiring office.

It may usually be set down as a safe rule that those who covet office are unfit for it. Business men, or those who know how to do business as it should be done, seldom seek office; while those who are the least fit, from the fact of being out of busines of their own, most frequently crowd forward and riggle themselves into office to serve the public; per consequence, as everybody knows, the public business is generally the most meanly done, and by no means with the greatest economy; first, because such pups are usually incapable; secondly, when they get hold of a teat that has any milk in it, they will, if possible, suck it dry.

That our town and local taxes are, after all, by far the greatest load we have to bear, is a well known fact. What, then, is the simple remedy so far as this branch of the evil goes? —to attend well to the inception of things at the town meeting this identical spring; not that mere partizans and flunkies get into office, but that good and suitable men are put in, if they can be found; men who have business of their own to do, and do it well; men whom you would trust to settle your estates, and act as guardians for orphan children. If you have any such men among you, put them into all the principal offices of supervisors, town clerks, *assessors*, (this last particularly) justices of the peace, and in fact every other office, as far as possible, for really they are all important. Fill up, we say, with such men as far as possible, if you would have your town and county business done cheaply, promptly and well. Go into no foolish outlays of public money by unconsidered *vive voce* votes in open town meeting, for opening new roads, building bridges, and the like; let such things all be well considered by proper committees, and wisely done, if done at all. By a careful adherence to all of the aforesaid suggestions, we verily believe that at least one half of the ordinary expenditures of towns might be saved, and thereby the taxes greatly lightened. Let all towns, villages and cities, whose inhabitants rather prosper and be lightly taxed instead of being overdone and plundered, heed it; we will warrant it to pay.

Remember that in electing your Board of Supervisors you are also selecting your county board, on whom so much will depend. Bear this fact in mind, and really strive hard to select such men as are suitable for such a sub-legislature; for great as the nuisance of this county Board of Supervisors is, it can be greatly mitigated by being made up of the right kind of men—men who know how to do business, and who will go right forward with it, instead of windy, gassy chaps who will spin out a session and do little or nothing as it should be.

Our long-winded Boards of County Supervisors, aping legislative *dignity* and going into expensive printed proceedings, are one of the enlarged sink-holes of public expenditure that we hope to see abated ere long, feeling fully convinced that one-fourth or sixth of the number of men would do all county business, not only much better but vastly cheaper, undoubtedly saving at least one-half of the pres-

ent county expense arising from their administration.

There is still another branch of county expense in which there is too frequent necessities for making equal reform. We refer to courts and their appendages, as cumbersome to all appearance, notwithstanding all modern *code reforms*, as an old Pennsylvania wagon; and the worst of all is when they happen to get a poor stick for a judge on to the bench as a driver, (a thing by no means unfrequently done,) lord how slow they go. There are but few places where an efficient business man can save more money to the tax-payers than on the bench, or where a mullet (we mean no special contempt) can waste more. Be careful then, gentlemen voters, whenever you go into a judicial election, to select and elect no drivelling, pettifogging hair splitter; but an out and out business man, and sound, ready lawyer, that can and will put a court through with whip and spur; they are the men for judges.

Thus, with a competent and thorough set of town and county officers, men who have something to do at home, and consequently will not linger at the public crib; and with efficient and capable judges to hold the courts, the way will be found for a large diminution of town and county expenses; no mistake about it. If, when we hear from your town elections, we are led to believe you have heeded the foregoing advice, either in whole or in part, we will give you another screed, pertaining to legislative and state affairs; what they too frequently are, and what they should be; how they spend and waste money, and how they ought not to; how, in a word, our taxes are needlessly doubled, and no one the better for it.

The Legislative Session

Is set down for a close on the 27th March, and will doubtless adjourn at that time, although at the present writing (20th) much remains to be finished up, besides plenty of new business constantly being introduced.

Nearly one thousand bills, all in all, have been before them—enough, if enacted, to fill a volume nearly or quite as large as the revised statutes. Lucky indeed that most of them are strangled, indefinitely postponed, and defeated in their passage. The diarrhea of legislation that is manifested by every returning session, is among the novelties if not absurdities of the times. A tonic of moderation and common sense, taken in doses sufficient to correct this evil, would prove a great blessing.

Among the different items of legislation may be noticed a large number of applications on the part of wild-cat banks to reduce their capital, indicating the fact that they are finding it hard work to keep their pretty printed pictures in circulation. From these and sundry other appearances, we are inclined to the opinion that the business does not pay as well *as it did*. Real capital, invested in various manufactures, would undoubtedly pay a great deal better in the long run.

A bill for lowering the rates of interest is yet pending; wnat its fate will be we cannot tell, but think it will pass, putting the highest rates at about ten per cent. That would do for the present; after one or two more good crops, it could equally well be lowered to seven, and eventually to six. New countries and poor communities always have to pay high rates of interest, although there is little reason or justice in it, as they are much less able to pay than older and wealthier communities; but more of this anon.

A bill for an appraisement law, in sales of property on foreclosures and executions, is also being considered. Its passage would undoubtedly delay collections, but it would also prevent thousands of unjust sacrifices of farms and homesteads, for a little or nothing, to rapacious and heartless creditors. We know o some such sharks, who have mouths as large as the whale that swallowed Jonah, wretches who craunch down small fry without the least compunction, and lap their chops. We like to see such disgraces to human kind occasionally headed and choked off; it does them good.

Some railroad legislation is being had, mainly to provide modes of settlement and liquidation for the various tottering and bankrupt companies; also a new name under which to tax them, called licensing, but amounting to about the same in fact. Being intended to meet a supposed constitutional difficulty requiring uniform taxation; but how it helps the matter, in any sense, is beyond our comprehension.

A bill for a constitutional convention, after considerable debate, was indefinitely postponed. Constitutional conventions ought not to recur too frequently, nor until well defined and urgent reasons demand them. Within a few years things will have found their more

permanent bearings, and we shall know better what we want in the way of organic changes than now.

The Assembly vote upon the bill for the repeal of all collection laws has excited no little attention both at home and abroad; and many under the pressure of present difficulties, have half persuaded themselves that they are in favor of the policy; but we doubt much if they have well considered the subject. An entire repeal of all collection and per consequence coercive laws, could not fail of effectually and speedily revolutionizing the whole fabric of American society and business. Had such laws been enacted at the commencement of the settlement of Wisconsin, and continued in force, we would undoubtedly have been out of debt; but we would not have had one half our present population. It would all have been south and east of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, except perhaps a few scanty settlements up and down the Mississippi river. Not a railroad would we have had, nor a half dozen banks; but, instead, a limited and primitive people. Abused credit, like any other abused privilege, produces bad results; but the utter want of it to the extent that always must exist, when there is no collection laws, would, beyond a doubt in our mind, send the most enterprising Yankee community in America back to semi-barbarism in less than two generations. It is an experiment we shall never see tried, and only advocated by extremists and crack-brained theorists. Why not as well leave matrimony, and many other of the relations of life and business, to the honor or caprice of parties? But enough on this for now.

Buncombe Speeches

Have been made (and duly printed) by most of the Senators, for their constituents. Harper's Ferry the subject—votes the object.—The Assemblymen have made very few.

The Law for Licensing Dogs and Protecting Sheep,

Has finally passed both branches of the Legislature by a very respectable vote, and without material change from the bill first introduced by Senator Taylor.

The passage of the law is mainly due to the efforts of Senator Taylor—both in introducing and advocating the bill. It is modeled substantially after the present popular law of Massachusetts; requires all dogs to pay an annual license of $1, sluts $3; and to wear a collar with the name of the owner, and the fact of license marked thereon, &c., &c.

If signed by the Governor, and thus made a law, we will publish it in full in the next number of the *Farmer*.

Sugar Cane Seed—Permanent Location of the State Fair.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Who has any good sugar cane seed to sell? We are entirely destitute in this vicinity of this much needed article.

I think none were so weak as to have been discouraged in raising Sorghum on account of the last year's failure. We hope if there are any such, and they have good seed, that they will send it along to us who are in full faith that Wisconsin will yet abound in sweets.

Will there be any move made for a permanent location of our State Fair grounds during this year? Economy, convenience and good order demand that the members of the State Agricultural Society select some central location that shall be convenient, and to have and hold them for fairs and shows for a series of years; and then our fair grounds may be well fitted up in order, and in such a manner that all its members may understand that there is a place for every thing brought, and every thing must be put in its place even upon the State Fair grounds of Wisconsin. The expense would be comparatively small to fit up the grounds properly, with a view to using such for a series of five years, to what it has been for the last five years, and every thing "hilter skilter," notwithstanding the laborious efforts of the officers of the society. This available economy in the arrangement of our fair grounds must be heeded, otherwise the interest in our State Fairs will soon be on the wane.

O. P. Dow.

Palmyra, Feb. 5, 1860.

Remarks.—In reply to the foregoing questions we would say, first in relation to sugar cane seed, that we have been making considerable inquiry for it, both at home and southward, and although rather scarce, we expect to be able to secure all that will be wanted, of good quantity; have already received a few bushels, that all sprouts and grows.

We are doing what we can to induce seed dealers generally to obtain it to the extent needed by their customers, and what they lack we mean to be able to supply ourselves, so that all who wish can plant. From present

appearances we think it will be worth from two to three shillings per lb.

We will fill all orders for the present sent to us, within those figures, and as near the lowest one as practicable; and will not send any but what has been tested as to its germinating properties. One and a half pounds of good seed will plant an acre; but two pounds is safer.

In reply to the last question, about locating the State Fair, we would say that the Executive Committee, at their last meeting, passed a resolution locating it at Madison, for the next two years, on certain conditions; which conditions we understand the citizens are expecting to comply with. The Executive Committee did not seem disposed to go in for a permanent location, although Milwaukee made a very liberal offer of grounds and fitting for ten years.

The Mild Winter and Spring

Is the subject of remark and admiration on all hands—only alloyed with the constantly expressed fear "that we will get our pay for it by and by." Perhaps we shall; but we doubt the wisdom of borrowing too much trouble about it. Let us all enjoy the good of the present, and stand whatever is unpleasant in the future when we come to it, and cannot avoid it. That is soon enough to feel bad about what is to come. We have seen one or two as pleasant springs as March has thus far been that have held out until summer; so may it be with this.

Many seem to fear that the early warm weather may start the fruit buds forward to where subsequent cold weather will injure them. We hope that such will not prove the fact, although we confess to being a little afraid of it. A loss of the present year's fruit crop would certainly be most discouraging; on the other hand, a good crop would tend much to revive the drooping spirits of our north-western fruit growers. Everything thus far looks well for a crop, if the spring continues favorable.

A good deal of wheat will have been sown in March, and also considerable plowing done. We shall confidently expect to see such early sown wheat turn out a good bright crop. The small amount of storms of any kind during the past year, leaves a large balance due; and it will doubtless come bountifully when once started.

Sheep Wintered on Straw.

We saw a flock of over two hundred fine wooled, Spanish Merino sheep, recently, that had been, as we were assured, almost wholly wintered on straw; they had had a little grain the latter part of the winter, but little or no hay.

They looked very well, and undoubtedly will come through in fair order; still, better keeping would undoubtedly have added considerable additional weight of fleece. That our vast straw crop (with a little grain left in it) might annually be turned to millions of pounds of wool, we have long well known, if our farmers only had gumption enough to swap off their dogs for sheep. If the majority of our farmers were wool growers, it would nearly or quite double the real productive value of our Wisconsin lands.

Officers of County Agricultural Societies for 1860.

Iowa Co.—At a meeting held December 9, 1859, the following officers were elected:

President—H. M. Billings, Highland.
Vice Presidents—Thomas Stephens, L. W. Joiner, Joseph Roberts.
Secretary—L. M. Strong. Dodgeville.
Treasurer—Richard Arundell, Dodgeville.

Brown Co.—At the annual meeting held at Green Bay, March 3, 1860, the following officers were elected for 1860:

President—John W. Cotton.
Vice Presidents—Wm. Scott, John Platten, Jos. C. Stewart, A. W. Foster, J. Ingalls and H. S. Baird.
Rec. Secretary—M. P. Lindsley.
Cor. Secretary—Benj. M. Beckwith.
Treasurer—Daniel Butler.

The Annual Fair is to be held on the 25th and 26th days of September next, on the plat known as the Manual Labor School Grounds.

Town Meetings.

We hope that our agents and friends will avail themselves of the opportunities that they will have on town meeting day, to add to our subscription list a few hundred more names, sufficient to exhaust our edition for 1860.

And that they will also collect all back arrearages due us as fully as possible. Money is in great demand with us just now.

Look our matters up, gentlemen, as thoroughly as the good opportunity will allow, and believe us as ever greatly obliged, not only for all past but all wished for favors.

Enquiries of Correspondents.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Will you or some of your correspondents inform your numerous readers what is best to seed down dry land for pasturage? What will make the best fall feed and not winter-kill?

GEO. MILLER.

Utica, Winnebago Co., Wis.

One of our most experienced farmers, both east and west, answers the above question as follows:

Mix one bushel of red-top with one peck of timothy, one of blue-grass and three pounds white clover, for each acre. He claims that it makes a most superior seeding; we should think it rather heavy, but think that a good failing and one not often fallen into by those seeding in the West. We have great faith both in the red-top and white clover for upland pastures, and in the red-top for our low lands. We have regarded it as a misfortune for years that more of it was not sown and cultivated in Wisconsin. It would soon displace the wild grass, and ought to.—EDS.

Sugar Cane Seed for General Distribution.

Crawford Spears, Esq., of Mansfield, Ohio, the proprietor of the patent of Cook's celebrated evaporating sugar pans or kettles for the Northwest, has forwarded us several bushels of Sugar Cane Seed; which he states is a very superior article for manufacturing purposes.

His instructions are for us to furnish it at cost to all who wish to plant the coming season, which will probably be in the neighborhood of twenty to twenty-five cents per pound, depending upon the amount of express charges, &c., but will not exceed the latter sum.

We shall be happy to supply it to all who call, and to forward to all who order.

We hope that every neighborhood, and every individual who still believes in growing our own *sweets*, will order from this stock early, and plan to cultivate a paying crop the coming season.

Mr. Spears has also forwarded some fine samples both of sugar and syrup, made with Cook's evaporator; it is claimed to be the thing at last to do it with—making both sugar and syrup from good cane without lime or any other cleansing agent. Doubtless many of our readers saw it in operation at the State Fair last fall. Let us hear from all who want seed.

Also, see Mr. Spears' advertisement wishing agents to circulate the seed, and to introduce the Evaporators.

Red Top.—Its Value as a Grass.

We are in receipt of a valuable article upon the merits of the above grass, for stocking down both high and low lands; but it is too late for this number.

It claims that red top would double the quantity and value of our marsh grasses, and when mixed with timothy and clover, greatly increase the upland hay crops; making a good turf which bears tramping well, and affording double the feed of timothy or clover alone — Try it.

Bark Louse.

We have the promise of an article on this "varmint," for the May number, from a gentleman who has been quite observant of their habits, and who feels assured that he has found an absolute and practicable remedy against them. If so, it ought to entitle him to a pension.

WISCONSIN FARMER.—The number of the *Farmer* for February 15th is before us, and as we opened the leaves to look through its pages, a *three cent piece*, with a hole in it, rolled out upon the table. Whether this was sent to us as a slight *donation* for any former favorable allusion we have made to the conduct of this excellent agricultural journal, or whether money is so plenty about that office that they are compelled to send it off for distribution in this way. At any rate we have pocketed the insult, and would say again to every farmer throughout the State, send for the *Wisconsin Farmer*. By the way, we discover that the publishers have concluded to issue it in monthly numbers, commencing the first of March. It may be more acceptable, as a correspondent remarks, for those who wish to bind the numbers, as it is more trouble to look after 24 than 12 numbers.

Address, D. J. POWERS & Co., Madison.

We clip the above paragraph from the *Free Democrat* of the 27th February, and confess that we are wholly at a loss to account for the three penny waif spoken of. We are quite sure that we have not had even that small sum to throw away of late; it must have been an accidental loss to some one.

We regard the *Free Democrat* as one of our most valuable and indispensable exchanges, and if we were to undertake payment for the many kind references it has made first and last to the *Farmer* we should feel called upon to remit much larger coin.

We can truly return the compliment by saying that those who want a first class family and business paper from our business metropolis, will find it in the *Free Democrat*.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, MAY 1, 1860. NO. 7.

D. J. POWERS, ... Editors. . . . . J. W. HOYT.

"MAY, SWEET MAY."

How withered and emotionless must be the heart that is not enlivened and cheered, nay inspired with many and joyous impulses as it goes forth of a bright May morning, amid the opening buds, birds, beauties and sweet breath of Spring. The symbols of new life and youthful freshness meet us at every turn, and all too delicious to last.

Such are its heavenly fannings upon the hale and hearty; how much more acceptable and joyous must they strike the poor tottering invalid, who ventures forth perhaps for the first time after months of confinement, nervousness and pain.

But spring, like angel's visits, how swift on its wings does it fly away; and yet how much is huddled into its short space to be done, by both farmer and gardener. With all planted crops in our climate, it is the preliminary month, when all is to be arranged and done, and on the manner in which it is done, almost all afterwards depends. Suppose we chat a little upon some of its haps, mishaps, and failures, their cause and cure; it may help the inexperienced, and will not hurt even the wisest and most conceited.

Corn is the leading planted crop in this country, and has been since the discovery of America; and yet how few thoroughly understand the subject, or even do one half as well as they know. In fact, we know of few more difficult to determine upon the testimony of farmers, than *what kind* of corn to plant, or the best modes of cultivating it. Our agricultural fairs or societies do little or nothing in the way of determining such matters, by means of any nice tests or comparisons, carried systematically through any series of years. Some one happens to grow bigger or larger ears than his neighbor, and gets "the premium," of course, without note or comment. So far so good; but how little is proved by it, or by fairs, even, except who can ride and drive fastest. A series of well conducted experiments, by a competent committee, for a series of years upon this and many other kindred subjects, would pay a hundred fold. What society will lead in such matters?

Good seed corn (or rather that which grows) can always be told by sprouting it in warm earth, and we doubt if it can for a certainty in any other way. We have often said in the past, and now repeat, that the man who plants his seed without first proving it, is green, to say the least; and not to be pitied for his folly and failure. But corn came up *too readily* last spring, as most will remember. Such a pest of crows, blackbirds, gophers and pigeons has seldom occurred. Yet we believe they can be mainly headed in one way or another, if sufficient and seasonable pains is taken. Poison strikes us as the most effectual, while at the same time it is the most dangerous remedy; no one can be too careful who tries it, especially if other animals and small children are about; therefore touch it carefully, if at all.

Potatoes, we think, are often planted too late, for our dry climate. Could they have more of the benefit of our spring rains, we believe they would usually grow both larger and better, and ripen and admit of being dug before the rains, rot and mud of late autumn.

Potato cultivation, as a whole, does not seem usually well understood, or if so, not well practiced. The average yield of the State is small, only between 80 to 90 bushels per acre, which upon our rich new soils is a light crop indeed. From those we see in the market, we conclude that many inferior qualities must be planted. True, the potato is not usually a commercial crop with us; still it pays much better to raise good than poor crops to

the extent we do plant. Those varieties of potatoes that have a luxuriant vine, protect the soil much better from drought than those of feebler growth.

Root crops in variety have been pretty extensively treated upon in this and preceding numbers, and may be dismissed with the general remark, that the labor and expense of cultivating all hoed crops is immensely diminished by having clean soil to grow them in; weedy soils are much easier managed if plowed and prepared as short a time as possible before planting, thereby giving the plants a start of the weeds; this start can often be still further increased by a proper preparation of the seed for early vegetation.

Gardening is a kind of miniature farming, too often neglected by the farmer; still highly important in its place to every family. The farmer that maintains a good vegetable garden is seldom or never out of sorts for a good, cheap and healthful living; while the reverse is sadly the case with those who lack the garden.

With the opening of Spring, the Horse Radish, the Asparagus bed, the Rhubarb, the early peas, corn, beans, tomatoes, and all that follow in their course, including the small fruits, make up a train of luxuries well worth a little outlay of labor and pains. In fact, no investment pays half as well, if properly started and attended to. Farmers' wives and daughters can do a great deal in and about the garden, when once the heavier part is done for them.

We are aware that many need no exhortation on this subject, while we are equally well aware that very many others do. True, frosts, yellow bugs, drouth and divers other evils beset all such undertakings. Still they can mainly be met and overcome by study, labor and pains, the requisites of all earthly success.

Let all who are not already perfect in these matters, add new features from year to year to the household garden. Judiciously done, no investment will pay better.

NOTES ON ROOTS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—The carrot and parsnep, I am disposed to conclude, will, on an average of years, prove the most reliable of our root crops, especially on light soils. They appear to stand drouth better, and are less liable to be attacked and injured by animal or vegetable parasites than the potato, ruta baga or turnip. As food for cows in milk, horses and hogs, no other root can compare with them in value. In the last dry summer when potatoes, ruta bagas and turnips were nearly a failure, I raised some of the finest and best carrots I have grown in this State. This experience will induce me to grow a considerably increased quantity the coming season.

You refer to the practice of soaking carrot seeds in water to hasten their germination. I have mixed them with moist earth, and sowed the seeds when the radicles had protruded. If the weather should be showery when they are fit to sow, all well, the young plants quickly appear above ground; but we cannot foretell the weather, and if it should prove bright and dry during the time the seeds are sprouting and when they ought to be sown, there is great danger of their being destroyed. I therefore prefer another practice, to mix with my carrot seeds a few seeds of mustard or flat turnips, then mix them with dry earth or sand to separate the carrot seeds and sow more evenly. The mustard or turnip seeds very soon vegetate, and as the young plants are readily distinguished from ordinary weeds by their broad seminal leaves, they serve to show where the drills are, and thus enable us to attack weeds before they injure our plants, and when they can be most economically and certainly destroyed, that is, immediately after they are seen to come through the soil Root crops should be sown in drills to save time and labor in hoeing and thinning, and that we may the more easily and cheaply stir the soil about the plants—a point of some importance in successful root culture.

A cheap drill-sowing machine will have to be invented before the growing of roots is much extended. When carrots are grown in quantity, the drills will have to be at such a distance apart as to admit of the crop being kept free from weeds by means of the cultivator, chiefly. For the larger kinds, the distance should not be less than eighteen inches, and the plants should stand about ten inches from each other in the rows.

In gardens, or where a small quantity is grown, if the grower wishes to excel, and has not too long a back, after his plants have been once hoed, and when the roots are about the thickness of a quill, let him take a four-tined steel manure fork and turn over the soil to the full depth of the fork between the drills. If three or four weeks after, he should have a

spare hour, he might possibly learn something by repeating the experiment on a few drills.

The Parsnip is the hardiest of our root crops. Hogs are remarkably fond of it; and Col. le Couteur, of the Isle of Jersey, where this root is extensively grown, says "it will fatten oxen and pigs (or poultry when boiled) in an extraordinary manner." I have left parsnips in the ground all winter; the leaves start very early in the spring, and if the roots are used before the flower stems grow, they are most useful and acceptable food to cows at that time. Parsnips to succeed well, should be sown early. This is likely to prevent the cultivation of this crop largely. Land intended for the carrot or parsnip should be manured and plowed deep in the fall; then plowed again immediately before sowing in spring. In the case of the carrot, and of the ruta baga also when grown on old land,, it would probably be found good practice to let the land lie after the spring plowing till the seeds vegetate, then go over the ground with a two-horse cultivator, and sow immediately after. It would be worth while sowing—by way of experiment—a small patch of parsnips in the fall, with a view to transplant in spring. A showery day, when little else could be done, might be taken advantage of to transplant. If the plants do not run to seed, it is probable roots of large size and excellent quality may be raised in this way.

If carrots are valuable for stock on account partly of the pectic acid they contain, as stated in the *Working Farmer*, parsnips should also prove useful in this respect, as they contain a large quantity of that transparent, jelly-like substance, as I have seen. Parsnip seed rarely vegetates when over a year old. Farmers should grow their own root seeds, not only to be sure they are fresh and will grow, but to be sure they are good of their kind.

Improved varieties are mainly the result of carefully selecting seed-bearing roots through successive generations; and if we wish to continue a variety in its present state of excellence, or to still further improve it, we should reserve and plant each year the best and most perfect of our roots to produce seeds for the crop of the year following.

Ruta bagas generally succeed best on new breaking. Mine were sown on new land last summer. The ashes from the brush fires were carefully spread and the land dragged previous to sowing. I suspect that in this case the dragging was more than useless. Knowledge may be sometimes gained by a faithful record of our mishaps as well as of our successes. I noticed two patches of ruta bagas on land broke early in summer where the seeds had been simply dropped here and there where a suitable place presented itself for covering the seed with the foot, and the plants seemed to stand the drouth better, and grow more luxuriantly than mine, on soils of no better quality. The trampling of the horses and the weight and action of the drag would tend to consolidate the soil, and the more compact and dense a soil is, the deeper will drouth and frost penetrate. In most years I have transplanted ruta bagas, if suitable weather occurred when the plants were of suitable size, and these have generally produced my finest roots. I have tried several kinds of ruta bagas, one being Skirving's celebrated Swede, direct from their seed warehouse in Liverpool; but I prefer a white variety sent to me some years ago by Mr. Peffer, of Pewaukee. It is very hardy, and produces solid roots of large size, with ample foliage. I have always fed ruta bagas, turnips and cabbages to cows immediately after they are milked, and have perceived no bad taste in either milk or butter from their use.

The field beet or Mangel Wurzel, seems to be continually growing in favor with farmers in England. It is valued on account of the great weight of roots it yields per acre, for its pureness as a crop compared with the ruta baga of late years, for its longkeeping properties, and as food for cattle, sheep and hogs. It succeeds better in the south of England than in the north, or in Scotland, and on that account we might infer that it would probably succeed well in this climate. The greatest drawback to its extended culture here will be its liability to be injured by frost. I tried this plant some years since, but the result was not very satisfactory. I have received a few seeds of the three leading sorts now grown in England, and purpose giving them a fair trial the coming season. I apprehend that it will be found good policy in the long run, not to depend on one root only. A variety is also better for stock, and some recent observations tend to show that any given root is more valuable as food at one time than another. A chemical change seems to take place in roots analagous to that which we know occurs in long-keeping apples and pears; hence a root

may have a very different effect on an animal according to whether it is fed before or not until it has acquired that state of ripeness which renders it more suitable for food. All know a change takes place in the substance and taste of the potato when it has sprouted. It is less palatable to us, but I have read somewhere a statement (by Andrew Knight, I believe,) that sprouted potatoes, fed raw to hogs, will fatten them as quickly as potatoes cooked in the early part of the season.

The leaves of the root crops will afford a considerable supply of food to begin with; next come turnips with cabbages, then ruta bagas and lastly carrots, parsnips or mangels.

I quite agree with you that it is for our interest to pay more attention to root crops.—The longer I live and the more experience I gain, the more am I convinced that true economy in farming lies in feeding well whatever we undertake to grow, whether it be plant or animal, and, as we are situated, we cannot feed our plants well without paying more attention to the feeding of our animals.

It is a practice with some to pluck the outer leaves from growing roots as food for stock, assuming that they gain so much green fodder without loss to the roots; and those of your readers who have read in the New York *Tribune*, of last year, Miss Martineau's interesting account of her farming operations, wherein she tells of the quantity of food she gets for her cows by plucking the larger leaves of her mangel plants, may possibly be induced to adopt the practice. In my paper in the State Transactions for 1853, I mentioned the case of a Scotch farmer who had mowed the leaves from some ruta bagas two or three times over, and that the roots attained a considerable size notwithstanding. He was elated with what he considered a discovery likely to prove of great economic value; the only point he seemed doubtful about was, whether the roots were as nutritious as others whose leaves had not been removed. Some of these roots were consequently sent by the club to which the farmer belonged, to the Labratory of the Agricultural Chemistry Association of Scotland, to be analyzed. The letter accompanying the roots was handed to me to read. I was persuaded that the farmer was in error, that the conclusion he had arrived at was contrary to the nature of things—that efficient leaves could not be taken from growing roots without their sustaining a loss in proportion to the quantity of leaves removed. By request, I wrote out my reasons for this opinion, together with suggestions for a series of experiments to prove its correctness; whether they were tried by the club I have not heard. The truth of the matter has, however, been determined by Mr. J. C. Morton, the able agricultural editor of the London Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette. In that paper of Nov. 19, 1859, he says: "We have experimented several times in a manner similar to that which has now to be related, in order both to test the soundness of our results, as also to have growing examples to appeal to in our daily teaching. In April of the present year, we sowed two of our experimental plots with Yellow Globe mangel, depositing the seeds in ridges, but without manure. The plant on coming up was thinned and hoed in the usual way, and in the middle of August the one which appeared the best plot had each plant stripped of its large outer leaves, an operation which was repeated in the middle of September, and again in the middle of October. In the other plot the plants were left intact." On the 27th of October, the topped and tailed roots were weighed, and the result was that the 21 roots of the stripped mangels weighed 24 lbs. 4½ oz., while the 20 roots of the intact mangels weighed 61 lbs. 5½ oz. From these experiments Mr. Morton deduces an important practical conclusion, "that as long as a mangel leaf is in a fit state to be wholesome and useful as food for cattle, so long is it important to the well-being of the root."

This is useful information in itself, and the little incident here referred to should convey a useful practical lesson to men who pride themselves on being pre-eminently practical.

Moundville, March, 1860. J. T.

Sugar Cane in Minnesota.—*Eds. Wis. Farmer*:—One word about sugar cane. Last spring I purchased six pounds of seed, one pound of which I planted myself on about an acre of ground, and succeeded in raising from it about one hundred and thirty gallons of syrup, the most of which I have sold at 75 cents per gallon; the remainder being somewhat injured by the October frosts, I disposed of at 50 cents per gallon. This cane crop I considered more profitable than any other that I raised last season.

Yours, truly, Geo. Gillet.

Butternut Valley, Minn., March 15, 1860.

EXPERIENCE IN CHINESE SUGAR CANE CULTIVATION AND MANUFACTURE.

We have collected a mass of testimony for publication, and availing ourselves of the information thus obtained, we present in brief the experience of the past in reference to the culture and manufacture of the *Sorgho Suere* and the profits accruing therefrom.

CLIMATE.—The Sorghum is found to be hardier than our Indian Corn, and can certainly be raised with profit wherever corn can be grown.

As a general thing, the seed does not ripen north of latitude 41° or 42°, though the cane need not necessarily ripen its seed in order to make sugar with profit. All the sugar yet made in this vicinity has been made from green cane.

SOIL.—Warm soils of medium quality, containing *alkalies* in their composition, will yield the most sugar. Select a sunny exposure—shade is prejudicial.

FERTILIZERS.—Any alkaline fertilizers, such as lime, plaster, &c., may be used to advantage. They neutralize the acids in the stalk.

CULTIVATION.—*Deep plowing* is very essential; the use of the subsoil plow by disturbing the compact clay, and introducing the sunlight, showers and air, tends to assist the development of the plant, and is especially beneficial in supplying it more freely with alkaline nourishment. Harrow well, and if the ground is lumpy, roll it.

Secure good seed early. Take about one quart of seed to the acre, and soak it a day or two in tepid water, in which one ounce of saltpetre to six gallons of water has been dissolved. The saltpetre protects against the birds, and soaking the seed gains one week's time in the growth of the plant—a very essential matter in our short seasons. Roll the seed in plaster, and drill from north to south in rows three and a half feet apart, one inch in depth, and six to twelve inches between the seeds in the rows. Drop a radish seed in each hill to distinguish the cane from the grasses on its first appearance. The seed is not so liable to rot as corn, and may be planted a few days earlier. When well started, thin out to 15 or 20 inches.

Cultivate deeply, keep clean and well hoed. do not hill up, and never pull off the suckers. The smaller canes mature better than the larger ones, and yield a heavier percentage of sugar.

Many pinch off the panicles as they appear, that the strength of the plant may not be wasted in forming seed. This is mistaken policy, as the strength of the plant is immediately taxed to throw out new panicles.

INSECTS.—Where cane is not planted upon alkaline soils it is subject to invasion from a small fly, which clusters around the panicle and deposits a slimy substance upon the stalk, highly injurious to the juice. The growth of the stalk is also arrested. Sprinkling with an alkaline solution will do much towards repelling the invader.

HARVESTING.—Strip off the blades a few days before cutting up the cane. This secures an earlier ripening of the juices by exposing to sun and air. If the cane will not ripen before the early frost, cut it up and let it dry a day or two on the ground. If a number of acres have been planted, and the crop is large, it will do to commence cutting up when the milk has passed from the milk to the dough state; then haul it to the press and top it by laying it carefully with the tops even in piles so that with a hay knife or hatchet you can cut off about three joints from the top end of the pile.

FREEZING AND THAWING.—The nearer the freezing point the cane can be kept the better. It will remain sweet so long as the temperature does not rise above 26°. At about 24° to 26° viscous fermentation commences.—Thawing opens the pores of the stalk, brings the atmosphere into contact with the juice, and viscous fermentation ensures as readily as if the juice had been expressed.

Freezing produces a favorable effect, by neutralizing the gums and acids and causing their conversion into sugar, thereby increasing the yield from 15 to 20 per cent, if the cane is immediately worked up.

MANUFACTURING.—A cheap mill consisting of three wooden rollers properly geared with cog-wheels, may be constructed for about $15 to $20. But as an acre of sorghum will buy a one-horse iron mill at $50 and a $45 evaporator, with something over, we would recommend to buy the best machinery, especially as wooden rollers only press out two-thirds to three-fourths of the juice.

HOW TO USE COOK'S EVAPORATOR.—Below the evaporator set the syrup tank. Having filled the juice tank, cover the pan one inch in depth with water; build the fire, let

on the juice, and it will course its own way along the transverse channel, and in a brief period, a continuous stream of syrup will flow from the pan into the syrup tank, at such a rate that it will tax the mill to its utmost to supply its evaporator with juice. The work to be done is to *keep up a hot fire* and skim the *ends* of the channels in the pan. Cook's evaporator clarifies perfectly without chemical agents.

For Sugar, prepare conical shaped sugar coolers, with a plug or gate at the apex. Set them in a warm room and fill them with syrup to granulate, which will be in from twenty-four hours to a week, owing to the temperature and quality of the syrup. Then draw off the plug and let the molasses drain off.

To make a Rectified Sugar.—After the molasses is drained off, pour over the sugar a small quantity of boiling-hot water, and allow to stand forty-eight hours to drain. Mr. Cook's method is to re-melt the sugar, allow it to granulate a second time, and then pour on the hot liquor, and drain, by which process he succeeds in making a very refined sugar.

As a Forage Crop.—The weight of a crop of good corn to the acre is about 16,940 lbs., while an acre of sorghum yields about 34,000 lbs., or twice as much as the corn. The stalks, leaves and seed of the latter are all eaten with the greatest avidity by horses, cattle and hogs, and when the amount of sugar in them is considered, no argument will be needed to prove their immense superiority over any other crop for fattening purposes, especially when the physiological law is remembered that flesh is affected by the quality of the food of which it is made.

Milch Cows.—The effect upon milch cows should be particularly noticed. The quantity and quality of the milk is greatly improved, and a richer butter is the result.

Profits.—Taking the Northern States together, a fair estimate of the yield of syrup to the acre would be 225 gallons. Where one goes below that rate, more will go above it—many reaching 359 and 400 gallons per acre. Well defecated syrup—such as is made on Cook's evaporator—sells readily at 75 cents per gallon. Mr. Cook cannot supply the demand upon him for his syrup at that rate.—But we put the average price at 50 cents per gallon.

By another year a demand will be made for the *Bagasse*, as it is found to make a very superior article of printing paper. The Philadelphia *Ledger* has already been printed upon it.

Of seed there is an average of twenty-five bushels to the acre, of greater value than oats for chopped feed, and worth forty cents per bushel. Of the fodder there is about 1200 or 1300 lbs., worth say $5. The estimate then is as follows:

EXPENSES.

Ploughing,	$2 50
Planting, hocing, &c.,	6 00
Harvesting,	5 00
Manufacturing,	6 00
Fuel with Cook's Evaporator,	1 50
Interest on machinery, at 10 per cent,	10 00
Interest on land,	3 00
	$34 00

RECEIPTS.

250 gallons syrup, 50 cts. per gal	$125 00
25 bushels seed, 40 cts. per bu.,	10 00
1200 lbs. fodder,	5 00
	$140 00
Expenses,	34 00
Net profit per acre,	$106 00

[From the Baltimore Rural Register.]

GREAT CROPS OF CORN—IMPORTANCE OF SUB-SOIL PLOWING.

We have, in almost every number of the *Rural*, in one form or another, urged upon the attention of the cultivators of the soil, the great importance of a more thorough system of operations in preparing their lands for the reception of the seed, in which at least one half the battle for success consists. The following details of an extraordinary crop of corn, which won the first premium offered by the State Agricultural Society of Indiana, are so much in point, and so seasonable, that we with pleasure seize the earliest moment to present it to our readers. It is presented to the *Valley Farmer*, by a correspondent, and appears to be well authenticated:

"The corn was grown in Switzerland Co., Indiana, near Vevay, by J. W. Wright. As a further proof of the correctness of this method of preparation and culture, we will state that Mr. Wright took the first premium also for 1858. The crop in 1859, for which the present premium was given, five acres of which averaged 184 bushels and 32 pounds per acre, and ten acres averaged 174 bushels per acre; the best acre out of the five produced the astonishing quantity of 214 bushels. This farm is situated on the Ohio river; part of it is bottom land and overflows. Some of this land has been in corn sixty years in succession. The past year he raised thirty-four bushels of

wheat per acre from some of the land, it being the first crop of wheat ever taken from it. But the method of cultivating the corn is the point to which we wish to call particular attention. It is as follows:

"He sub-soil plows his land once in three years, with the best plows made for that purpose, drawn by a famous team of oxen that shows that they are fed on premium corn, and by an owner who knows how to raise premium crops and keep good cattle. The oxen weigh 3,600 pounds, and follow directly after the common plow, breaking up from *fifteen to eighteen* inches deep.

"After the corn is gathered in the autumn, he does not allow his fields to be trampled by any kind of stock. At convenient times he rolls the stalks down flat, lengthwise the rows, and plows them under in February, if the weather is favorable. At corn planting time he harrows his ground without any further plowing, plants his corn with the Cherokee Corn Planter, the rows being three feet three inches apart, with three grains in a hill.

"He cultivates his corn one way with a double shovel plow, the shovels being about four inches wide, plowing from *seven* to *eight inches deep* the first time, and as near the corn as possible. The second plowing is about *four* inches deep, and the third and last, two inches, *leaving the ground as level as possible*, and taking special care *not to cover the brace roots*, which are essential to the healthy growth of the crop. These brace-roots throw out an infinite number of fibrous roots—the feeding apparatus of the corn plant. A few years ago, Mr. Wright purchased a farm near him, which had been so badly managed that the occupants could not raise more than fifteen or twenty bushels of corn per acre. The first year after the purchase, he sub-soil plowed it and planted it in corn. The result was eighty-four bushels per acre; and in 1858, after the second sub-soiling, four years after it came into his possession, he raised the premium crop of over 130 bushels per acre.

"Here are accounts of repeated crops from the same land, and all by the same mode of cultivation, differing materially from the course followed by the great majority of farmers, and these crops *six* or *eight* times greater than the same land yielded under the ordinary mode of tillage practiced throughout the country, and with the exception of the labor of running the sub-soil plow, the cost of cultivation in no way exceeds that of the ordinary method.

"We have practiced both methods of cultivating this crop, and as the result of experience we have always recommended *deep and thorough plowing, planting with the drill, and dressing with the cultivator*, or what is equivalent in this case, the double shovel plow and *level culture*. Here we have the whole system demonstrated, and the returns of the two methods of culture compared. If this does not afford the arguments and the proof sufficient to induce the most skeptical to give it a fair trial, it is in vain to attempt to bring about improvement in this or in any other branch of farming. We hope we shall hear further from Mr. Wright."

AN ACT TO REGULATE AND LICENSE THE KEEPING OF DOGS.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Every owner or keeper of a dog shall, on or before the first Tuesday of April in each year, cause it to be registered, numbered, described and licensed for one year from that date in the clerk's office of the city, incorporated village or town where he resides, and shall pay for such license one dollar for every male dog six months old and upwards, and three dollars for every female dog six months old and upwards. The license shall be issued and the money received by said clerk, who shall pay the same into the treasury of said city, incorporated village, or town, to be used and appropriated with the other funds therein; and the clerk shall receive for each license so issued and collar stamped the sum of ten cents out of said funds. The treasurer shall keep an accurate and separate account of all sums received and paid out under the various provisions of this act, which account shall always be open to the inspection of any voter of the place.

SEC. 2. The owner of every dog so licensed shall keep a collar around its neck distinctly marked with the name of the owner, registered, numbered, and the year for which such dog is licensed, which date shall be stamped on said collar by the officer issuing said license, and for the purpose of enabling said officer to so stamp the collar with the year for which he shall issue a license as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the proper authorities of cities, incorporated villages, or towns to furnish such officers with a proper stamp for such purpose.

SEC. 3. Any person may, and every police officer, constable or marshal shall kill or cause to be destroyed all dogs going at large and not licensed and collared according to the provisions of this act; officers shall receive from the city or town treasurer twenty-five cents for each dog so destroyed and buried by them.

SEC. 4. Whoever shall remove the collar from the neck of a dog so licensed and collared, without the knowledge and consent of the owner, or steal a dog so licensed and collared, or shall alter the stamp on said collar, shall be punished by fine not exceeding fifty dollars.

SEC. 5. The owner of any sheep or lambs suffering loss by reason of worrying, maiming or killing thereof by dogs, may present, within thirty days after such loss shall come to his knowledge, to the mayor or alderman of the city, the president or trustees of any incorpo-

rated village, or supervisors of the town wherein the damage is done, proof thereof, and thereupon the said officers shall draw an order in favor of the owner of said sheep or lambs upon the treasurer of said city, incorporated village or town, for the amount of such loss. The treasurer shall register all such orders in full at the time of their presentation, and shall annually, on the first Tuesday in April, pay all such orders in full, if the gross amount received by said city, incorporated village or town, under the provisions of this act, up to such date, after deducting all sums previously paid out under such provisions, if sufficient therefor; otherwise the treasurer shall divide said amount, after deducting as aforesaid, *pro rata* among said orders and in full discharge thereof.

SEC. 6. Upon drawing an order, as is provided in the foregoing section, the city, incorporated village or town, may recover against the keeper or owner of any dog or dogs concerned in doing the damages, the full amount of the damages done.

SEC. 7. Whoever keeps a dog not registered, numbered, described and licensed according to the provisions of this act, shall forfeit the sum of five dollars to the use of the town, city or village wherein the dog is kept.

SEC. 8. Owners of dogs may at any time have them licensed until the first Tuesday in April succeeding, upon payment to the clerk of the sums provided in the first section of this act, but such payment and license shall not exempt them from the penalties of the preceding section on any complaint already made.

SEC. 9. No new license for the then current year shall be required upon the removal of any licensed dog into any other town or city, or incorporated village, unless the same be required by some by-law or ordinance passed under the provisions of the twelfth section of this act.

SEC. 10. The mayor and aldermen of any city, president and trustees of any incorporated village, and the supervisors of each town, shall require all dogs not licensed and collared according to the provisions of this act, to be destroyed by poison or otherwise, as they may ordain, and shall enforce all the penalties herein provided.

SEC. 11. Any officer of any city, town, or incorporated village, who shall refuse or neglect to perform the duties imposed upon him by this act, shall be punished by fine not exceeding twenty dollars for every twenty-four hours which he shall so neglect or refuse, which shall be paid into the treasury of such town, city, or incorporated village.

SEC. 12. The city council of any city, the trustees of any incorporated village, and the supervisors of any town may make such additional by-laws and regulations concerning the licensing and restraining of dogs as they may deem expedient, and may affix any additional penalties not exceeding ten dollars for any breach thereof; said by-laws and regulations shall relate only to such dogs as are owned or kept in such city, incorporated village or town, not conflicting with the provisions of this act, and the annual fee for a license shall not exceed one dollar in addition to the sum required by the first section of this act.

SEC. 13. All fines and forfeitures imposed as a penalty for the violation of any of the provisions of this act, or the neglect of any duty imposed by the same, shall be presented by complaint before a justice of the peace of the proper jurisdiction, and no mere technical objection to the complaint shall be alleged to defeat a prosecution so commenced, and prosecutions for fines and forfeitures under this act shall be in the name of the State of Wisconsin.

SEC. 14. In all cases under the provisions of this act, when any person or corporation shall be entitled to receive damages, the same shall be recovered in a civil action, prosecuted according to the laws of this State, and in cases where the action shall be prosecuted by a city, the action shall be prosecuted by the mayor or chief officer of such city as plaintiff, and when the action shall be prosecuted by an incorporated village, the action shall be in the name of the principal officer of such village as plaintiff, and when the action shall be prosecuted by a town, then the chairman of the board of supervisors shall be the plaintiff.

SEC. 15. All acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to repeal chapter 48 of the Revised Statutes, and said chapter 48 is hereby declared to be and to remain in full force.

SEC. 16. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

REMARKS.—The foregoing law was published on the 26th of March, and consequently under the terms of the 16th section, went into force, theoretically at that time. It appears to have been an oversight to have had it go into force before people had a reasonable time to get ready for it; still we presume that very little or no practical inconvenience will grow out of it.

Supposing that there are two or three hundred thousand dogs in the State, what a power of dollars it will take to comply with the law. Sheet brass out of which to make them will be as much in demand as it was not long ago for expanding a certain article of female wear.

How the law will be received by our Wisconsin people we cannot tell; that it ought, in the main, to find favor on all hands seems reasonable to us. No doubt some minor defects will be found in its practical operation;

but in the main we do not see why it should not redound largely to the advantage of the State.

That those who have sheep, as well as those who wished to keep them, have entertained a great and, in our opinion, well grounded fear of dogs, we know; let all such now put shoulder to the wheel and aid in sustaining the law, until at least it has had a fair trial. If such is the course pursued, we have no doubt but the sheep interest will be found to rapidly improve, and the State thereby be greatly benefitted.

There is no fact of which we are better satisfied than that the farm lands of Wisconsin will be materially enhanced, or diminished finally in their permanent value, by the fact, whether Wisconsin does or does not become a sheep and wool growing State. Mere grain growing and other stock will never sustain us upon the basis ordinarily assumed and expected by our people. Wheat and wool are the right and left bower of Wisconsin, while dogs properly estimated have no considerable intrinsic value. Hurrah, say we, for the dog-law!—let this new decree of Herod go forth!

AN EXPERIENCED BUTTER MAKER'S METHOD.

A correspondent of the *American Agriculturist* gives the following experience in butter making:

My experience for many years in a large dairy gives me some practical knowledge of what constitutes a good article of butter, and perhaps I cannot better explain the principle of making it, than by giving the regular method pursued by my family. In the spring, when our cows are coming in, we keep them entirely from the horse litter or stable, which would give the milk an unpleasant flavor, and feed them a little yellow corn, carrots or cornstalks, which improve the color and quality of the butter. We are very careful to strip the cows as clean as possible, and strain the milk in the cellar before it cools, in order that the cream may rise undisturbed. We use twelve-quart tin pails instead of pans, finding them more convenient. If the weather is freezing cold, we add about one teacupful of buttermilk to each pail, strain it full, and let it stand until the cream rises; then take enough for a churning to an upper room where fire is kept most of the time, and let it become loppered, at which time it is ready for the churn. We put about 24 gallons of milk in a 60 gallon churn, and in churning, have the dash rise above the milk, and descend to the bottom of the churn, otherwise there is a deficiency in churning all the milk effectually. We use no thermometer, but suppose the milk to be at about 60° or 65°, (Fahrenheit.) We can tell by the sound if the milk is tempered right—it will have a clear ring. We use horse-power and churn from sixty to eighty minutes. When the churning is nearly done, (which is told by the butter rising in separate specks upon the dash,) we put in about five gallons of water, continue to churn a few minutes longer, when the butter is ready to be taken out. It is then washed in two or three different waters, salted, and put away to stand about two hours for the salt to dissolve. It is then worked a few minutes at a time, several times during the day. When the brine becomes clear, it is packed in tubs holding about forty pounds, and sent to the city. This is our method of making butter until about the middle of May.

The means used to secure the thickening of the milk (loppering) depend on the weather. When it is mild, we strain the pails half full in the morning, and then fill them at night with warm milk. Again, if the weather is still warmer, we fill the pails full. Buttermilk is used only in cold weather. If a stove can be used in the cellar, it is preferable to any other mode for thickening milk.

About the middle of May, our cows are generally all in, and we commence the summer dairy. We have about fifty cows, and from five to seven persons who do the milking, and one who attends to straining the milk as fast as brought to the milk-bench adjoining the yard. Usually about nine quarts are strained in each pail. If, however, the weather is cool, more is added, if warm, less. Our cellar is kept quite dark, and free from any current of air. We think too much light bleaches the cream, and too much air dries its surface. When the weather becomes warm, ice is used to cool the butter fit for working, which is quite necessary, as it is hardly possible to work soft butter to any advantage. We are quite careful when using the ladle not to draw it over the surface of the butter, but to extract the buttermilk by gashing and pressing. We think the drawing of the ladle on the butter creates an oily surface, and changes its solidity, which causes it to become rancid. Ashton salt is used, about one ounce to the pound of butter, yet we have discovered a remarkable difference in what is called Ashton salt, some dissolving easily, some otherwise—I have sometimes thought that Ashton sacks were filled with Salina salt. Our firkins are filled with water, and soaked about twenty-four hours before packing in them.—When filled within an inch of the top, we spread a clean cloth on it, and put on half an inch or more of salt, then make a brine so strong that no more salt will dissolve in it, and pour the firkin full. We think brine cannot be made strong enough to prevent the top of the butter from changing its color and becoming rather light upon the surface, but salt and brine united will keep the butter without change.

THE LUPINE.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—The Lupine has recently been extensively raised in the northern part of Germany, and especially in the Luneburger Heide, (known as a very sterile and poor sandy soil in the kingdom of Hanover,) and is a plant of great value both for forage and as a fertilizer. It is sown about the end of April or beginning of May, one and a half bushels to the acre; and I think that would be the right time in our climate, because the seed does not come up very quick, say in ten to fourteen days. It is very liable to be killed by frost when it first comes out of the ground, but afterwards it will recover. It wants a great deal of moisture when it first comes up, but after that it grows very luxuriantly with but little rain. It should not be sown on cold and wet ground. If it is sown for hay, it should be cut when the seed appears; but it is difficult to cure the hay because it is so very succulent, and heats very easily in the stack. If to be used for seed, cut it when the first seed is ripe, because the first is the best, and the same would shell out if allowed to stand until all was quite ripe. If sown as a fertilizer, it should be plowed under while in full bloom; but it is not only a fertilizer when plowed under—even the roots and stubble enrich the soil very much. In wet seasons the stubble grows again, and makes a good pasture for sheep.

It grows on the Luneburger Heide from three to four feet high, yields from four to five tons of hay per acre, and sixty to seventy bushels of seed, in favorable seasons, and cattle eat the straw with great greediness, when once used to it. The hay is considered equal to timothy hay for sheep, but for cattle and horses of a little less value. The seed is equal in its nutritive character to peas, and is of much value for horses and working oxen, and for fattening cattle, sheep and hogs, although it makes the lard of a little yellowish color; but at first they refuse to eat it on account of its bitter taste, therefore it should be ground and mixed with some other kind of ground feed. Milch cows fed with meal of the seed give more milk, but of a little bitter taste.

There are three different kinds of this plant—the yellow, which is the most raised because it grows on the poorest land; the white and the blue, which require a better soil, and therefore are not of so much profit. For seed the yellow lupine should be sown a little thicker, because it does not then spread so many branches, and the best seed grows on the middle stem.

In older times this plant has been raised for forage for working cattle, and the seed has sometimes been used as a substitute for coffee and for breadstuff, but for this purpose the seed should be soaked in water for some time, to take away the bitter taste.

The above is a brief statement of a friend of mine who came from Germany last year, and who raised the lupine in the Luneburger Heide very extensively as a fertilizer, for hay and for seed, with much profit, and knows all about it by experience. I have been inquiring for seed without success, and if you know where any is to be had, please let me know; I would like to try it.

I am not a writer, but as an old subscriber of your paper, I took the liberty to give you an answer to your query; and if you find it useful, you may use it as you think best.

I am glad you changed your paper to a monthly again. Respectfully yours,

Otto Rollman.

Calumet, Fond du Lac Co., March 10, 1860.

Note.—Thank you, friend R., for so instructive an answer to our inquiry. We do not know who has any of the seed, but hope if anyone has, that they will make it known to us, or through the *Farmer*. We think it may prove a very valuable plant upon our light soils, not only for forage but for manure. If there is none in the country, some German farmer must import some before another spring. —Eds.

Soaking and Tarring Corn.—*Mr. Editor*—I will give you my method of *taring* corn, to prevent the crows from pulling it. I soak the seed in warm water until it is plump. I then prepare my tar by putting it into a vessel of nearly boiling water, and into it gently sift the corn. I skim it out immediately and roll in plaster of paris, so that it will not stick together, or to the hands when dropped.

I have prepared my seed corn in this way for six years, and have never in that time, had a hill pulled by the crows. I use two large spoons full, or more, to the peck of corn. If dry corn is tarred, it will not come up, as the tar forms a coating over it that prevents its swelling or ever sprouting. I plant from four to six acres a year, and have no trouble either from the crows, or from the corn not coming up.

Daniel M. Huse,

In the N. H. Journal of Ag.

Northfield, N. H.

PRODUCERS vs. NON-PRODUCERS.

REMARKS OF HON. MR. HOWLAND, OF KENOSHA, IN THE ASSEMBLY, MARCH 21ST.

The bill for an act to abolish attorney fees being before the Assembly, the question was upon concurring in the report of the committee on the Judiciary, to strike out the enacting clause of the bill. Mr. Howland said:

MR. SPEAKER—I hope the report of the committee will not be concurred in. I can give some good reasons, in my opinion, for the passage of this bill. It is true, I will admit, that in consequence of the present hard times, occasioned by the great financial crisis just passed, and through which, in this State, we are still passing, that each member of this body, that has given the subject any attention, has his own peculiar views, which may be termed his hobby, for restoring the country to prosperity and happiness. Some think that a reduction in the rate of interest (although there is no money to loan at present rates) will make money plenty and revive all branches of business and industry, others seem to imagine, with a good deal of sincerity, too, that to appoint and establish a commissioner of foreign emigration in the city of New York, would turn the tide of emigration, and soon fill Wisconsin with population and wealth, and give a fresh impetus to agriculture and manufacturing; while others believe that some particular kind of assessment law is the only salvation of the State. I also have my particular views upon this subject, differing widely from any others that I have heard advanced in this House. My whole plan is comprised in two plain propositions—*reduce our expenses and increase our products;* two problems, simple, yet comprehensive, and the truth of which I think none will dispute; but the practical solution of them is the great question that is entitled to the careful and candid consideration of every member of this Assembly.

Our courts are a great burthen to the people. We pay too much tax for all services in the judicial department of our government, from judge down to constable. It is now a well established fact, that the cost of collecting by law in this State averages over one hundred per cent, a part of which is paid by the parties, and the balance by the State and counties—the means raised by taxation. Attorney fees are generally regular steals, do creditors no good, but do debtors great injustice by making them pay for what they never received; besides they encouage litigation thereby, increasing costs and as a consequence taxation. The net proceeds of the State are less than the taxes. This may seem to be a startling statement, but is nevertheless true. The total amount of exports of the products of the year 1858, according to the reports of the Secretary of State, was $11,896,350, of which $4,500,000 was in lumber, on which it is well known that there has been no profit for the last two years, which being deducted from the whole amount leaves $7,396,350, and the products of 1859 were $4,000,000 more than those of 1858. Therefore allowing the same amount for home consumption as the previous year, which is a low estimate because there is a small increase in population, we have $11,396,350, on which estimate twenty per cent profit (the balance will no more than equalize imports,) and we have $2,279,270 with which to pay over $3,000,000 of taxes of various kinds, and not one cent with which to pay our enormous public and private debts. Without some remedy is devised and put in practice, without our products are increased or expenditures diminished, or both, bankruptcy is inevitable. This does not admit of a doubt—is only a question of time.

Our State government is fashioned after that of the State of New York, the most expensive government of the older States north of Mason and Dixon's line. But Wisconsin has improved on the model in many respects—ours is a government for officers, not for citizens—for lawyers, not for farmers. This attorney fee bill is not an old established principle in courts of laws, but a new fangled swindle.

There are no attorney fees established by law in Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan or Illinois. In New Hampshire the attorney fee is $1, and for drawing a complaint one dollar. In Connecticut attorney fee is one dollar in the Superior Court, and sixty-seven cents in the County Court. Now let us examine for a moment the result of these different systems and policies of government. The taxes in those States range from one-fourth to one-half of what they do in this State on property of the same value, and as a consequence New England farmers have grown rich on their sterile soil; industry has been amply rewarded even among their rocks and hills; prosperity and happiness have gone hand in hand; while in Wisconsin, with all her natural resources, her broad prairies spread out in all their loveliness—their beauty only rivalled by the fertility of the soil; our grain not costing more than one-fourth for cultivation what it would in New England; and our immense natural meadows, without culture, annually ready for the scythe at the coming of harvest. Yet with all these advantages the people are bankrupt in name, and almost bankrupt in fact, because labor is unrequited; our substance is eaten out by non-producers; drones in society roll in luxury on the products of defrauded labor, and industry paralyzed by taxation has gone a-begging.

The legislation of this State has fostered lawyers and ministerial officers of Court to the great detriment of laboring and producing classes, and to the ruin of the State. There are but few lawyers here—theirs is the only

business that pays—they are reaping their harvest out of the misfortunes of others, and they cannot afford to leave their work *in their hurry*, for the bare honors of legislators. Hence, now is the time, with fifty-six farmers on this floor, and many other members belonging to industrial pursuits, to turn over a new leaf, and legislate for the State—for the people, instead of a class.

Pass these bills and thereby make producers of multitudes of worse than idlers, and then you will have done something for the State.—Many second and third rate lawyers, who would then be unnecessary in their profession, would make good farmers; but who are not *smart enough* to make a living by farming under our present laws, hence are obliged to follow a profession that has been cherished and encouraged by every Legislature since the formation of our State Government.

Farming, mining and manufacturing are the only sources of wealth in this State. It is true that merchants and produce dealers are necessary to carry on our exchanges and furnish the conveniences of life—sill they produce nothing, add nothing to the wealth of the State. But lawyers and officers are only necessary evils, and the fewer we have of them, and the less they are paid, the better it is for the country. The poor man that produces one bushel of potatoes for exportation in addition to his current expenses, does more to enrich the State, more to relieve his country of her embarrassments, than all the lawyers in the State have done in their profession since the adoption of our Constitution. Hence the great necessity of protecting industry, of fostering and encouraging agriculture and manufacturing by simply letting those branches alone and letting them take care of themselves, and not taxing them to death for the support of lawyers (as to lawyers I mean indirectly) and to pay enormous salaries and fees of officers. We pay too much for the services of almost every officer in the State—on an average more than double what is necessary to have the services equally well performed. I intended to have had the statutes of several other States here to have proven the truth of these statements, by showing that in some States there is not paid in many instances more than one-fourth of the fees that are paid in this State, but still good men are found to fill all their offices, the duties of which are well discharged, but I did not expect that this bill was coming up this morning, and therefore was not prepared. I will close with a single suggestion.

If the people and corporations of this State are in debt twenty millions, and with good crops and fair prices they could pay five millions and interest annually, they would pay off all their debts in four years; but if the first five millions is sued, and one hundred per cent added by litigation, which as I before stated is about the average cost of collecting by law, in this State, it is plain that at the end of the first year our products will be used up in payment of costs and fees, and the original debts remain the same. This course may thus be followed from year to year, until our resources are exhausted and the energies of the people worn out, and still our debts will be unpaid.

I have several other bills before this House, to which a part of my arguments apply, all having in view the same end, to reduce our expenditures and increase our products.

NOTE.—We are rather well pleased with the spirit, tenor and *truth* of the foregoing speech; would like to hear many more such in our legislative halls, and also to see them acted upon. But we are anticipating what we propose to say in another place.

The report of the committee was not concurred in—18 ayes, and 60 noes.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE.

More Testimony in favor of its Great Value, and the Ease with which it can be Manufactured.

We publish the following certificates as a few among many going to show what can be done with the Sorghum with Cook's Evaporator; and also showing what was done even last year, unfavorable as it was, in many sections of the country.

The statement of Mr. Cummings, of Illinois, does not show it a bad business; and what he did, we doubt not any one can do just as well in Wisconsin, all years when corn will grow.

We much desire to see a stop put to the drain of two or three millions of dollars per annum, that we now pay for sugar, &c.: the people of Wisconsin can illy afford it, and yet they must have the sugar and syrup—it has become *a big* necessary of life, not only in the palace, but in the cottage.

Read carefully what these parties, including Judges, ex-Governors, &c., say upon the subject, and see if you dare take courage to plant again; perhaps you had better quit raising corn, because it partially failed last year.

Weyauwega, Wis., Sept. 8, 1859.

MR. CRAWFORD SPEAR:

Sir—I received yours of August 25th, enclosing shipping bill of No. 2 Cook's Evaporator, and the article arrived on the 6th inst., all in good order, the freight only $2.96, which I think is cheap, for the distance and bulk. But I must tell you I thought I was "sold" again, by the looks of the animal. But I kept cool, for there was a great deal of guessing when it came up Wolf River what the animal was made for; but the Natives came to the conclusion that "Meiklejohn was getting a

patent baby-rocker." But to the trial of the machine. In the first place, I must state to you that our cane was all killed down with the frost on the first night of September, and a good deal of it disjointed: so it was impossible to have a fair trial this year. I got it set properly, and commenced grinding and evaporating, and in two hours I evaporated forty-eight gallons of juice, which made four gallons and one quart of thick syrup, equal in color to any strained honey, and clear from any foreign substance. I must say that I was as much astonished at the operation of the machine, (for I must call it by that name,) as the natives were in knowing what it was made for. it is just the article that is required for the cane business, and will work well in manufacturing maple sugar and molasses. It is well worth paying for.

Yours, &c., PETER MEIKLEJOHN.

[From Hon. Thos. H. Ford, Ex Governor of Ohio]

Mansfield, O.

I hereby certify that I exhibited samples of sugar made by D. M. Cook on his Evaporator, at the Patent Office of the United States, in February last, and that upon examination and comparison, the sugar made on Cook's Evaporator was pronounced superior to any other.

THOS. H. FORD.

[From Hon. John Sherman, Member of Congress]

Mansfield, O.

I have seen and examined Cook's Evaporator, and also several samples of sugar and molasses made with it. I have no hesitation in recommending it as a valuable invention. The sugar and molasses are both of a superior quality and cheaply and cleanly made.

JOHN SHERMAN.

Cook's Evaporator seems to be the most successful of its class at the Fairs this season. At the Illinois State Fair, Dr. Ostrander. of that State, detailed to us his discoveries and successes in the way of obtaining sugar this season, even from green canes, with this Evaporator. He finds that the juice in its travels, when reaching about the fifth space, deposits the gum which is supposed to hinder crystalization, and this once got rid of, the syrup is readily converted into sugar.—*Ohio Cultivator.*

The editor of the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* witnessed its operation at the Ohio State Fair, at Zanesville, last fall, and wrote home as follows:

SORGHUM OR SUGAR CANE.

Crushers and Evaporators.—This feature in the agriculture of this latitude, which is destined to become a fixed and interesting staple, must take an impetus from this day. Many of our southern counties in particular, have abandoned the cultivation of Sorghum from the discouraging fact that they were unable to make anything but a dark molasses of Sorghum juice.

It is now discovered that all depends on the *rapidity* of the evaporation, and the process of cleansing.

Cook's Portable Rocking Evaporator, manufactured by Blymyer & Bro., Mansfield, O., meets the difficulty handsomely and fully. It evaporates three barrels per hour, and produces beautiful granulated sugar. This was done on the grounds yesterday, and reanimated the discouraged so that they were flooded with orders at once. The working is beautiful and an entire success.

Cook's Portable Sugar Evaporator, manufactured by Blymyer, Bates & Co., Mansfield, Ohio, elicited many warm commendations. It was in constant and successful operation on the grounds—the only portable one that was. It converted sugar cane juice into good syrup in the course of twenty or thirty minutes, and the syrup is converted into sugar by it, without the aid of any chemical agents. This is a special advantage gained by this Evaporator. We saw and tasted the sugar made by it, and found it perfectly free from all cane taste, and indeed an excellent article, good enough for anybody's use. It evaporated four barrels of juice an hour, in the trial on the grounds, and will make about three barrels of syrup a day. —*Freeport (Ill.) Journal.*

Brookfield, Ill., Nov. 14th, 1859.

Messrs. Blymyer, Bates & Co.:

GENTS—This is to certify that I have had considerable experience in manufacturing syrup from the Chinese Sugar Cane for the last three years; therefore I have had an opportunity of using several different kinds of boilers or evaporators, but have never found any that I could make molasses with that was much better than the New Orleans molasses, till this year, when I bought two of D. M. Cook's No. 2 Portable Sugar Evaporators, and have manufactured with them over sixteen hundred gallons of syrup, and expect to manufacture several hundred gallons more this season, that will be equal with that already made. I have scores ready to testify that my syrup is *superior* to Stuart's best golden syrup, as it has not that strong, rank taste that all golden syrup has; but has a pleasant, mild taste, and looks like pure honey as it runs from new honey-comb, and retails for 65 to 75 cts. per gallon. All this is done without the use of any cleansing materials, as the Evaporators are *perfect cleansers*, and will evaporate three hundred gallons of cane juice each in one day, which will make from thirty to fifty gallons of syrup. With good wood and proper care, twenty minutes is all that is required to reduce the juice to a proper thickness, which will flow off in a constant stream and of that quality as above stated.

My cane has yielded on an average one hundred and fifty gallons of syrup per acre; or in

other words, I shall realize $87 per acre, which will leave a profit of $62 per acre, after paying the highest price for cultivating and manufacturing the syrup. I would say to all who cultivate the soil, to plant one half of their corn ground with Chinese Sugar Cane the coming year, as it is the most profitable crop that was ever raised in the West.

Yours, &c., C. L. CUMMINGS.

HONEY LOCUST FOR HEDGES.—Mrs. Helen Rollins writes, "I have recently seen an article recommending Honey Locust as very far superior to Osage Orange for hedges. Can you, or any of your correspondents, give me any information concerning the successful culture of the Honey Locust for hedges in a western soil and climate? and where can I get the young trees? Let us hear through the *Prairie Farmer*."

Dr. Warder, as good authority as there is in America, says in his work on Hedges and Evergreens: "The size attained by this tree in its native wild, would appear to disqualify it for the purpose of hedging, but its thorns, and the peculiar tendency of its branches to form sturdy, short jointed spray, when subjected to close pruning, make it a capital material from which to form an impregnable barrier upon the outside of farm enclosures." He says his own observations of it, as seen in the commons and by the roadside, have satisfied him it is worthy of further trial as an outside fence. He says, "my reasons are, its easy propagation, its strong and rapid growth, its endurance of severe clipping, and its tendency, when cut in, to produce a multitude of strong, short jointed shoots, while the whole plant is covered with terrible thorns, that bid defiance to man and beast. Generally, the hedges that I have seen of this locust, have failed from too close planting, by which means a large proportion of the plants were smothered, and others from want of trimming. The result was very soon a row of trees. I shall plant three feet apart, beside a public road, and trim severely, as often as may seem needful, until the brush habit be established; nor ever allow a leader to grow a yard above the hedge top, and by this course I shall expect to have an impenetrable hedge in two, or at most three years from planting." Dr. Warder quotes the experience of other parties, sustaining his favorable opinion of this plant.—*Prairie Farmer.*

REMARKS.—We have recommended the honey locust especially for orchard and garden hedges; have planted it around our own, and have great faith in it. It is cheap, hardy and of swift growth, a fine shelter, a handsome ornamental tree, and as thorny and impassable by man or beast, as a wall of fire. The young trees may be found in most nurseries. J. C. Plumb & Co. have plenty of them, at about $1.50 per hundred, or $10 per thousand.

REMARKS OF HON. SENATOR TAYLOR, OF DANE ON THE BILL FOR PROTECTING THE WOOL-GROWING INTERESTS OF THE STATE.

Senator Taylor said the committee on Agriculture had examined the laws of several States and had selected the Massachusetts law as the best on the whole for a basis; he would give some statistics which he thought quite reliable. In 1858 the total products of the State was $28,500,000, or $35 per head on a population of 800,000. In 1859, with the increased wheat crop and increased prices, it amounted to only about $31,500,000, or $40 for each individual of the State for all departments of productive industry. Of the wheat crop raised in 1858, we exported to the value, as estimated by the report of the Secretary of State and other reports, ... $2,986,350
We sold of wool, say 160,000
Lumber exported out of the State, 4,500,006
Lead raised and smelted, ... 2,000,000
Corn and oats, &c., ... 500,000
Furs, hides, potash, fisheries and other products, ... 1,000,000

Total, ... $11,896,350

or about $15 per head, sold out of the State, with which to pay the enormous interests on our private and public debts, for our excessive importations, consisting of everything, from a ship anchor to a jewsharp. Being almost exclusively an agricultural State, the necessity of developing every resource and of devising new ones, must be apparent to every mind; hence the extreme necessity of encouraging sheep husbandry to our greatest capacity.

In 1859 we had about 360,000 sheep, yielding about 1,080,000 pounds of wool.

In 1850 Vermont, on an area of 8,000 square miles, had 3,400,000 lbs., and upon this basis Wisconsin could produce, making all due allowance, at least 20,000,000 lbs.; worth as much as the entire amount of wheat that we can export in any one year. Our wool clip should be at least five or six millions of dollars worth annually. Our soil and climate are peculiarly adapted to raising sheep, far superior to Vermont or Ohio. We have the cool, dry, tonic atmosphere, so essential to wool-growing. Our soils are adapted to the growth of clover and other fodder necessary for sheep. It has been said that we cannot grow clover, but this is a mistake. Facts are always better than theories. In the whole section of country south the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, there was hardly a farm that would not produce clover in luxuriance.

Other States have seen the necessity of dog laws. States that were formerly largely engaged in wool growing have been gradually decreasing in this branch of industry. He had a letter from the Secretary of the State Agricultural Society of Massachusetts, in which he said that the growing of sheep had become almost absolete owing to the depreda-

tions of dogs; and had no doubt that the passage of their dog law in 1858 would add fully $1,000,000 to the wealth of that State in 1860. Maine has been decreasing in her wool product every since 1840, until they are this winter enacting a dog law similar to the Massachusetts law. The same has been the experience of Ohio. In 1850, Ohio produced 10,196,000 lbs. of wool; in 1854, she reached her maximum, having $8,000,000 worth of sheep. In 1859 the total value of her sheep was reduced, as estimated, to $4,700,000, and their wool crop a little over 5,000,000 lbs. And it has been shown that 97,000 sheep had been destroyed in a single year, valued at $146,780. In view of these facts the Ohio Legislature is this winter passing a dog law far more stringent than the one before the committee. As fashionable dogs increased, valuable sheep decreased to an alarming extent.

In 1850 there were imported into the United States 32,000,000 pounds of wool. The money paid for this should have been kept at home, and would have been, had a proper regard been paid for this important branch of productive industry.

But the growth of wool is not the only advantage to be gained by killing dogs. It has been stated that some fourteen or fifteen persons had, during the past year, died of that most terrible disease, hydrophobia. One human life is worth far more than all the dogs in the State. It will also open new avenues to wealth to the farmer. The wheat crop is uncertain, and we must encourage manufactures, and thus give employment to thousands who otherwise would be idle. He considered this bill as an important measure, and he hoped Senators would meet this question fairly and discuss it honestly; meet it by argument, not by ridicule; let the measure stand upon its merits. Last winter probably 10,000 persons petitioned for a law of this character, and none remonstrated. The present Legislature has been memorialized by the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society on this subject, and the bill before us has their unanimous approval, and they are earnestly urging upon the Legislature the necessity of passing this bill. He hoped that it would soon assume the form of law.

REMARKS.—We publish the foregoing extract from Senator Taylor's speech for its sound views and valuable statistical information. We would gladly have given place to his whole speech, but for the press of other matter.

Senator T. has labored zealously during the session for the advancement of the interests of agricultural and other important reforms, and by his industry and skill accomplished much. The law for the protection of sheep has been loudly demanded for several years by a majority of the intelligent farmers of the State, and although its execution may—as of course it will—raise a howling among that class of men who are willing to sacrifice a great State interest, like that of wool-growing, to their partiality for a pet dog, its passage by the legislature will be hailed as one of, if not the most important act of the session just closed.

The Senator's energy, courage and persistence fitted him admirably to push to its consummation a measure which the Agricultural Societies and the people urged upon him, and he should have and will doubtless receive, the gratitude of every sensible farmer in Wisconsin, for the manliness with which he as taken his position and maintained it.

MORE ABOUT CRANBERRIES.

In reply to many who are enquiring about Cranberry culture, we copy the following from the *Rural New-Yorker:*

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—It is nearly a year since an article appeared in your excellent paper over my signature, on the subject of *Cranberry Culture.* Since that time many inquiries have been addressed to me by enterprising gentlemen from all parts of the land. I know not how I can answer such inquiries better than through a little space in your columns, if you can allow me such space. The inquiries addressed to me are something like the following, viz:

1st. What soil is best adapted to the culture of the cranberry? and how should it be prepared?

2d. Is a cranberry meadow likely to prove durable after the vines are regularly rooted?

3d. Can cranberries be successfully transplanted?

4th. Does the soil need enriching, as in the case of other vegetables?

The answers to these questions will, perhaps, meet the points of inquiry so often repeated in the course of a few weeks. To the first I reply:—That low, wet land is the best. It must not, however, be too wet—the surface water, if any there be, should be removed by drains; and where the water has not been so deep as to prevent the formation of a tough sod, it will be necessary to pare off the sod to a sufficient depth to remove all grass roots. A sufficient number of drains should be cut to dispose of all redundant water, and not more—for the ground should be moist. I think it well to close up the drains in the fall, and let the water spread over the meadow during the winter. It will do the plants no injury, but will be likely to prevent weeds and grass from taking root, and growing, which would soon prove too much for the plants in question.

The sod removed, if snugly piled, will soon furnish an excellent compost for fruit trees.

The ground thus divested of its sod and surface water, is prepared for the plant. The first thing in the labor of transplanting, is to open shallow, parallel trenches, 1½ or 2 feet apart; into these trenches I plant my vines—varying from one to eight feet in length.—These I cover slightly every six or eight inches, when the labor of transplanting is done. The plant, now left to the secret operation of natural laws, will weave its ligaments into the yielding soil, and send its slender tendrils outward, until, in the course of two or three years, it covers the entire surface—and from the first year of its setting, will reward the labor and time given to it in a greatly increasing ratio. April and May I consider the best time for setting plants—as those set in the fall are more liable to be raised out by the freezing of winter.

What I have already stated answers the question—"Can cranberry vines be successfully transplanted?" but in addition, I may state that while on a journey eastward, recently, I saw meadows that had been set with plants bearing in rich abundance. No fears need be entertained of "the loss of plants," if set in moist soil.

As to the durability of cranberry meadows, I am not able to see why they should not be durable. The plant is what might be termed a slender semi-aquatic evergreen—and does not, like some overgrown annual plants, make heavy draft upon the soil which they do not return. It is satisfied to feed temporately upon water and the slightly alluvial deposits afforded by the wash of the neighboring highlands, so that "the soil needs no enriching." That they have been picked from Martha's Vineyard ever since 1803, is a further proof of the durability of the cranberry. Finally, I believe there are hundreds, not to say thousands, of farmers throughout our prosperous country, who have low, wet lands, that are, and will continue to be, sources of annoyance to their enterprising owners, until they put them to the use for which nature has fitted them, viz: cranberry culture.

NOBLE HILL.

Caton, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1860.

THE PEACH BLOW POTATO.

ED. AMERICAN FARMER:—In the February number of your valuable paper I have seen a remark relative to the quality of the Peach Blow Potato being overrated. My experience teaches me to believe different. Having stopped early last spring at the U. S. Hotel, New York, I was struck with the fine flavor of the potatoes which came on the table. I enquired of the proprietor, Mr. Carroll, what kind of potatoes they were; he told me they were the Peach Blows, of which he had bought 400 bushels, at a cost of $1.25 per bushel. On my return to Baltimore, I looked every where for them, and at length had some offered to me on Pratt street, near the wharf, as the genuine Peach Blow, but none looked to me like those I saw in New York. I took a few home with me, had them cooked, and found them of a different color and entirely different flavor from those I saw and ate in New York, and I concluded that none of them were genuine; so I ordered some from Mr. J. G. McMurray, of Lansingburgh, a few miles above Troy, N. Y., for which I paid $1.25 per bushel, besides the freight to Baltimore. According to Mr. McMurray's directions, I plowed deep furrows to lay the sets in, in order to have sufficient soil to throw over them afterwards, as they produce so abundantly. I followed his directions, and the result was that I raised 700 bushels on five acres of new land, planted with corn the year before. I allowed Dr. Councilman a few last spring for seeding, and he pronounced the result the same. I also sent my son-in-law, Mr. J. B. Van Court, (near Ofallon, Ill.,) a few last spring, and I have now from his neighbors orders for twelve barrels of seed potatoes, at $1.25 per bushel. I have also orders from this immediate neighborhood, as well as from gentlemen on the Frederick road, and near Elkridge Landing, who ate of them, and who intend to plant them for family use. I have sold them to private families in Baltimore by ten and even forty bushels at a time, and all who tried them preferred them to the Mercer. Of the latter, I planted some in the same field, and did not raise over fifty bushels to the acre, and was offered 75 cents per bushel, when I got $1 for every bushel of the Peach Blows. When my team goes to Baltimore, I will send you some to try, and I have no doubt you will form a different opinion about the Peach Blows. They keep very firm until new potatoes make their appearance and are entirely free of rot.

I saw also that you take great interest in the culture of the grape. I commenced planting grape vines three years ago, and have now two acres in a fine thrifty condition. Some of the vines bore very abundantly last summer, and I have made some wine, of whose quality I will give you information hereafter. Should any person wish to embark in this business, I will take great pleasure in giving all information, by giving me a call at my place. The vines are mostly Catawba, and a few Isabella. I shall have some cuttings for sale this spring.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

G. H. MITTNACHT,

Near Pikesville.

We have found these potatoes on trial very fine—quite equal to Mr. M's description.—*American Farmer.*

☞ The wheat is reported to be badly injured by "freezing out," in Sullivan, Pike, Knox and other counties in the south-western part of Indiana.

STOCK REGISTER.

CORN STALKS FOR MILCH COWS.

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—On the 24th page of the present volume of the *Farmer*, is an article on the utility of feeding corn stalks to milch cows, so at variance with the opinions of the experienced farmers of this county that I think there must be some mistake about it. It may be possible, in fact *very probable*, that corn stalks, allowed to stand exposed to all the frosts and rains of the fall, and all the goodness frozen, washed or bleached out of them, then thrown to a cow uncut, would "cause her to fall back in her milk," and I think in her *flesh* too!

Would not the same result follow the feeding of hay, thus cured and fed?

This same subject has been brought up twice in the Sheboygan County Farmer's Club. First, in discussing the question, "The most economical method of wintering stock," and, second, "The proper culture, &c., of corn." Their value, in both instances, was acknowledged by all. There was some difference of opinion as to feeding them; but the general impression was, it would pay to cut them, and if possible, steam them.

Mr. Parker, one of our substantial farmers, stated he would rather have them for milch cows than good hay.

Mr. Paine stated that his cows gave as much milk when fed half corn stalks and half straw, cut and mixed, as on any treatment he ever tried.

In fact, so highly were the stalks valued, as an article of food, that not the least interesting portion of the debate was upon the proper treatment of the *stalks* to render them the most nutritious and available. Mr. Parker stated that the stalks, properly secured, would pay the whole expense of cultivation.

Would it not be interesting to know under what circumstances the writer of that article arrived at the result stated? In what condition were the stalks, how fed, &c., &c.

It was recommended by some members of our Club, to cut corn when the husks on the ears are one-fourth turned, set up in small bunches, open at the bottom, that the wind may circulate through and prevent moulding the corn. When the corn is ready to husk, the stalks will be in a condition to put away in the barn, and if they mould a little, it will not injure them for fodder.

Very Respectfully, E. F. BARROWS.
Sheboygan Falls, Feb. 29, 1860.

NOTE.—This communication got mislaid when received, or it would have appeared in due course.—EDS.

[From the New England Farmer.]

FATAL DISEASE AMONG CATTLE.

The farmers of our Commonwealth, and indeed of New England, will learn with regret that a disease which threatens to prove as extensive and fatal as the cattle murrain of Europe, if indeed it be not the same malady, has made its appearance among the stock in North Brookfield and vicinity. The *Journal* gives the following account of its origin and spread, which is corroborated from other sources:

"The disease was introduced last summer by a calf of foreign breed, brought from the town of Belmont. It fixes itself upon the lungs, and produces a violent cough, and the lungs are finally destroyed. Some of the cattle attacked with it linger along for weeks; others die in a few days after the attack.—None have recovered.

"Letters from farmers in North Brookfield say that the disease is apparently making a clean sweep through the herds in that direction, where it has got a foothold. One man has lost ten head of cattle, and has as many more sick. Another man has lost seven, and the best of his herd are sick. In North Brookfield and New Braintree, the disease is in five or six herds.

"One gentleman in North Brookfield writes to a member of the Legislature that the disease is of the most alarming character. The calf from Belmont was carried to Leonard Stoddard. His cattle began to be sick, and one after another died. He sold an animal to Mr. Olmstead, and the stock of the latter are all dying. Mr. Stoddard also sold a cow to Mr. Huntington, who has since lost seven cows, and has ten more sick; so of another herd in New Braintree, where some of Mr. Stoddard's stock were sent. If allowed to spread, continues the writer, the disease will cause general destruction. It is a foreign disease, and the same that prevails in Holland at this time. It seems almost certainly fatal.

"Something effective should be done, otherwise it will spread all over the State. Oxen infected with it are now worked in the streets. This should be stopped. The selectmen ought to be authorized to forbid any person who has any imported stock from taking it out of his own premises, and to cause the immediate destruction of all sickly animals. A petition to the Legislature is now in circulation among the farmers in the western part of the State,

or about to be put in circulation, to effect the purpose above expressed.

"We learn that the disease has entered the herd of the gentleman in Belmont who sold the calf to Mr. Stoddard, and that his cattle are nearly all exterminated.

"Persons whose cattle are infected are making anxious inquiries of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture and others, with a view of ascertaining some remedy for a disease which threatens to depopulate the farm-yards of the Commonwealth."

It is a matter of the utmost importance that some preventive should be adoped, and seasonably. Notwithstanding veterinary authorities prescribe remedies—among which are the separation of the diseased animals from their companions, light and nutritious diet, relief of urgent symptoms, &c.—we hold that the only *sure and effectual safeguard* is the immediate slaughter of every animal which is infected. This course will entail considerable loss upon farmers, but we should advocate it, even if the State were to be called on to make good the loss; for a comparatively small expenditure now, may not only prevent the spread of a loathsome and fatal disease, but also protect people from the possible evils of purchasing the carcases of the affected animals for food.

The contagious or infectious character of the disease would seem to be sufficiently established. Morton's Cyclopædia of Agriculture, an English work, states that

"The term (pleuro-pneumonia) denotes inflamation not only of the substance of the lungs but also of the membrane which covers them, as well as that which lines the cavity of the chest. Post mortem examinations lead to the conclusion that the disease is of an inflammatory character. With regard to its infectious character a doubt can scarcely be entertained. It would seem to be evident that the disease is produced by an animal poison floating in the atmosphere, and in most cases proceeding from the respiratory surfaces of diseased animals."

This authority, under the head of "Treatment," suggests that in case a herd is large, and only one or two animals appear to be affected, it would be most prudent to slaughter them all at once, and sell the beef of the healthy ones. We understand that a bill to this effect has been presented to the Legislature. If not, we hope that no time will be lost in passing a bill that shall embrace the above provisions, and also forbid the driving of cattle from the infected region to market, until the disease shall have completely disappeared.

NOTE.—The foregoing strange disease seems to be greatly alarming the neighborhoods where it has appeared, and we are not surprised at it. Efficient measures should certainly be adopted to prevent its spread if possible. We think it possible that it is a local epidemic, instead of an infectious disease introduced as stated.—EDS. FAR.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE COWS?—*Eds. Wis. Farmer:*—A fleshy substance about the size of a pea, stops the passage of milk from the teat of one of my cows. A temporary relief is afforded by inserting a knitting needle. What is the cause? A good many cows are effected in the same way. What is the remedy? O. W. PARK.

Mazo Manie.

BLACK HAWKS THE BEST ROADSTERS.—At the agricultural show at St. Louis, Mo., last fall, $1,000 was offered as a premium for the best roadster stallion. The judges from the great number offered selected six which were deemed the best, and then made a critical examination of them to find the best *one*. Of these six, five were the sons of Black Hawk, and the sixth a grandson. "Stockbridge Chief," bred in Massachusetts and now owned in Ohio, won the premium.

EXTRAORDINARY COW.—The polled Angus cow, bred by Hugh Watson, of Keillor, shown at the Highland Society's show at Aberdeen in 1858, where she had a medal awarded to her, died at Keillor on Friday, July 1, 1859, at the wonderful age of thirty-five years and six months. This old cow was the dam of twenty-five calves, all of whom carried prizes at different competitions in Scotland, England and Ireland, and they and their progeny are now spread over many countries and climes. The old cow retained her fine shape and rich mellow quality till she arrived at the mature age of twenty-eight years, when she gave up breeding or giving milk, but continued active, and picked up her food along with the other cows of the herd, never having got any food beyond the common run of the farmyard. She gradually fell off for the last two years, till she became a most striking picture of old age and infirmity, but gave up gathering her food in the field only two days, when an excellent photograph picture of her was taken by Mr. Jackson, of Perth, and she then lay down and died, never before having been an hour ill, such was her robust constitution and healthy habit.

THE CALVING COW.—*Mr. Editor:*—It is often of much importance to the owner of a valuable cow, to know the exact time when she will give birth to her calf. Some years since an old stock breeder gave the writer instructions in touching, which have been verified by practice.

By touching the cord or cartilage which connects the point of the rump with the back bone, for several days before, and five or six times each day before the cow calves, one will find that what seems to be bone softens before the cow is in labor. If, upon touching the point mentioned, the herdsman finds the *cords* begin to feel soft, or relax, he may be sure the cow will, if everything be favorable, calve *within* twelve hours. If the cord is all gone, nothing to be felt but skin and very soft flesh, she will calve within six hours.

A little practice will enable any reader to know whether he must *sit up* with his cow or not. In my own herd there has not been for years a calf born that I have not helped up, or given such assistance as the case might require.—J. R. P., in the *Am. Stock Journal*.

Sennett, New York.

☞ I noticed, some time ago, a good deal written about keeping a mixed stock on pastures. As I have been a keeper of stock from very early youth until now, I venture to give my opinion. And first, I have found sheep do very well amongst cattle, but cattle do badly amongst sheep. To prove it, let the farmer take the fodder left by the cattle, even when part of it has been trodden under their feet, and if the sheep are not very fully fed, they will see the sheep eat it up very greedily; then let him take what his sheep leaves, and offer it to his cattle, and he will find they won't taste it, if they can get anything else; or let him turn his milch cows into a sheep pasture, and he will find them fail in milk. Cattle do well where horses pasture. In proof of this, every farmer must have seen that cattle will eat the litter of horses, even if fully fed, but horses won't eat what cattle leave, unless compelled to do so. But horses and sheep will do well in some pastures, especialy the horses. To prove this, let the farmer turn out the sheep from their yards, turn in his horses, and they will eat up all the sheep have left, even the litter around the racks.—John Johnston, in the *Ohio Farmer*.

About Sheep.—A correspondent of the New England *Farmer* says:

Sheep often become breachy from carelessness. It does not require remarkably good fences to turn them. I have kept sheep for twenty years or more on land fenced almost entirely with stone walls, and find no difficulty in keeping them quiet and orderly. In the first place, select those that have not learned to jump; have all gaps properly repaired, and fasten the bars so that they cannot rub them down. As a rule, look at each flock once a day at least, and see that the fences are kept up, and give them enough to eat, and my experience is that sheep will not learn to jump. Sheep have long been a favorite stock with me, and for the last ten or twelve years South Downs have been *the sheep*. I have found that fifty ewes well kept will generally raise seventy-five lambs; mine have frequently done better. The past year I raised 110 from 72, and part of the ewes were quite young, and the lambs dropped early. After they are two years old the ewes are very apt to bring twins, so that in some flocks twins seem to be the rule and single ones the exception.

Anticipated Decrease in the Wool Clip.—Our county is justly celebrated for the quantity and quality of its wool crop; and is a source of profit to our farmers exceeding any other branch of agriculture for the amount of capital invested. Under these circumstances, we learn with great regret, that a depletion is being made among our sheep, by slaughter, for home and foreign consumption. The wool clip, the present season, will, it is claimed by competent judges, fall much below that of last year. We know not how farmers may view this subject, but it seem to us poor policy to reduce our best and most reliable sources of income.—*Waukesha Freeman*.

Wool.—The history of the growth of wool is very curious. Fifty years ago not a pound of fine wool was raised in the United States, in Great Britain, or in any other country except Spain. In the latter country, the flocks were owned exclusively by the nobility, or by the Crown. In 1794, a small flock was sent to the Elector of Saxony, as a present from the King of Spain—whence the entire product of Saxony wool, now of such immense value. In 1809, during the invasion of Spain by the French, some of the Crown flocks were sold to raise money. The American Consul at Lisbon, Mr. Jarvis, purchased fourteen hundred head, and sent them to this country. A portion of the pure unmixed Merino blood of these flocks is to be found in Vermont at this time. Such was the origin of the immense flocks of fine wooled sheep in the United States.—*Valley Farmer*.

More About the Lupine.—*Eds. Wis. Farmer*:—I have seen the Lupine extensively raised as food for horses, as it will admit of being mown three or four times in a season, growing to the length of four or five feet, and coming very early. I think the ground in England does not require to be sown every year. Tares are sown in England for the same purpose, but the most beautiful and luxuriant crop that I ever saw raised for that purpose, was the Frefolium Incarnatum, which will stand three feet high over a whole field, comes very quickly and will be out of the way in time for buckwheat, which grows well after it.

Respectfully, yours,

Franklin.

Waukesha, Wis., April 5th, 1860.

HORTICULTURAL.

BEDDING PLANTS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—This very intesesting class of plants has been quite too much neglected. Comprising as they do some of the most showy, as well as those of the most easy of culture, they should be entitled to a place in the category of necessary investments in every well kept garden. Their cheapness also places them within the means of every one who owns a foot of ground. With almost a certainty of their growing, we can feel confident of getting a return for our investment in flowers almost beyond a possibility of disappointment. With the universal complaint (almost) that "seed will not grow," and a fact (almost) that they do not (?) because not rightly managed, should and will make "Bedding Plants" special favorites with the lovers of flowers; for this purpose, could I choose but one, it would by all means be the *Verbena*, with its varieties, which may be produced from a single paper of seed, though the colors may not and probably would not be distinct, nor the flowers with very few exceptions well formed. A perfect flower should have a large full truss, slightly oval, colors distinct, and not run together or mixed. On this account it is better to purchase plants by the dozen from reliable nurseries, which should send them out with each variety named, and if the label has the color written upon the back, all the better to the inexperienced, as it will greatly aid them in planting to mix the colors more pleasantly. To such an extent has the improvement of the Verbena been carried, that florists enumerate over three hundred varieties, but the shade of color will be such that twenty-five to forty will usually embrace all that are most desirable, consisting of scarlet, white, bluish purple, dark purple, lilac, crimson with white eye, rose with white eye, striped, scarlet with purple eye, etc., ad infinitum. The scarlet varieties can scarcely be equaled for showiness in any other flower for bedding-out purposes. The nature of all are similar, viz., prostrate or creeping upon the ground, readily sending out roots from each point, and in a favorable season, a single plant turned out of a four-inch pot in May, will cover an area four to six feet in diameter.

The Verbena flowers in great profusion from June until severe frosts, and will endure a greater degree of frost than most plants of this class. They can usually be planted out of doors with safety after the tenth of May, when they require but very little care, unless in mid-summer it is to give an occasional watering. Plants are kept with difficulty through winter, except in the parlor or green house, in which place they may be kept in bloom the entire season. If placed in the cellar they will soon mildew or damp off and die. They succeed well in any rich garden soil, worked deep to prevent drying, and warm situations.

The following list will be found good and among the best of the old and proven varieties:

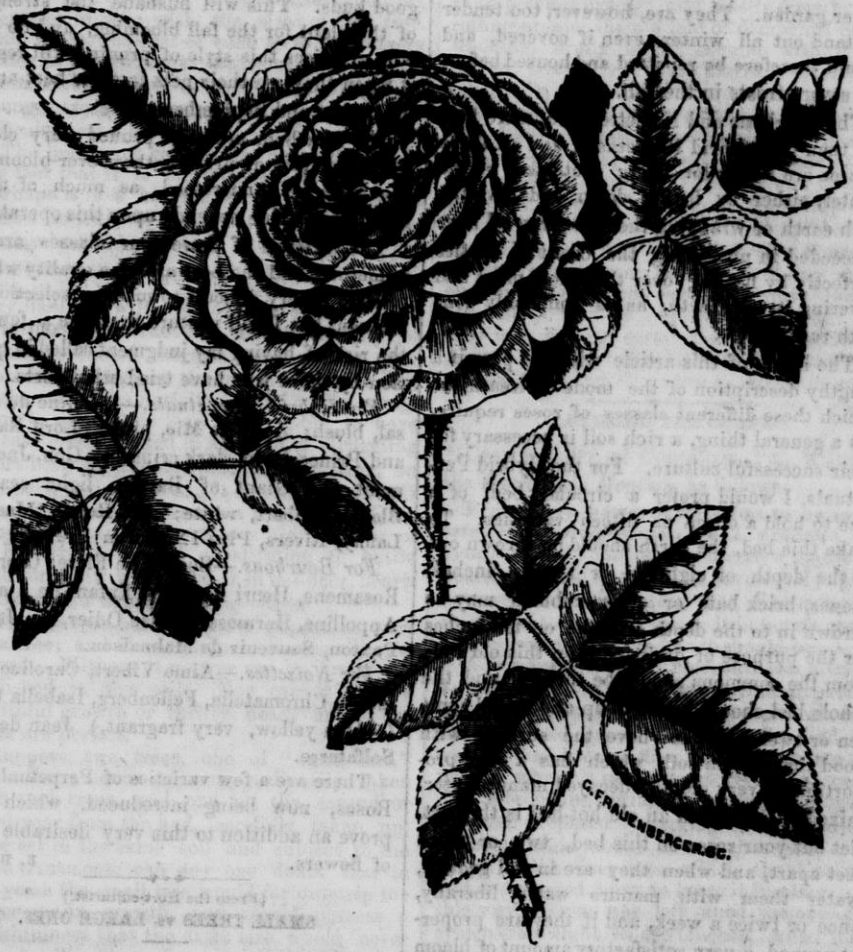
St. Margaret, crimson scarlet.
May Morn, bright rose.
Buist's Purple, dark large truss.
Republic, variegated fine truss.
Lord Raglan, crimson bright eye.
Minnie Hubbel, light purple.
Scarlet Defiance, very bright, showy and fine.
Vesta, white, slightly fragrant.
Imperatrice Elizabeth, striped, purple and white, smell very delicate.
Phenomenon, bright crimson.
La Stella, coppery red.
Sun Set, variegated.

Of new ones, the following are very fine:—Brilliante de Vaise, Rosy Pens, Etonias, Purple Perfection.

O. S. Willey.

Evergreens.—In transplanting evergreens, be sure that you obtain them with large balls of earth around the roots, and do not let these be exposed to the drying influence of the wind, for if this is the case, the young roots die, and there is little hope of the tree surviving. We would not give a dollar for a thousand young evergreens that have lain exposed after digging for a day or two. Few will live, and the number of survivors will seldom pay for the trouble of planting. The best course is to go to the nursery and have the trees dug, carefully preserving all the roots possible, pack in a box or wagon with plenty of soil around the roots, and set out immediately after reaching home. Afterwards mulch the ground around the roots to keep the soil moist. If evergreens are carefully transplanted, they will seldom die, but carelessly treated trees as seldom live.—*Ohio Farmer.*

Profits of Rhubarb.—A writer in the *Working Farmer* says from three-fourths of an acre he sold $500 worth.



"GIANT OF BATTLES."

EVER-BLOOMING ROSES.

This term is applicable to four classes of the Rose, viz: Hybrid Perpetual, Bourbon, Noisettes and Tea Roses.

The first class is styled perpetual, but is not really so. Its natural period of blooming is with the garden roses in June; it then has a period of rest, and again breaks into bloom in August or September. Some of the Hybrid Perpetuals possess this habit more than others of the same class, and bloom more profusely. They possess, however, the ever-blooming character, sufficient to make them greatly in advance of the common garden rose, and some of them possess a superiority over any other roses yet grown. Illustrative of this class, will be found at the head of this page an engraving of the "Giant of Battles." For brilliancy of color, profusion of bloom, and general excellence the Giant of Battles has for several years stood at the head of the class of Perpetuals, although recent varieties dispute for the supremacy

The Bourbons, Noisettes and Tea Roses are sometimes termed "Monthly Roses," and possess a more constant character for blooming than the Perpetuals. The Bourbons originally came from the Isle of Bourbon. The Bourbons and Noisettes are eminently adapted for pillar roses, being very strong in their growth, and the latter having the habit of blooming in clusters.

The Tea Rose, although generally deemed a house rose, can be turned out of the pots in summer, and forms an elegant addition to the

flower garden. They are, however, too tender to stand out all winter, even if covered, and should therefore be repotted and housed before the severe frosts in the fall.

The Bourbons and Noisettes are more tender than the Hybrid Perpetuals, and all three classes are better for being protected in the winter, either by laying down and covering with earth or wrapping them in straw. I have succeeded in preserving the Giant of Battles perfectly by heeling over the whole plant and covering it with earth, as is commonly done with raspberries.

The limits of this article will not permit a lengthy description of the mode of treatment which these different classes of roses require. As a general thing, a rich soil is necessary for their successful culture. For the Hybrid Perpetuals, I would prefer a circular bed, of a size to hold a dozen or fifteen varieties. To make this bed, the earth should be thrown out to the depth of eighteen or twenty inches. Stones, brick bats or other rubbish may be thrown in to the depth of eight or ten inches for the purpose of drainage; on this old sods from the commons should be thrown, and the whole bed should be filled up and raised some ten or twelve inches above the surface, with good rich garden soil, which has a good proportion of very old and decayed manure intermixed. That from an old hot-bed is the best. Set out your roses on this bed, two or three feet apart, and when they are in full growth, water them with manure water liberally, once or twice a week, and if they are properly pruned, a very satisfactory amount of bloom may be expected.

A word on pruning will not here be out of place. In pruning the Hybrid Perpetual, if it is desired to have a strong bloom in June, the medium, or long pruning, as it is sometimes called, is practiced; that is, about one half of the last year's wood is cut away, and the plant will afford a very good bloom in the early part of summer, but it will be at the expense of flowers in the fall. The Hybrid Perpetuals bloom on the present year's growth and after the first bloom is over they make new wood and bloom again. The Giant of Battles will make a growth of two or three inches, when it will break into bloom and so continue through the season. As the common garden roses are in their glory in the month of June, it is often the practice to prune down the branches of the Perpetuals to three or four good buds. This will husband the strength of the plant for the fall blooming, and no one who practices this style of pruning will regret it when they see their pets in their best array in August and September.

The Bourbons are also pruned very close. The principles of pruning these ever-bloomers should be well understood, as much of their beauty and value depends upon this operation.

The varieties of these four classes are so numerous, and the best are of a quality which renders it very difficult to make a selection of a dozen, but I will venture to name a few at the risk of having my judgment called in question by those who have tried other sorts.

For Hybrid Perpetuals.—Caroline de Sansal, blush; Auguste Mie, pink; Lord Raglan and Prince Leon, dark crimson; Gen. Jacquemont and Giant of Battles, light scarlet; Blanche Vibert, white; La Reine, Madame Laffay, Rivers, Pius IX, Baron Prevost.

For Bourbons.—Boquet de Flore, Glorie de Rosamene, Henri Plantier, Enfant de Ajaccio, Appolline, Hermosa, Louise Odier, Sir Joseph Paxton, Souvenir de Malmaison.

For Noisettes.—Aime Vibert, Caroline Marineasse, Chromatella, Fellenberg, Isabella Gray, (golden yellow, very fragrant,) Jean de Arc, Solfaterre.

There are a few varieties of Perpetual Moss Roses, now being introduced, which may prove an addition to this very desirable class of flowers.

E. B. Q.

[From the Horticulturist.]

SMALL TREES vs. LARGE ONES.

BY WILLIAM BACON, RICHMOND, MASS.

It is encouraging to see that the attention of fruit-growers has at last been diverted from the idea that a gain is to be realized from the purchase of "extra sized trees" at "extra high prices. Common sense and a very little experience ought to be enough to teach any one, that the purchase of such trees cannot be a very safe or profitable investment, for the following reasons:

First, there is much more labor required and much greater risk attending the removal of such trees than of smaller ones. The roots of a healthy tree extend in proportion to its age and the size of its top, so that a tree with a well formed top may be supposed to have roots extending many feet beyond its circumference. To dig over all the soil they occupy in the careful manner it should be done, and take them all out uninjured, is a laborious service. Then the risk of removing such large roots without mutilation, is a hazardous one;

and the risk of life in a tree after removal, increases in ratio with the size of the tree. And, again, the cost of such trees in nursery varies in proportion to their size from as much again to four or five times as much as that of younger trees, that can be removed with less difficulty and a better prospect of success.

The imaginary gain in the operation lies in the fact that it is an "extra sized tree."—Perhaps it is a bearing tree. It may have shown its fruit for one, two, or three seasons. It may be filled with fruit buds when this extra price is paid for it, and may bear, if it lives, in the year of its removal. And then, very likely, it will stop for a season of rest; or rather to give the tree an opportunity to regain its wasted energies, and acquire new roots in the place of the mutilated ones left in the soil of its nativity; And while struggling to regain this loss, how liable to have disease creep in, and in spite of a struggling effort between the cultivator and the tree, on one part, and the wrong it has had to submit to on the other, to become a total loss. If this is not the case, circumstances are in favor of its having an injured constitution to battle with for a few years, and then it—poor, heart-smitten, and wronged thing—dies.

The root we hold to be an important part of a tree; and if once injured it cannot be repaired. Without it no tree can be firmly established in the soil. Nor can it have a healthful growth or thrifty head, unless the roots are perfect.

Suppose two trees, one of "extra size," with the amount of roots ordinarily taken with such trees, and one on the second or third year from the bud, carefully taken up, were set in the same soil and subject to the same treatment; can any one doubt that in ten years the small tree would far outstrip the larger one in growth, and would possess a healthfulness that the extra size would never know? Would not five years make the small one, at the beginning, the largest and best tree?

We once went with a friend to take up evergreens. He was anxious to take large ones, or those five or six feet high, and was accommodated. We took those from two to three feet high. Both parcels were planted at the same time, in soils equally favorable. Three-fourths of his died, the remainder dwarfed, while ours are now standing, beautifully tall trees, the admiration of all who look upon them.

SENDING GRAFTS BY MAIL.—The mails now afford important facilities for an interchange of grafts of choice fruits. When properly put up, small plants, grafts and cuttings, may be sent thousands of miles with perfect safety. A year ago last spring, we sent to a friend in one of the Atlantic States, cuttings of the Bullet grape. These grew vigorously the first year, and the second spring blossomed and bore fruit.

Grapes sent by mail require to be packed so as to prevent drying; and this is done by first rolling around them a fold of dampened cotton wadding, firmly bound around with a fine thread; over this is to be placed a covering of oiled silk, also firmly bound with a thread; and, then, with a paper envelope, upon which to write the directions. With these precautions grafts may be sent to any part of the United States, short of California and Oregon, perfectly fresh. If, however, from improper packing, or other cause, the cuttings become somewhat dry and shrivelled, take them immediately, and cover them with damp moss, and bury them in the earth, there to remain until they may be required for setting; and they will, in most cases, become perfectly restored to their natural condition.—*Valley Farmer.*

LAYERING THE GRAPE.

Casper Hiller, of Conestoga, Pa., writes to the *Gardener's Monthly* as follows:

Every body, now-a-days, seems to be interested in growing grapes, so I presume any plan that will show how to increase plants expeditiously will meet with favor. My plan, however, is nothing new, but, like many old things that are really good, it is not as generally known or practiced as it should be.

A few years since, I received from a friend a single eye of a new grape, which I planted in a flower-pot and placed in the room window. After it had grown a few inches and the weather had become fine, it was set into the garden, where it made about five feet of wood.

The following spring the ground around it was well prepared by digging and manuring; a trench made about two inches deep, the length of the vine, into which the vine was laid and pegged down to keep it in place. In this way the vine was left until the eyes had grown from eight to ten inches, when they were tied up to stakes and the earth was drawn around their base. This, as the vines grew, was repeated, until the layered vine was about six inches under ground.

The result was, that in the fall when the vine was taken up, I had a plant for each eye, many of them ten feet long, and superior to any vines that I ever grew by any other process.

Another circumstance may be mentioned in connection with this mode of propagating. If strong vines are laid down, they will produce an abundant crop of fruit, (I have seen good grapes raised thus,) without injuring the young vines in the least. It will sometimes become necessary, with the short-jointed varieties, to take off the first bunch, in order that the layer can be covered deep enough.

[This, as Mr. Hiller observes, is an old method, but yet so much of a secret that but a few practice it, while "outsiders" look on and wonder. It is an excellent plan, and will be new to many.—*Ed. Gar. Monthly.*]

ROOTS AGAIN.—Some one has sent us the following on Carrots and Parsneps, their cultivation and comparative merits, marked for publication.—EDS. FAR.

The Carrot is grown to some extent in this country, and its culture is rapidly increasing. The seed dealers inform us that the demand for seed is becoming greater every year.

The Parsnip is one of the most valuable roots that can be grown. In the island of Jersey it is used almost exclusively for fattening both cattle and swine. According to Le Couteur the weight of a good crop varies from 13 to 27 tuns per acre. When parsneps are given to milch cows, with a little hay, in the winter season, the butter is found to be of as fine a color and excellent flavor as when the animals are feeding in the best pastures. As parsneps contain 6 per cent more mucilage than carrots, the difference may be sufficient to account for the superior fattening as well as butter-making quality of the parsnep. In the fattening of cattle the parsnep is found superior to the carrot, performing the business with more expedition, and affording meat of exquisite flavor, and of a highly juicy flavor; the animals eat it with much greediness. The result of experiment has shown that not only in neat cattle, but in the fattening of hogs and poultry, the animals become fat much sooner, and are more healthy than when fed with any other root or vegetable; and that, besides the meat is more sweet and delicious. The parsnep leaves being more bulky than those of carrots, may be mown off before taking the roots, and given to oxen, cows or horses, by which they will be greedily eaten. Another thing in favor of parsneps for this country, is that the frost does not injure them. They may remain in the ground until spring, when they make splendid spring feed, at a time every other kind of root or green thing is scarce, or they may be slightly buried, where they can be obtained almost any time during the winter. On account of their rapid growth when young, the weeding is less trouble than weeding carrots.—*Rural New Yorker.*

NEW MODE OF GRAFTING.—The French are practicing a new method of grafting, a knowledge of which may prove valuable to American horticulturists, inasmuch as it can be performed at any season of the year when sound, matured buds can be had, whether the sap is in a flowing state or not. It is performed by removing a small piece of bark and wood, leaving a smooth and flat surface, to which a similar piece containing the bud, which is to form the future tree, is fitted, which is sealed over immediately with collodion. This forms a strong, impervious cuticle, which secures a free circulation of sap on the approach of warm weather, and a perfect union of the parts.—*Valley Farmer.*

HOME CIRCLE.

EDITED BY MRS E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

THAT NIGHT IT RAINED.

BY MRS. HOYT.

I remember it as yesterday—
It was many years ago!
When life was in the lap of May,
With idle days and slow;
When th vines around our cottage door
Were trained with a careful hand,
And why the people called us poor,
We did not understand.

From out that land of dream and flowers—
It was many years ago!
Comes back the memory of hours
We never more may know;
Of an evening when the golden sun
Went down with clouds athwart its blaze,
And stars came trembling, one by one,
Through the misty twilight haze.

I remember how our mother spread—
It was many years ago!
And smoothed with loving care our bed
Up in the attic low;
Where, glad as birds in a nest regained,
Slept up stairs upon the floor
All three of us that night it rained,
As 't will rain nevermore!

It wakened us wide with rushing streams—
It was many years ago!
Then lulled us off to happy dreams
With gently pattering flow!
As the last "Good night" was murmured there,
And that lullaby of rain
Linked with a foot-fall on the stair
We ne'er shall hear again!

I remember how the morning broke—
It was many years ago!
Just as we little ones awoke
To see the sunrise glow;
No grown folks near, how brother would play
And sing "A-trim-i-tee-trum,"
While we two elder knelt to pray
And say "Thy kingdom come."

Then all he as the birds were quickly dressed—
It was many years ago!
And what we found, who could have guessed
When we went down below?—
Where, wrapped in mystery unexplained,
A little Beauty lay,
Whose birthday was that night it rained!—
We called her "Baby May."

A NICE PUDDING.

At this season of the year it seems to be particularly difficult for house-keepers to get up such a variety for the table as is needful to health and comfortable living. So we are tempted into giving the recipe for a pudding which comes within the reach of all, besides being conveniently prepared and very delicate

and harmless. One quart of milk, (half water will do,) five table spoonsfull of corn starch, three eggs, a trifle of salt and flavoring to suit the taste. The milk should be heated to the boiling point, but not boiled; have ready the starch dissolved in a little cold milk, and the eggs ready beaten and all stirred well together. When the milk is just ready to boil, stir in this mixture as smoothly as possible, and cook three minutes. If prepared long enough before use to be quite cold, which is better, the pudding may be moulded in cups or glasses, and so be brought to the table looking, as well as tasting, very nicely. Eat it with milk and sugar—cream would not be very objectionable.

THE WEATHER.

The surpassing beauty and pleasantness of the entire winter has come down to us in a spring-time whose dawning realizes all our dreams of Eden. Who believes that the skies which looked down upon our venerable ancestors when they were young, like the earth, and their hearts and their garden both budding with hope, were more beautiful than those now floating before our eyes? The past few weeks it has been a very luxury just to live and breathe; and happy have been those whose duties have allowed them to be much in the out-door world. Sad indeed must become the cast of that character moulded by long years of the in-door drudgery of life. To one and all we say, break away from whatever obstacles oppose and even to the neglect of what may seem imperative duty, and make the most of this fresh, invigorating spring-time. The dear Father has given it us to be enjoyed, and let us enjoy it, delighting our eyes with the wonderful works that are going on in earth and air, and by storing our hearts with emotions caught only from actual contact with the spirit of Nature. How naturally children take to the earth at this season, and how happy they are in the freedom and luxury of digging and shaping it as they will. And we, who are done with our "dirt pies," and are no longer open to the fascination of the clay sculpture of those charmed days, may yet grow young again in the art of bringing forth from the elements of earth and air fruits and flowers for the Eden of our own home.

☞ What is the worst kind of fare for a man to live on? Warfare.

SCIENCE FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

BY WM. M. DAVIS, ESQ, CINCINNATI, O.

THE LAW OF FALLING BODIES.

Any body, near the surface of the earth, will fall, from a state of rest, one foot in one quarter of a second of time, and, if allowed to go on, three feet in the next quarter second, five feet the third quarter, seven feet the fourth quarter, and so on in the order of odd numbers. It will be observed that if we take any number of quarter seconds from the time of starting, it will fall just the square of that number of feet in that time, thus: in four quarters it will fall four times four, or sixteen feet, because one and three and five and seven added together equal sixteen; and so of any other number, as ten, for instance, in ten quarter seconds it will fall one hundred feet, for the first ten odd numbers added together equal one hundred. Hence the distance through which a body falls is as the square of the time of its falling; i. e., if a body fall nine feet in three quarter seconds, it will fall sixteen feet in one second, (or four quarters,) because three times three are nine, and four times four are sixteen, and nine is to nine as sixteen is to sixteen. Again, if a body fall sixteen feet in one second it will fall sixty-four feet in two seconds, because the square of one is one, and the square of two is four, and one is to sixteen as four is to sixty-four. It may be further remarked, that in the first quarter second it falls one foot, having at the end of that time a velocity of two feet per quarter second, and in the next quarter it falls three feet, having a velocity of four feet per quarter second, and so on, each quarter second increasing its velocity by two feet per quarter and the distance through which it falls by the same amount, the last being dependent on the first.

These are very remarkable facts, and I will endeavor to explain the cause of them, for there is no effect in nature without an adequate cause. In the first place, I will state that the Attraction of Gravitation is that power which causes a body to fall to the earth, and that it acts on a body with equal force whether it be at rest or in motion, moving slowly or rapidly, either to the earth or from the earth, or, in general, in any direction with any velocity; therefore we would naturally suppose that its velocity would be constantly and uniformly increased, and that the average velocity of a falling body (or the distance

through which it falls) for any given time, as any quarter second for instance, would be equal to the velocity it had at the beginning of that time added to the velocity it had at the end, and the sum divided by two, so that if we know any two of these quantities we could easily find the third; thus, suppose a body to fall, from a state of rest, one foot in a quarter second of time, then, as its velocity at the start was nothing, the average velocity (or the distance through which it falls one foot, the velocity at the end of that time must be two feet per quarter second, because two added to nothing and divided by two equals one, i. e., its average velocity. Now if we take two feet as its velocity at the end of the first quarter, which is the beginning of the second quarter, and three feet as the distance through which it falls during the second quarter second, then it must have a velocity, at the end of that time, of four feet per quarter second, because two (its velocity at the beginning) added to four (its velocity at the end) and the sum divided by two equals three, its average velocity. Again, if we take four as its velocity at the beginning of the third quarter and five as the distance through which it falls, we shall obtain a velocity of six at the end of the third quarter. If we continue the calculation for any period of time whatever, we shall have the same unvarying result, viz: that it falls two feet further in any succeeding quarter second than it did in the previous one, from which we conclude that the force of gravity, acting on a body free to move, is sufficient to give it a velocity of two feet per quarter second for every quarter second it is acting on it; thus, in four quarter seconds it would obtain a velocity of eight feet per quarter, or thirty-two feet per second; and by extending the calculation to any number of quarter seconds, we will nd that it will have a velocity of thirty-two feet per second for every second it has been falling; moreover, that it will fall sixteen feet the first second, three times that distance in the second, and five times in the third second, and so on in the order of the odd numbers, as when we took a quarter as the unit of time.

If we turn to some of the books on Natural Philosophy, we will there find it stated that a body will fall almost exactly sixteen feet and one tenth in the first second, and three times that distance in the second, and five times in the third, and so on; but I have not found in any of them a very clear explanation of the reason of it.

In the commencement of this article I took the inconvenient period of time of one quarter second for two reasons; first, because it gave a very convenient unit of measure, viz., one foot, the error being about one-sixteenth of an inch, which is not material to the understanding of the principle; and, secondly, that we might reason from that up to the distance it would fall in one second, two seconds, &c., and thus observe the uniformity of the law, whatever period of time we take as a unit. thus: Suppose we were to take a period of time equal to the one hundredth part of a quarter second as the unit, then the body would fall one ten thousandth part of a foot in the first of small periods, three ten thousandths the next, five the next, and so on; and if we continue the calculation up to one second, we shall find that it would fall just sixteen feet in that time, showing the uniformity of the law however great or small a portion of time be taken as a unit of measure.

In the foregoing remarks, two conditions have been supposed to exist, viz: that the force of gravity is uniform, i. e., not varying in intensity, and that the body is falling through "free space," i. e., unobstructed by the air or any thing else. In this case it makes no difference what the nature of the body is, whether it be a grain of sand, a feather or a cannon ball, for they all would fall with equal velocities through an "unresisting medium." This fact has been proved by experiment; thus, a guinea and a feather were placed in a glass tube several feet long, then after pumping all the air out, it was found that the feather would fall with the same velocity as the gold, because there was nothing to resist its passage through the tube. But the result is quite different when the experiment is made in the open air, or in any other resisting medium.

A Sad Journey.—The Waupun *Prison Item* states that recently three boys, ragged and way worn, presented themselves at the prison gate. They had walked all the way from far off Chippewa county, as much as 200 miles, friendless, moneyless and alone—for what? To visit their father in prison! Poor boys! what a heiritage is that, in this sanctimonious and unforgiving age? How weary and sad must have been their journey; how gloomy their return! What boy or girl in the land, who has a comfortable and respectable home, will not pity them, and regret that sin, crime and sorrow must continue among us, not only to punish sinning parents, but also their poor, helpless children.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

ARABIA.

O'er Arabia's desert sands
The patient camel walks;
'Mid lonely caves and rocky lands
The fell hyæna stalks.
On the cool and shady hills
Coffee shrubs and tamarinds grow;
Headlong fall the welcome rills
Down the fruitful dells below.

The fragrant myrrh and healing balm
Perfume the passing gale;
Thick hung with dates, the spreading palm
Tow'rs o'er the peopled vale.
Locusts oft, a living cloud,
Hover in the darken'd air;
Like a torrent dashing loud,
Bringing famine and despair.

And often o'er the level waste
The stifling hot winds fly;
Down falls the swain with trembling haste,
The gasping cattle die.
Shephard people on the plain,
Pitch their tents and wander free;
Wealthy cities they disdain,
Poor,—yet blessed with liberty.

—(*Lucy Aikin, in Female Poets of Great Britain.*)

THE PILLARS OF HERCULES.—Among early navigators, this was the name given to the Straits of Gibraltar. That the waters around their islands and the Peloponnesus formed part of a sea circumscribed by assignable boundaries, the Greeks learned from the navigation of the Phokæans round the coasts, first of the Adriatic, then of the Gulf of Lyons to the Pillars of Hercules and Tartessus. The Pillars of Hercules, especially, long remained fixed in the Greek minds as a terminus of human adventure; of the great ocean beyond, men were for the most part content to remain in ignorance.

THE CAP OF LIBERTY.—After the death of Cæsar the conspirators marched out in a body, with a Cap as the ensign of Liberty carried before them on a spear. There was a medal struck on the occasion, with the same device, which is still extant. But this was not the first time the Cap was thus used; for as early as 263 we have an account of the same expedient being resorted to in arousing an insurrection against tyranny. I wonder if any of the children can think of a good reason why the Cap elevated on a pole or a spear should be an appropriate ensign in the struggle of any people for their liberty? Think of it.

☞ My son, havn't I told you three times to go and shut that gate?" said a father to a four year old. "Yes," said Young America, "and havn't I told you three times that I wouldn't do it? You must be stupid!"

MISCELLANEOUS.

ABOUT WESTERN DEBTS, &c.—The last number of the *Wisconsin Farmer* contains a capital review of and response to a late article in the New York *Tribune* on the subject of "Western Debts and Repudiation." It is sensible, sarcastic, and withal "plucky"—just what any one, who has lived in the West and knows its people, will endorse. After quoting from Mr. Greeley's article—in which those embarrassed are advised to surrender their property to creditors, "with the least possible cost and delay, and go to work with unfettered hands and nothing in them"—the *Farmer* "pitches into the philosopher right handsomely, pronouncing his logic stupid, and demonstrating its assertion by cogent illustrations and arguments. Considering the *Tribune's* article both unjust and uncharitable, (judging from our own knowledge of the West and its people,) we are glad to see this manly and caustic reply from an able and influential journal, and only regret we have not space to quote its main points. We think, with our cotemporary, that it would be far better for the person who has a farm, with buildings, stock, &c., worth at least $5,000, and owes $1,000, to mortgage it and pay his debs, rather than take the *Tribune's* fool-hardy advice and give up in despair his homestead and property to creditors to whom it would not be worth one half as much as to him. Such advice is lost when addressed to Western men, who are proverbial for both pluck and enterprise, and unworthy the philosopher's reputation for discrimination. The *Farmer*, in its reply, makes some palpable hits, reminding the reader very forcibly of the adage about people who reside in crystal domicils.—*Rural New-Yorker.*

"HORSE-POWER" AS A MEASURE OF FORCE.—The phrase or term "horse-power" is continually occurring whenever there is occasion to speak or write of the force of steam engines. It is met with almost daily in the reading of newspapers, and of books or periodicals relating to science and art. Is there one reader in ten who understands what is meant by this term, or who attaches any accurate idea of the amount of power intended to this oft-recurring phraseology? We very much doubt it, and think, therefore, that a brief explanation of this term, gleaned from Encyclopedias and scientific works, may be both interesting and useful to the generality of ordinary readers. The term "horse-power," then, is used as the unit of force in the description of steam engines. Instead of saying that an engine has a power of lifting or propelling so many pounds, it is said to be of so much "horse-power." The power exerted by a horse is taken to be equal to the pull or lift of 33,000 lbs., at the rate of one foot per minute, as

this has been found to be about the mean of a good many observations and experiments It has been found, for example, that a pair of horses will draw a plow along with an average pull of 300 lbs., as shown by a dynamometer like common spring steelyards at an average rate of 2½ miles per hour, or 220 feet per minute. Now, this is the same as if those 300 lbs. were pulled over a pulley, or lifted that height in that time; and 300 lbs. lifted 220 feet per minute, is just the same as 66,000 lbs. lifted one foot higher per minute. The half of this performance of a pair of horses gives us 33,000 lbs. as the force of a single horse, and with this meaning it is used by engineers. —*Country Gent.*

OWNERSHIP THE GREAT STIMULUS.—The stimulus of proprietorship is undoubtedly the most powerful that can be applied to labor in any department, and especially that of soil culture. Stuart Mill, one of the greatest of modern writers on Political Economy, sums up in its favor in this language:—"If there is a first principle in intellectual education, it is this—that the discipline which does good to the mind is that in which the mind is active, not that in which it is passive. The secret for developing the faculties is to give them much to do, and much inducements to do it. Few things surpass, in this respect, the occupations and interests created by the ownership and cultivation of land." A Swiss statistical writer speaks of the "almost superhuman industry of peasant proprietors." Authur Young says: "It is the magic of property which turns sand into gold." Michelet says it acts like a ruling passion upon the peasantry of France, and that in Flanders the peasant cultivation is affirmed to produce heavier crops in equal circumstances of soil than the best cultivated districts of England and Scotland —*Rural New-Yorker.*

MARKED PAPERS.—The Postmaster General some time since decided that marking a part of a newspaper for the mere purpose of calling attention to it, does not subject it to any additional postage, and still some country postmasters are ignorant enough to refuse to deliver marked papers. It makes no difference under the rule now established, whether papers going to subscribers are marked at the office of publication, or whether transient papers are marked to go under penny stamps, the *marking* is allowed.—*Well's Commercial Express, Chicago.*

FARMING AS A WHOLE DOES PAY.—"One swallow does not make a summer," and a single case of success, in tilling the soil, does not prove that farming pays. The *average condition* of our farming population is, doubtless, the best evidence of the reward of husbandry. At the last census, there were in the State of Connecticut about 22,000 farms, generally occupied by their owners, who cultivated, on an average, about eighty acres each. The value of these farms, with the tools and stock, was estimated at about eighty-two millions of dollars. This is an average of thirty-seven hundred dollars to every farmer, invested in his business—to say nothing of the sums in bank stock, western lands, railroads, manufactories, and other enterprises. The productions of these farms, consisting of hay, grain, roots, slaughtered animals, butter, cheese, home manufactures, etc., was estimated at about eighteen millions of dollars. This would average to every owner of a farm an income of over eight hundred dollars, exclusive of house rent, and fuel, and interest money. We doubt if any other class in the community, embracing so large a number of individuals, can show as much *average* wealth. Why should so many of our sons quit the plow for other more hazardous callings, when they have before them the moral certainty of success in cultivating the soil?—*American Agriculturist.*

THE WORLD TO A MAN OUT OF WORK.—To a man out of employment, proscribed, marked, there is nothing so terrible as the impenetrability of the close ranks of society around him. Every busy man seems to have found his place; each locks steps with his neighbor, and the vast procession moves on. Once out of the serried order, the unhappy wretch can never resume his position. He finds himself the fifth wheel of a coach; there is nothing for him to do—no place for him at the bountiful board where others feed. He may starve or drown himself, as he likes—the world has no use for and will not miss him.—*Atlantic Monthly.*

LEGAL WEIGHTS OF COMMODITIES SOLD BY THE BUSHEL IN WISCONSIN.—Wheat, 60 lbs.; Corn, 56; Rye, 56; Barley, 48; Oats, 32; Buckwheat, 42; Clover seed, 60; Timothy seed, 46; Potatoes, 60; Dried apples or Peaches, 28.—*Revised Statutes, p.* 407.

NOTE.—Various other commodities it seems to us, should have been included, with equal propriety, and undoubtedly would have been if this portion of the law had passed under the eye of a sharp practical man.—EDS.

LARGE APPLE CROP.—The Lockport *Advertiser* places the number of barrels shipped from Niagara county, N. Y., at 200,000. The average price per barrel is put at $1.50, which would make the value of the amount sent away $300,000. Adding the quantity of apples dried and marketed, together with the amount sold for domestic use, the *Advertiser* estimates the value of the Niagara Co. apple crop of last year at half a million of dollars. What a fact this should be to farmers everywhere to keep up and properly cultivate their present orchards and to start new ones.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The Early Spring—Good Crops in Anticipation.

Seldom have we seen so fine a spring for wheat and grain sowing as the present, all the better for the extensive fall plowing. Much wheat was sown in March even, and all early in April, mainly ahead of pigeons, blackbirds and other toll gatherers.

We regard this early and superior getting in of the wheat crop, together with the excellent seed usually sown, as a long step towards a good crop. Another month and this hopeful crop will begin to make a show, and to form a basis of expectation and premise for the future. Four months and it will again begin to be currency in the hands of the farmer and the merchant, and if as good a crop as we have reason to hope, how much will it do towards lifting off the load that still bears so hard upon the industry and enterprise of our hard pushed and suffering population? Yes, another good crop and fair prices, with our present habits of economy and care, will be vastly more felt than the last; and in our opinion do a deal towards establishing a comfortable condition of things again. Such may the Lord grant, if not incompatible with his other plans.

The Dog Law

Will be found in full in the present number. It has already gone into force, and so far as we hear is usually acquiesced in cheerfully.—About one hundred and fifty have been licensed in the city of Madison already, and the number is daily increasing. We think there is a thousand still unlicensed.

Still, as was expected, there is not a few who profess to dislike the law, and are disposed to make fun of it; but, with rare exceptions, they are confined to that class who prefer fancy and whim to real utility and personal or public good. We heard an anecdote highly illstrative upon this subject. Two gentlemen were traveling across the country together, the one of them in favor and the other against the law. The friend of the law offered to wager that he could tell at sight, as they came to the different farm houses, in at least four cases out of five, who were in favor and who opposed to the law. The wager was taken and the enquiry made without exception for twenty miles. The result was a correct conclusion in every case but three with over forty parties enquired of. Just so unerring are the outside indications of our views and opinions. Only one native (and he a hopeful politician) was met with who did not favor the law, while numbers of intelligent foreign born residents were found well pleased with it. Altogether, the majority found in favor of it, when explained and understood, was over two to one.

Wherever a right shabby establishment was met with, cabin unfenced, rags in the windows, two or three yelping curs about the premises, and little or no wood at the door, then there was no mistake in the case; that man and woman were opposed to the *dog law sure*, and were determined not to submit to it.

Such, we apprehend, will usually be found to compose the constituency of all anti-dog law men—either scheming politicians, who do not care what they make capital out of, or shabby, thriftless people who barely live from hand to mouth, and hardly that.

The law, in the main at least, must be sustained, if the State would rise from pauperism. Ohio and other wool-growing States are enacting a similar law, and we expect to see it become one of the most popular upon the various statute books, after it has time to be understood and appreciated. It will save the State hundreds of thousands of dollars merely in dog feed, saying nothing about the mischief they do. We are distinctly for the law.

The Legislature

Finally closed its protracted and weary session on the second of April, much to the satisfaction of themselves and everybody else, so far as we know. All in all, it has uniformly been pronounced the dullest and least interesting session for many years. Not a single really exciting subject arose during the entire period to break the ordinary dead calm. The same hum drum of two-penny matters for the most part from day to day and week to week.

Over a 1000 bills were introduced in both branches, and some hundreds of them enacted into laws—many of them unimportant enough to all appearances, still each claiming its due share of attention and time.

TEN PER CENT INTEREST.

The bill reducing the rates of interest from twelve to ten per cent, is among the important ones passed. Its effect will be to put all new paper at that rate; few will dare evade it, un-

der the present stringent penalty of forfeiting the whole principal. It is all right, and just as high a rate as ought to be asked or paid. Certain parties may talk as they will, that the prices of money will regulate themselves properly; it is not so in its practical working. If there were no restrictions, any amount of money would be drawing twenty-five instead of twelve per cent, all through the State. The new law will choke it down to ten, and one of these days we hope and expect to see it choked down to seven. In hard times, plenty of men will be found to ask and to pay the most exhorbitant prices. Let the law regulate it, or anything else when there is a disposition or opportunity to take such advantages.

REDUCTION OF JURORS.

The bill for reducing the number of petit jurors from thirty-six to twenty-four, and of grand jurors from twenty-four to thirteen, also passed after considerable opposition. That is also an economic and important reform—one that can hardly fail to save the State at least a $100,000 per annum, enough to pay the entire expense of the session of the Legislature of itself, and no party or interest the worse for it.

Senator Taylor, of this county, was also the author of this bill, and the main cause of its passage. It met with little or no favor in the Senate at first, but finally passed that body by a vote of twenty to six, a significant fact in its favor. We have no doubt it will prove a highly popular change.

Senator T. made one of the best speeches of the session in favor of this bill. Its entire tenor bears so powerfully in the direction of reform and reduction of public plunder and waste, that we have striven hard to insert it in this number, but have found it impossible, and equally so to publish any portion of it, and do justice to the document. We will probably give it entire in our next, together with several other speeches of similar tenor from other parties.

Our readers must excuse us for the extended reference we are making to legislative matters, especially as we do not go out of the line of agricultural interests and the economies that bear upon them.

We intend giving some further attention to the same class of subjects, hoping to be instrumental in making them better or worse.

Legislative Discussion on Agricultural Societies.

ASSEMBLY, Monday, March 26.

Pending the consideration of the following bills:

To incorporate the Wisconsin Agricultural and Mechanical Association;

To incorporate the Dane County Agricultural and Mechanical Association;

Mr. Bovay moved to reconsider a vote by which the Assembly had suspended the rules to pass the above and a number of other bills.

Mr. Barnum supported the motion. He had voted against the last two bills. He voted against them because he was opposed to Agricultural Societies as constituted in this State. They were a humbug. The chief objects to which they were devoted were drinking bad whisky and trotting horses. Generally, the exhibitions consisted of an old boar or a town bull. The balance was trotting stock.

Mr. Elmore—I rise to a point of order. I find it recorded in the volume of transactions of the State Historical Society, which I hold in my hand, that "the town bull is dead."

The Speaker decided that the point of order was not well taken.

Mr. Barnum proceeded to assert that Agricultural Societies in this State were productive of far more harm than good, and led to dissipation, idleness and degradation. He knew many good men who were killing themselves by habits of drinking acquired by attending these associations. He hoped the motion to reconsider would prevail.

The motion was lost.

TUESDAY, March 27.

The bill to *repeal the annual appropriation to the State Agricultural Society* came up for a third reading.

Mr. Barnum said, in his remarks of yesterday, he did not wish to go on the record as wholly opposed to such societies, but was opposed to the way they were got up and the manner in which they were controlled. They were usually controlled by bad men—men whose only object was to steal $100. He said no State sustained such societies but Wisconsin. They would be well enough if they were controlled by good men—men who did not wish to steal.

Mr. Goodwin said these were the last societies which should receive the opposition of a member on this floor. In times of pressure men were apt to do great injustice in seeking means to avoid expenditure; the damages done by such attacks made at such times could hardly be estimated; they were permanent and lasting; these attacks were blindly made and productive of great injury to the best interests of the State. He was surprised at the position which had been taken by his colleague (Mr. Barnum), and at the tenor of his remarks yesterday in regard to County Agricultural Societies. He defended the character

of the people of Winnebago county, and the members of that society. He regretted this attack upon the State society, and upon the county societies; they were among the most beneficial institutions of the State, and the evils complained of could be reached in another and different direction. It was false economy, in order to save a little expenditure, to strike at the vital interests of the people of the State.

Mr. Barnum said there was a question of veracity between himself and his colleague (Mr. Goodwin) in regard to the society of his own county; the Winnebago County Agricultural Society was a failure; he had been a member of that society and from his own knowledge stated that the only interest there represented was the whisky drinking gentry—your two wheeled gentry with a plug of a horse put through at a 2.40 gait; this was the character of the society of his county, and he condemned the whole thing as a humbug and got up for the purposes of personal and local interest.

Mr. Goodwin repeated that it was false that the County Agricultural Society of Winnebago county was run with whiskey; it was properly conducted and for the best interests of the county; it was conducted by honorable men, and was an honor to the county and the State, and productive of great good; gentlemen had only to become acquainted with the members of that society to know what Mr. Barnum had stated was false; he knew from his own personal observation and acquaintance with the men that such was the case; he cited the names of Hay, Osborn, Stillson, Greenwood and others as men of charater and not liable to the imputations made.

Mr. Barnum replied that for the last three or four years the Winnebago County Society had been improperly conducted; the fairs had been a failure; the premiums had not been paid; they were awarded and not paid. In regard to the men named by his colleague, some of them were good men, but others were not, and he reaffirmed all that he had said against the character of the society.

Mr. ———— defended the State society and the county societies, and opposed the passage of the bill.

Mr. Elmore supported the bill. Trotting horses and fancy women were the chief attraction at these fairs.

Mr. Barnum explained that in opposing the bills incorporating agricultural societies yesterday, he supposed they were to draw money from the State. He was in favor of agricultural societies properly organized and conducted by gentlemen.

Mr. Elmore charged that the greater part of the moneys received by the State Agricultural Society was spent for champaigne and other liquors. The proportion awarded in premiums was as the proportion of bread to Falstaff's sack.

The bill was lost. Ayes 38, noes 42.

Remarks.—We noticed the foregoing debate at the time it occurred, but considering the parties from whence the slang and tomfoolery came, the one of them evidently a conceited greenhorn, and the other so incorrigible a punster and blackguard, in the milder sense of the term, that he would prefer a good joke or an extravagant *scooping out* assertion in any and all cases, to decent justice and truth, that we did not consider it worth any notice; but recently seeing the language quoted in eastern journals, as bearing upon the character of Western Agricultural Societies and citizens, we feel called upon to give it a passing notice and contradiction for the benefit of those not knowing the parties.

Mr. Barnum certainly could not have shown greater ignorance or stupidity than in avowing his hostility to all agricultural societies as organized in this State. Wonder if the gentleman could tell wherein these organizations differ in any essential particular from those of Ohio, New York or Massachusetts? We profess to be familiar with the official reports and organisms not only of those but of the other States of the Union, and we know no essential difference.

How the *learned* legislator discovered that the principle object of these societies was drinking bad whiskey, &c., we are not able to say; but judging from his complexion, we should presume he had the best means of knowing personally, so far at least as he was concerned. But while we have attended scores of the County, State and National fairs annually, during their season, for the last five years, we are prepared to say, without fear of honest contradiction, that no where have we seen so little drinking at public gatherings as at these fairs; and more especially could we say this of our own State. It is seldom or ever tolerated either upon or near fair-grounds. We challenge either of the gentlemen to show that a drop of intoxicating liquor has been admitted, upon any terms, upon the State Fair Grounds, during a fair, within the last five years. And we will warrant that one of the gentlemen, at least, would have found it out if there had been any about. And further, if the same gentlemen will show when and where the State Agricultural Society has expended a single penny during the same period of time, either of the State appropriation or any other money, for alcoholic drinks, of any sort, we will engage to believe him to

be what we now do not, and that is a man of truth and decent honesty. As the matter now stands, we have the fullest possible faith that he foolishly or maliciously stated what he knew to be false, every word of it, in relation to champaigne and liquors, as well as in relation to premiums. The gentleman has read our State Agricultural Reports for the last two years, we are well satisfied, from the comments he has made on them; and there he has seen it set forth that nearly or quite $3,000 the amount of the State appropriation, has been annually paid out in premiums.

But we need not pursue this subject farther; the remarks of the gentlemen alluded to really carried their own refutation with them, to all who knew their authors.

Mr. Goodwin, as usual, was candid, honest, and sensible, and treated the subject as it should be, taking the views of a statesman, instead of a seven-by-nine intellectual or political gagement. But enough.

1,400 Acres of Potatoes Cultivated by one Firm.

We are informed by one of the firm of Shoecraft & Co., of Sturgis, Michigan, that they cultivated 1,400 acres of potatoes last year. They have made the cultivation and traffic in the potato their sole business for over a dozen years, formerly in the State of New York and latterly at the above mentioned place.

They obtained 1,000 bushels of the Jersey Peach-Blows, from New Jersey, for seed last spring, and raised an enormous crop of them, despite of the drouth. They claim that the luxurious vines of this variety protect them in a great measure from the drouth. Further, that they yield extraordinarily well, never rot, are an unsurpassed table potato the whole year round, keeping hard and good until the new crop. They are certainly a large handsome potato to look at, besides we cooked a mess of them and found them excellent—in fact they were so mealy that we could hardly fork them out. We see they are quoted high in the eastern markets.

Messrs. S. & Co. have a railroad station upon their farm for the convenience of shipment. They are introducing the seed of this potato extensively through the Northwestern States the present spring, and if it comes up to their recommendation, it will prove a very valuable addition to this highly important crop.

They have agents in many of the prominent localities throughout the State, as will be seen by their advertisement; and we would advise all who can to examine and try them, and if favorably impressed, to plant them extensively.

They also have an early variety, the *Early York*, that they commend highly.

We understand that all the railroad companies carry them and their agents free while distributing their seed—deeming it a matter of enough importance, publicly and to them, to do so.

Communications Deferred.

As usual, several communications in a little late, are deferred. All should send in early, what they wish to appear promptly.

We are glad of the abundance of sensible articles and material from our friends, for each and every number, claiming the necessary privilege, of course, of omitting such as we do not deem advisable.

Answers to Correspondents

R. S.—We can furnish back numbers of the *Farmer* from Jan. '56, and the bound volumes for '56. '57, '58 and '59 at $1 each. The postage on each vol. is 36 cts. Prices for binding each vol. 40 cts.

D. S.—Good seed of Imphee and Sorghum can be obtained here. The first named at 75 cts. and the latter at 25 cts per lb. The postage on a pound is 96 cts. You had better obtain your seeds by express, or otherwise. We have no seed for sale, but will assist you in purchasing.

T. M.—We cannot advance money to purchase trees and shrubbery for you. If you will send us the necessary funds, we will get your order filled, and return all balances to you, making no charges for time spent.

J. S.—The seed-stores in Madison and Milwaukee keep a good supply of the Hubbard and Boston Marrow Squash seed, new varieties of peas, and choice flower seeds in abundance. Postage on them will be 6 cts. per oz.

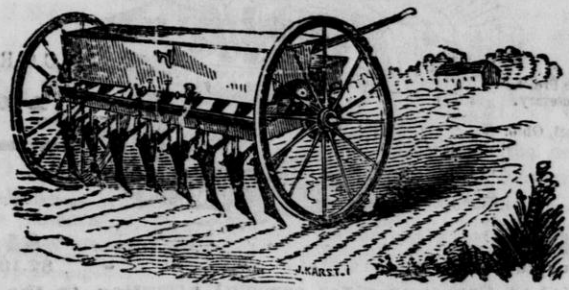
H. L.—We still furnish as follows:

N. Y. Tribune and Farmer for - -	$2 00
Life Illustrated " " " - -	2 60
Wis. Weekly State Journal & Farmer,	2 00

Send us all the names you please on these terms. We can furnish back numbers of the *Farmer* from January.

☞ Our friends will find us in Porter's Block after the first of May.

STONER'S NEW PREMIUM GRAIN DRILL AND SEEDING MACHINE COMBINED.



THIS POPULAR MACHINE is a combination of all the good qualities of other Drills, besides possessing several new principles just put into use. It is to this Drill that the FIRST PREMIUM was awarded at the Wisconsin State Fair in 1858, and also at Milwaukee in 1859, which is proof of its superiority over all others. Price of Drill $70, which is $15 less than any other Drill in existence, and is the only one manufactured in the State. Farmers cannot do any better than call upon or correspond with the proprietor and manufacturer.

xii m tf

A. STONER,
No. 2 Spring Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

THE
Mutual Life Insurance Company
OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Office S.E. Corner Main & Wisconsin Streets,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wisconsin & Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT that a policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provision for one's family," and since his day, *experience* has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generally practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute, as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms It is a *Home* Company Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly sacred character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies.

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

TRUSTEES:

S. S. Daggett,	Dr. E. B Wolcott,	H. L Palmer,
Lester Sexton,	Sam'l Marshall,	M. Steever,
Geo. B. Miner,	A H coville,	H. L. Dousman,
J. A. Barber,	Ezra Miller,	J A Dutcher,
C. P. Pixley,	A. C. Wilmans,	D. B. Whitacre,
J. C. Johnson,	James Nell,	Andrew Proudfit
J. B. Martin,	A. Eldred,	J. Bonnell,
D. Newhall,	H. A. Nichols,	M. S. Scott,
D. Nash,	S. C. Hall,	J Packet,
J. H. Rountree,	B. F. Pixley,	A. Graham,
O. Alexander,	M. C. Darling,	Carl Schurz,
L G. Fisher,	J. H. Earnest,	S. C. Spaulding.

S. S. DAGGETT, President.
A. W. KELLOGG, Sec'y. E. B. WOLCOTT, Vice Pres't.
C. D. NASH, Treasurer.
xii 24] S. C. BENEDICT, Agent.

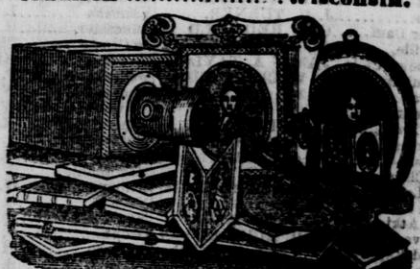
Hosford & Seely,
Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of
SASH, DOORS AND BLINDS.

Orders from the country promptly attended to. Canal water power Second Ward, Milwaukee, Wis.

J. W HOSFORD. [xi vii tf] L. SEELEY.

Fuller's Temple of Art!
UNITED STATES BLOCK, CORNER PINCKNEY & MAIN STREETS,

Madison ..... Wisconsin.



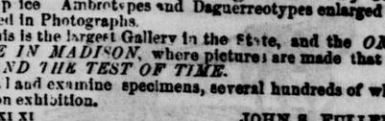
DAGUERREOTYPES,
PHOTOGRAPHS,
AMBROTYPES, &C.

PICTURES for mailing at a very low price Ambrotypes and Daguerreotypes enlarged and copied in Photographs.

This is the largest Gallery in the State, and the *ONLY ONE IN MADISON*, where pictures are made that will *STAND THE TEST OF TIME.*

Call and examine specimens, several hundreds of which are on exhibition.

xi xi JOHN S. FULLER.



Patterns and Castings,
AT
NO. 2 Spring St., opposite the Chamber of Commerce, Milwaukee, Wis.

I will make to order PATTERNS and MODELS for every variety of machinery and architecture. I will also furnish IRON and BRASS CASTINGS in large or small quantities.

Light machinery, new inventions, and all designs in wood and iron, will receive particular attention.

xi xi A.S TONER.

FARMERS! ARE YOU INSURED?

E. G. RIPLEY, President.
T. A. ALEXANDER, Vice Pres't.
THO'S K. BEACE, Jr. Secretary.
J. B. BENNETT,
General Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

INCORPORATED
1819.
Charter Perpetual.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - - - - **$1,500,000!**
Capital and Surplus, - - - - - - - - **$2,194,100.02.**

THIS old established Company gives especial attention to the insurance of

Farm Buildings, Barns and Out Buildings, Furniture, Grain, Stock, &c.,

for terms of 1 to 5 years. For this class of property, a scale of rates has been fixed low enough to enable every farmer to insure his property. Dwellings, stores, warehouses, taverns, manufactories, &c., insured as low as is consistent with solvency and fair profits.

LOSSES EQUITABLY ADJUSTED AND PROMPTLY PAID.

UPWARDS OF $12,000,000 of Losses have been paid by the Ætna Insurance Co., in the past forty years.

Agencies in all the principal cities and towns throughout the State. Policies issued without delay, by any of the following duly authorized Agents of the Company. Apply to the nearest local agent.

W. H. WYMAN, State Agent, Madison.

Appleton, ...JOHN ELLIOTT.	Hudson.....S. CURTIS SIMONDS.	Platteville .. ...J. H. ROUNTREE.
Baraboo,.....H. H. POTTER.	Janesville.....H. W. COLLINS.	Portage... ..... D. VANDERCOOK.
Brodhead.....E. A. McNAIR.	Jefferson..... ...D. OSTRANDER.	Prescott.....P. V. WISE.
Beloit .....T. L. WRIGHT.	Kilbourn,.....G. J. HANSSEN	Potosi..... .....J. W. SEATON.
Berlin.....J. H. TURNER.	Kenosha.....L. G. MERRILL.	Prairie du Chien..IRA B. BRUNSON.
Beaver Dam.....G. E. REDFIELD	Lancaster,.....H. H HYDE	Racine .....DURAND & SEYMOUR
Janesville,.....W. P. DEWEY.	La Crosse.....THEO. RODOLF.	Ripon.. .. ..H. L. EGGLESTON.
Chippewa Falls..JAMES A. TAYLOR.	Mauston... .....JOHN TURNER.	Richland Centre.PRIEST & MINER.
Columbus.....R. W. CHADBOURN.	Menasha.....F. W. PERRY.	Reedsburg.....WM. HASKELL.
Delavan.....N. M. HARRINGTON.	Madison.....W. H. WYMAN.	Sheboygan.....EUGENE CARY.
Darlington.....W. H. ALLYN.	Milwaukee .... W. H. HOLLAND.	Shullsburg.....M. HOLLISTER.
East Troy,.....J. R STONE.	Mineral Point....R. L. READ.	Stevens Point....WILLIAM McNAIR.
Edgerton .....R. S. FASSETT.	Manitowoc... ..S. A. WOOD.	Stoughton.....S. T. BUCKMAN.
Elkhorn .....J. A. PERRY.	Monroe.... .....R. A. WEST.	Sparta.....E. S. WHITAKER.
Eau Claire.... .H. C. PUTNAM.	Mazomanie. ...S. E. WATERHOUSE.	Superior.....WM. R. PERRY.
Fox Lake.....G. W. BURCHARD.	Kilbourn .....G. VANSTEENWYCK	Sauk City,.....G. B. BURROWS.
Fond du Lac.....W. T. GIBSON.	Neenah .....C. C. TOWNSEND.	Viroqua, ...W. F. TERHUNE.
Fort Atkinson...N. F. HOPKINS.	New Lisbon.....M. McQUIEN.	Watertown.....J. A. HALL.
Geneva.....E. D. RICHARDSON.	Oconto.....J. F. WOODRUFF.	Waukesha.....WM. SOPER.
Grand Rapids...POWERS & LANG.	Oshkosh.....C. H. BRUSH.	Waupaca.....WINFIELD SCOTT.
Green Bay.....H. S. BAIRD.	Ozaukee .....S. A. WHITE.	Weyauwega.....JNO. FORDYCE.
Horicon.....W H BUTTERFIELD	Pepin.....HENRY D. BARRON.	Waupun.....W. H. TAYLOR.
Hazle Green,....CHANDLER & YORK.		Whitewater.....O. MONTAGUE.

FOR SALE.

THE PREMIUM CAST IRON CORN AND COB MILL,

"BIG INJUN."

Price $35.00 cash, or marketable produce. Office at No. 2 Spring St., Milwaukee, Wis. Trial will be made of each Mill before delivering, (if desired,) so that none need purchase in doubt.

This new and already celebrated MILL took the first premium over the best Mills of this State and Illinois, at the last State Fair held at Milwaukee. It is a Sweep Mill, and particularly adapted the Farmers who have no machinery, although it can be more readily attached to machinery than any other Mill of the kind. The Mill is a light draught for one horse, and will grind as much as any other Mill in use. Its grinding surfaces can be changed for large and small grain, and renewed for comparatively nothing. All are respectfully invited to examine and see that what I say is true.

All orders and communications will be promptly attended to. [12 3 tf] A. STONER.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE Directors of the DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmers') INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *Large, Prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra-hazardous risks. Its character as a well conducted, reliable, and prompt paying institution has become well established, *and shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmers'* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings, and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELRGY, Director.	GEO. B. BLY, President.
LOGAN GRAVES, do	E. BARKER, Vice Prest.
MATTHEW L. COE, do	EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER, do	JHON WARE, Treasurer.
L. B. HILLS, Acting Director.	E. BARKER, Gen'l Agent.

XII 3 1y*

HERRING'S PATENT
FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,

WITH HALL'S PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS, HAVE NEVER FAILED in more than three hundred disastrous Fires.

THE SAFEST AND BEST SAFE IN USE.

Delivered to any Railroad Station in the United States or Canada, at the very lowest rates, by

JAMES G. DUDLEY, Sole Agent,
12 3 at 93 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapter 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations		$39,080 95
ASSETS.		
Premium Notes of policy holders,....	$35 462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,...	2,986 02	
Amount due secured by mortgage and in judgment, ...	332 47	
Office furniture and fixtures,.....	300 00	
		$39.080 95

Whole number of Policies issued...	4807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,... ...	$2 0 ,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,.....	None
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,....	None.
Number of Policies issued in 1859,.....	1187
Amount of outstanding risk thereon,...	$1,140,076 00
Amount of Premium Notes rec'd thereon...	17 109 82
Amount of cash premium rec'd thereon, ...	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid (12 in number,)	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents	3,317 70
Amount of expenses paid including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,.....	3,317 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madison Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President.
D. J. POWERS, Vice Prest.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do.
WM. DUDLEY, do.
JAMES MORRISON, do.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860.

T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

Feb. 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge Co,	$10 00
do do J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland Co.....	10 00
April 22—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau Co.....	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane Co.....	15 50
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson Co	690 28
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co....	650 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge Co.	68 00
do do Jas. K. Main, do do ..	408 57
do do Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha Co.....	27 00
Dec. 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison, Dane Co	20 00
Dec. 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth Co...	400 00
Dec, 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha Co.....	100 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $2,986 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance on a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in the above Report.

The officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS.

N. W. Dean, B. F. Hopkins, James Morrison, C. C. Washburne, J. W. Byrd, S. H. Vandercook, D. J. Powers, Geo F. Hastings, William Dudley, G. F. Taylor, H. H. Giles, David Atwood, L. W. Hoyt,

OFFICERS.

N. W. DEAN,..... President.
D. J. POWERS,..... Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD,..... Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS,..... General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expense; while Stock Companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refuse to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1.50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged not exceeding the amount insured.

10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

Madison, January 7, 1860. XII II

OFFICE IN BRUEN'S BLOCK, MADISON, WIS.

L. J. HAZRO & CO.

121, 123, 125,

East Water-St., Milwaukee.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

HARDWARE!

AND HOUSE TRIMMINGS,

Cultivator Teeth, Straw Cutters, and all kinds of

Farming Tools.

ALL KINDS OF

TIN PLATE

SHEET IRON,

COPPER, &c., &c.

R. HOE & CO.'S

SAWS,

WIRE & ROPE

AXES.

SHOVELS AND SPADES,

IRON & STEEL

Blacksmiths', Coopers', Carpenters' and Cabinet Makers

TOOLS,

OF ALL KINDS.

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS

GUNS & PISTOLS.

PLATED FORKS.

CUTLERY & SPOONS,

Belting and Bells.

Rock Lake Vineyard & Nurseries.

THE PROPRIETOR of these extensive and well known grounds would respectfully call the attention of the public to his large and choice varieties of Grapes.

Having the past year made several new additions to his selections, consisting in part of the following varieties, of which he is prepared to send out fine, strong, healthy plants at the following low rates:

Delaware $2 to $5 each; Diana 75c to $1; Rebecca $1 to $2; Northern Muscadine 75c to $3; Concord 75c to $2; Hartford Prolific 75c to $1; Logan $1; Jo Kalon $1; Marion Port 50c; Black Maderia 75c; Burgundy 50c to 75c; Sage's Mammoth 75c to $1; Burton's Early August 75c to $1; Mass. Early 75c to $1; Conn. Blue 75c to $1; Isabella, Catawba, Clinton, Vermont, 25c to 50c.

50,000 Apple Trees, from one to six years from graft; 20,000 Seedlings, from one to six years; Lawton Blackberry 10 to 25c.

Pie Plant—Cahoon, Victoria, Mammoth and Strawberry, 25c to 50c.

Strawberries—Wilson's Seedling 37c per doz., $2.50 per 100.

Gooseberries—Houghton's Seedling 25c; Mountain Seedling 50c.

☞ Send Stamp and get Descriptive Circular.

All orders will be filled as received.

Vines securely packed and sent to any part of the States

ISAAC ATWOOD.

Rock Lake Vineyard Nurseries,
Lake Mills, Jefferson Co., Wis.

xii 4

J. H. Warner & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

STRAW AND MILLINERY GOODS,

Dress Trimmings, Embroideries,

GLOVES, HOSIERY, &c.,

231 Main Street, 2d door north Newhall House.

We have on hand a large stock of the above Goods, to which we wish particularly to call the attention of

Merchants and Milliners.

J. H. WARNER & CO.,
231 Main Street, 2d door North of Newhall House.
Milwaukee, Wis. XI VI 6

Geo. V. Ott's

LEATHER AND HARNESS STORE,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

UPPER, SOLE, HARNESS & BELTING LEATHER.

FRENCH CALF AND KIP SKINS.

Shoe Findings, Tools and Lasts.

PLASTERING HAIR

☞ Harness made to order, and Repairing done, &c.

GEO. V. OTT,

In Basement of Bruen's Block, under Dane Co. Bank, Madison, Wis. XI VII 13

University Commercial School.

BRUEN'S BLOCK, MADISON, WIS.

THE REGENTS of the Wisconsin University, at their meeting in July, 1858, established a

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL

In connection with this Institution, and now offer its advantages to those who desire to qualify themselves for Business and the Counting Room.

THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

Is as extensive and thorough as that of the best Commercial Colleges of the West. Special attention will be given to

Single and Double Entry Book-Keeping,

embracing every department of business accounts, to Commercial calculations, practical penmanship, &c., &c.

There will be two courses of Lectures during the coming season before the school; one on POLITICAL ECONOMY by John Y. Smith, Esq., and one on COMMERCIAL LAW, by several members of the Madison Bar.

The school will be open for Ladies, for whom a separate room is provided.

In addition to the daily sessions, the school will be open four evenings in each week from October to April.

Students are instructed individually and can enter at any time. The usual time required by an industrious student to complete a course, is from eight to twelve weeks.

TERMS:

Full Course, time unlimited, in advance, for gentlemen, $25
do do do do ladies, 18
Penmanship alone, per month, ... 4

Season commences first Monday in September.

For further particulars, address,

D. H. TULLIS, Instructor.

Madison, Wis., Aug. 20, 1858.

E. M. Williamson,

Storage, Forwarding, and Commission,

AT THE

LARGE BROWN WAREHOUSE, NEAR DEPOT, MADISON.

Grain of all kinds received on Storage, and bought and sold on Commission.

SALT, WATER LIME, ROSENDALE CEMENT, &c.,

Always on hand and for sale at the lowest cash prices.

GRAIN IN STORE KEPT FULLY INSURED IF DESIRED. XI IX

THORBURN'S DESCRIPTIVE ANNUAL CATALOGUE, of Kitchen, Garden and Agricultural Seeds for 1860, is now ready for mailing to applicants inclosing a postage stamp. It contains directions for cultivation and other useful information for amateur cultivators. Send for it.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
15 John-st., New-York.

xii 8 1m]

WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, JUNE 1, 1860. NO. 8.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

HOW NOT TO DO IT;

OR A CHAPTER OF ALL SORTS.

Few things are more surprising to the nicely observant than the awkward manner in which many people set about whatever they undertake to do or accomplish, either in the way of business or pleasure.

A young man sets out in life with the full intent of achieving a pecuniary fortune, and through its instrumentality happiness. How does he aim to do it? Usually by some short road that opens fair and promises large. Just across some gulf of doubt and uncertainty, risk or hazzard, a fortune gleams in view,—to the inexperienced, it seems easy to jump over and seize the prize. But in how many cases when the attempt is made does the untried way prove a dangerous pitfall, that only deceives and swallows its victim; the seemingly easy way to do it, proves just the way not to do it. and the old maxim proves true, that across lots is usually the farthest way around.

What an apt demonstration of this fact do we see in the present rush to Pike's Peak.—Thousands, tired of the ordinary slow way of living and progressing, rig up a hasty adventure, and start towards the western horizon upon an unknown road—inviting to the imagination in the outset, but what an inevitable and grim disappointment awaits nearly all of them in the end—and that end not remote.—What an effectual way not to do it.

The man who embarks in speculation with the expectation of more rapid profits than from the slower but better trodden paths of common business and industry, how often and how sadly is he disappointed? How many more unlooked for obstacles and stubborn difficulties turn up than he anticipated? How lottery-like and doubtful prove almost all such enterprises? The last few years testify amply upon the subject. How many have learned by sad experience that short roads are long ones; that fine stories are often fictions, and that the most promising projects and adventures are uniformally the most fallacious and deceptive; in a word, that the beaten paths of life are the only safe ones for common folks to travel.

Therefore, let the ambitious young man remember when he reads some flaming advertisement, promising "fifty dollars a month and all expenses paid, together with pleasant employment," &c., &c., that all such offers are mere baited hooks to catch and fool and cheat him—nothing more. Mere red rags thrown out to catch the eye, invariably covering traps and pitfalls for the unwary and foolish.

Each generation seems to have to learn this fact for themselves, and almost each person; like the lower animals we seem unable to transmit prudential knowledge from one to another; only by experience, and that often of the most bitter kind, can we individually learn most that we need to know.

Still admonition is not always wholly thrown away; if it were, much that is written might just as well be omitted. The farmer when he is repeatedly told that he has too much land, or that bad tillage will injure or ruin it, if he does not at once seem to heed it, still gets the impression channeled into his mind at last and finds his actions modified more or less by it.—So with the unwary who expect to make fortunes by stratagem and short hand; occasional cautions will not hurt them, and may now and then save some one from taking the wrong direction; and to remember, that the way not to do things is to try unknown and impossible ways, and if we would surely fail in what we undertake, the best recipe for it is to take hold of what we know little or nothing about.

If you would raise good crops of any kind, instead of launching into some vague experi-

ment, study well what is already known upon the subject, and put it in practice, with such modifications as circumstances and sound reflection may suggest.

If you would go into a new business, do not be deluded by the mere figures you or others can make upon its prospects and profits, but judge more by what others have done in the same line of operations; don't count too much upon your own shrewdness and capacity of doing better than others, but remember in humbleness that we are all disposed personally to over-estimate our capabilities, and in that way often take the first step towards fooling ourselves. Not unfrequently when we think we are fooling others.

Self-conceit to a certain extent is undoubtedly essential to humanity; but a slight overplus of it not unfrequently proves an expensive article to the possessor. We have now and then met with a farmer who scoffed at the idea of learning anything from books or agricultural papers; why, said he, what does the editor of that paper know that I did not, before he was born? That to them is a conclusive argument. They forget, or do not seem to know that the editor, in addition to his own knowledge, has access to the accumulated knowledge and wisdom of everybody else.—And that his most important vocation consists in collecting and using what others know, instead of parading to too great an extent his own opinions and notions. We will complete this article some other time.

A WORD TO FAINT-HEARTED LOVERS OF FRUIT.

A correspondent of the *Maine Farmer* says that in 1858, from the little county of Franklin, in that State, with 20,000 inhabitants, $62,000 worth of dried, and $30,000 worth of green apples were exported during the season.

Ninety-two thousand dollars worth of apples exported from one little county on the same parallel with Marathon and St. Croix counties in Wisconsin! Very well, does any one believe that our geographical position is so much worse than that of Northwestern Maine, that all our effort must necessarily prove totally abortive, while theirs is so eminently successful? Let the croakers croak, but our faith is strong in the possibility of a success here in this young Badger State, of which the poor faint-hearted snivelers who are a disgrace to our fair climate and generous soil, and a reproach to Anglo Saxon energy and determination, have not begun to dream.

The old Latins had a maxim—*perseverentia omnia vincit*—which the timid farmers of Wisconsin would do well to remember and repeat, each man to himself, as often as he feels tempted to despair of success in fruit growing. Yes, perseverance conquers all things. Again we say to all, persevere, persevere—not in *planting* alone, for this is but a small part of what must be done—only *one* of the conditions essential to the raising of fruit. You must have, first, planted wisely, putting the right varieties, in the best manner, in the proper place; and then you must regard them of sufficient importance to be carefully watched over, nourished and protected. Suppose all the mothers of the human race were to leave their tender offspring, immediately on their arrival in this world, to the mercy of hunger and the elements, and then turn ungratefully and unmercifully away and threaten the world with an emigration to the moon, because this mundane sphere was unfavorable to the growth and developement of babies! And yet, such a course would be no more unreasonable and insane than that pursued by a majority of the the farmers of this State who pretend to attempt fruit-growing.

The great summer enemies of fruit trees in this climate are insects and the drouth. Upon the former wage an unceasing and uncompromising war, in the use of all the instrumentalities so often recommended in this magazine. The disastrous effects of the latter may usually be obviated by *thorough mulching*.

Chip manure is, perhaps, the best, but if you have been foolish enough to consume this by fire, or if you have not a sufficient supply, rotted straw will answer a good purpose.—Don't heap it all up around the stem or trunk, which will be comparatively little benefitted by it, but rather spread it liberally over the surface of the ground as far as the great mass of roots extend. Again, we say, if you would keep your fruit trees and ornamental shrubbery, from dying by the drouth, *mulch at once*, and MULCH THOROUGHLY.

THE CHATSWORTH FOUNTAIN.—The Emperor Fountain, at Chatsworth, the residence of the Duke of Devonshire, with a head of water of 381 feet, carried through 2,621 feet of pipe, plays to a height of 266 feet. With the reservoir quite full, 280 feet is the highest limit to which the water can rise.

OUT OF PLACE.

The Wisconsin *Farmer* indulges in personal remarks upon Hon. Geo. S. Barnum of this county, which, in our view, are not at all dignified, or becoming the character of that Magazine.

We have expressed our opinion that Mr. B. Was mistaken in the remarks quoted by the *Farmer*, and he has explained for himself through our columns. A mistake is not always a crime, and it certainly does not comport with the dignity of a grave agricultural journal, to descend to the low slang, and vile inuendoes which too often disgrace to columns of country newspaper.

Mr. Barnum is a gentleman of more than ordinary intellectual cultivation, and who has had experience in the world. The insinuation in the *Farmer*, in regard to his habits, is as false as it is uncalled for.—*Oshkosh Dem.*

Mr. Barnum's statement was *true* in part.—The first two Fairs of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society were so outrageously managed—whisky drinking, disorder, and fast horses being the only apparent objects—that the indignation of all decent people was aroused. The result of this mismanagement had a good effect however—good men took the matter in hand, and now it is a creditable and useful institution. We do not doubt other counties could give similar experiences if the truth was only known; and it would be more becoming in the *Farmer* to set about remedying the evil than to indulge in remarks of the nature of those applied to Mr. Barnum.—*Ripon Times.*

We would like to know if the Oshkosh *Democrat* has published the *smart* talk of Mr. Barnum in the Assembly, upon the various County and State Agricultural Societies, charging them, or rather their members at wholesale, with being *drunkards, horse-jockies, thieves* and *vagabonds*. If the *Hon. Member's* language in public legislative debate, on the 26th and 27th of March, (see on page of the *Farmer* for May,) has been thus published in full, upon these subjects, so that the citizens of Winnebago and Fond du Lac counties can read it and judge for themselves whether we were too severe, it is all we wish or ask for our vindication. His own language on those occasions, despite of any explanation he can make, will stick to him among any sensible constituency, longer than anything we have said or can say. Let those who would vindicate the Hon. Gentleman, publish his language and explain and defend it if they can; that is all we have to say upon that part of the subject.

So far as Mr. Barnum's habits are concerned we know nor care anything about them.—We don't even know him by sight, hence, have said nothing in relation to him from malice; but let it be observed that we have only lightly retorted upon him what he broadly and repeatedly charged upon the entire corps of prominent agriculturists of the State; if we sinned at retail, he certainly did at wholesale, and set the example at that. Whatever may come of this matter, one thing we feel quite sure of, and that is that Brother Barnum, if he ever gets into the Legislature again, will be a little more careful what kind of buncumb he talks, even under excitement. He doubtless thought the *pretty* things he said would make a little fun for the moment, and pass off very nicely; and so they would if we had not taken them up.—But we are not the man to sit by and hear, by far the most respectable and worthy class of the State or country, traduced like pickpockets without dissenting. The newspaper press of the State can do so if they please, and even justify the blackguard if they think it the best way; it is their own matter, not ours. We speak for our class, the farmers, and they for theirs, the politicians, that's all.

The conclusion of the Ripon *Times* that other counties are as bad as he states Winnebago used to be, and that we ought to set about reforming them, is all very well, perhaps, but we would reply to the worthy editor that we have never, in our attendance, seen much, if any, of the intemperance complained of. Nor do we believe it exists among the farmers and officers themselves, except when, as it is too apt to be the case, they are made up of editors, lawyers, and village idlers. Such a set we would not be responsible for. Let agricultural societies be careful about electing such men and we will warrant it the right road to the reformation desired by the *Times*.

Brother Elmore has promised us, in all good nature, an *awful tear*, one of these days. Let it come, we will risk it, and will venture besides to predict that it will be made upon everything else than a justification of his remarks in the Assembly. We will see what will come of this tempest in a teapot. "Let the wolf howl."

☞ In Saxony, not larger than Connecticut and Rhode Island, there are 3,600,000 sheep; England and Wales produce 26,000,000, while in the whole Territory of the United States we raise only 21,000,000.

FOND DU LAC COUNTY.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—In previous letters some mention has been made by me of some fine farms in Dodge county, and I will here make a note upon some farms in Fond du Lac county.

Capt. Plocker, after devoting some years to operations on the *water*, is now engaged in noble improvements on the *land*. He has a good and extensive farm at *Fairwater*, where he is doing up all farm work in superb style—draining, grubbing, manuring and deep-plowing; besides *brining* and *liming* his seed. He has reclaimed much marsh land; and keeps some fine Devon stock, as does Mr. Norris, on a splendid farm in the same neighborhood. Near by, Mr. Gallup has a very handsome farm, where he keeps a very large stock of bees, in a profitable and pleasant manner.

But in passing through this region, on some other farms, we witnessed scenes which were not so pleasant and creditable—that is, numerous implements lying around loose in the fields exposed to storms and decay. This is the very worst policy imaginable, in this connection.

Seed Corn.—It has been proved, by careful and satisfactory experiments, in different places, that the kernels from the *butt end* of the ears will produce earlier and sounder corn, and greater yields, than those from the top end. It is well known the kernels form and ripen first on the butt end of the ear—that the silks of those kernels are on the outside of those of the top kernels, when they get outside of the husk—consequently these silks from the but end of the ear get the first and fullest impregnation from the *polen* that falls from the tassels above—hence those kernels are best fructified or fertilized, come forward sooner, are sounder, and make earlier and heavier seed than the kernels at the top end of the ears. This is true, and no mistake in it; it is well proved, besides being sustained by the nature of things—and farmers should heed it.

D. S. C.

Legal Slaughter of Cattle in Massachusetts.—Great excitement has arisen among the agriculturists of the old Bay State, by reason of the breaking out of a very fatal and infectious disease among the cattle.

The disease is characterized by the cattle doctors as "pleuro-pneumonia," or inflamation of the lungs and pleura. It appears to have originated with a small herd imported recently from Holland, and is making desperate havoc among the cattle wherever it has spread. So great was the alarm occasioned by it that the Legislature passed an act appointing commissioners to visit the localities where it was reported to be raging, and kill not only those affected by it, but all to shut up all as had been unmistakeably exposed to it, appropriating $10,000 to pay the expenses of the commission and remunerate owners for the cattle thus slain. Already the amount appropriated is exhausted and the enemy is as yet nothing daunted.

REMARKS ON THE CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—Many persons have a great deal of trouble in getting flower seeds out of the ground; hence I see but very few gardens that have choice, tender flowers to a great extent. With good seeds, however, there is but little difficulty, if persons will take a little pains in sowing and shading, in case the weather is warm and the ground dry. It cannot be expected that seeds will grow if they are allowed to "dry out," which is frequently done in a few hours of hot sun, where seeds are small and near the surface. By keeping them watered and shaded, particularly during the heat of the day, ladies will find but little difficulty in getting the plants up, provided they are not planted too deep. The soil should be fine and rich, and for the finer seeds gently pressed before and after sowing the seed. The proper depth is from a quarter to half an inch, according to size of seeds. When a large number of seeds are sown, those that will bear transplanting may be sown in small patches, close together, and covered with boards raised a few inches from the ground. When large enough they may be taken up in a moist day and transplanted into the border and flower bed. Seeds, as well as young plants, are often washed out by rains, so that it is necessary to have them protected on this account.

The hardy Annuals should be sown very early, while those from a warm climate must be sown much later, unless they are started in a hot-bed or in the house.

No weeds should be allowed to mar the beauty of a flower bed or a garden. If the ladies, or any who cultivate flowers, will follow these directions, I am satisfied they will have but little trouble in beautifying their

homes with the choicest gifts of a bountiful Providence. No lady should be without her flower garden, of some kind, and for those who wish information in detail, I would recommend "The Ladies Flower Gardener," or "Breck's Book of Flowers."

CHAS. H. FORD.

NOTE.—The foregoing articles should have appeared in the May number, but most of the suggestions will still be seasonable.

PROTECTION TO SHEEP AND STOCK—HOW THE DOG LAW IS RECEIVED.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Having traveled considerably through some eight of the more prominent counties, in this State, since the passage of the Law for the Protection of Sheep, &c., against dogs, I have been made glad to note how almost universally it has been approved, by intelligent men everywhere; and I have taken pains to learn the public feeling; in fact, there are a greater number of person who wish for *even a larger tax*, and more stringent law on the subject, than there are who oppose it all. Very nearly every substantial farmer and reliable business man, in every county, pronounces it one of the very best laws that our Legislature has enacted for years; and declare that the earnest thanks of farmers, everywhere, are due to Senator TAYLOR, and other advocates of the bill, in both branches of the Legislature, for their persevering efforts in this matter.

It is claimed by observing men, in different counties, that the wool and sheep interest will be doubled, in this State, during the next eighteen months. And it is also maintained, in some of the more populous counties, that the number of sheep has *decreased* more than 50 per cent. during the last two years, on account of the ravages of dogs.

But I will not indicate what kind of community are generally found opposing this useful law; for their numbers are small and their influence less. Yet I am surprised, and regret, to hear more opposition expressed to this law in Dane County than in all the other eight counties which I have visited; and trust when they have become better acquainted with its effects, they will take a wiser view of the matter; and being law-abiding men, the legal authorities, will everywhere see that the provisions of the law are properly observed.—Many other and older States have enacted similar laws, for the same purpose; and I have not yet heard, that in any single instance has the law become unpopular, or been repealed.

A few statistical facts, in this connection, may be useful: Since 1850, the quantity of wheat grown in this State, has more than quadrupled; the population has trebled; and the amount of live stock has increased in nearly the same ratio, while the quantity of wool has increased by only about one-quarter, a lamentably less ratio. Why is this so?

D. S. C.

AN INDIANA CORN CROP.—The following statement in relation to a crop of corn raised by him in Switzerland county, Indiana, in 1859, was made by Mr. John W. Wright to the Indiana State Board of Agriculture, and duly sworn to:

1. The quantity of ground on which the crop grew, was ten acres.
2. The soil was Ohio River bottom; a sandy loam, from one to three feet deep, resting on a clay sub-soil, slightly mixed with sand.
3. The drainage is one open ditch, 2 feet deep and 4 feet wide; cost when made, ten years ago, 50 cents per rod.
4. No manures were used.
5. Planted second week in May, with a machine called "Cherokee Corn-Planter," manufactured in Pittsburg, Pa. The seed was Derby Corn, obtained in Gallatin county, Ky., some five years since.
6. The ground was broken from 10 to 12 inches deep, the latter part of April; then rolled with a heavy roller. It was sub-soiled two years ago, 16 inches deep, with Mapes' sub-soil plow.

The corn was planted three feet three inches apart, each way, three stalks in the hill.

When the corn was four to six inches high, ran a double shovel plow through twice in a row, eight inches deep, close to the corn, loosening and stirring the ground thoroughly. When about two feet in height, the plowing was repeated, as before. When four feet in height, ran through once in each row, with same plow, six inches deep. I then went through and pulled off all suckers, which I consider important to procure a good yield.

7. Cost per acre, $2.50.

[This, we suppose, does not include *breaking* nor the *ground rent*, which should have been added, but were not named in the "Rules and Regulations" to which these figures refer. —*Ed. Indiana Farmer.*]

8. Greatest yield per acre, 174 bu.; average yield per acre, 150 bushels.
9. The general average of the same ground has been about 75 bushels per acre, and has been planted four feet apart each way, four stalks in each hill; planted by hand, and plowed from four to six times, with broad, single-shoveled plows.

I consider the sub-soil plow, roller and corn-planter, as almost indispensable farm implements.

THE UNDER GROUND OR MOLE DRAINER.

In reply to numerous inquiries in relation to the construction and operation of the Mole Drainer, we insert the accompanying illustration of it; which will at once convey a more complete idea of it, than any brief description.

The cut is not a very perfect one, but substantially correct; although the driver if he would appear business-like should take his hands out of his pocket and get the other side of his team else he may make a left-handed ditch.

These drains are coming rapidly into use, and in all clay soils are giving the most entire satisfaction; in fact few subjects are attracting more attention at the present time in the West, as we gather from our numerous the changes. They are probably bound to supercede tiles for the present generation, at least, in the great fields of the West, as sure as the railroads supercede the turnpike for business.

We had a couple of thousands of rods made last season; they have stood the winter perfectly and work to admiration. We have the fullest faith in them in clay soils. We append a letter from John M. Clark, of Whitewater, one of the largest and best farmers in that section of the State, which shows his opinions on the subject. We also add some other extracts from the papers, showing the introduction of the movement in this State. We have always had a high opinion of the Mole Drainer since we fairly saw it work.

WHITEWATER, May 11, 1860.

E. W. SKINNER,—Dear Sir: According to your request I will state for the benefit of those interested, my experience in the use of your patent Mole Drainer.

I have had about 600 rods of said drains made in a slough of about thirty acres, lying west of my house, which, until the past dry season has usually been covered with water.—The drains have thoroughly drained the slough so that since our recent heavy rains, it is dry enough to plow. In addition to this and what I think the most of, it has furnished me a plentiful supply of water for my stock, since the day the Drainer commenced running.

I have not tried the ditches long enough to *know* that they will be permanent, but from their appearance, the solidity with which the clay is packed, and the closing up of the soil after the coulter, I have no doubt but that they will be as durable and perfect as could be wished.

J. M. CLARK.

MOLE DRAINER.—This machine has been in operation in this vicinity, now, something like a month; it has made, during that time, over

two thousand rods of drain, and we believe has given perfect satisfaction to all who have used it. It has also opened many hitherto hidden springs of living water—a great advantage to farmers who raise stock. On the farms of J. M. Clark, Daniel Smith and William Birge, of this town, especially, it has opened springs that furnish a supply of water sufficient for the stock of a township. This is one of the most useful features of the Mole Drainer's operations.

We have seen this machine at work, during the past few weeks, as have many of our citizens, and all unite in expressing the belief that it is destined to reclaim hundreds of thousands of acres of land in this State, now lying waste and valueless, but which once thoroughly drained must be among the best and most productive in the State. The machine will be at work for the next ten days on the farm of A. Richmond, in the east part of this town, where those who have not yet seen it can have an opportunity to witness its operation.—*Whitewater Register.*

THE AMERICAN "DOUBLE MOLE DRAINER," which, for the past five years, has been redeeming so much of the wet lands in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky, has finally reached us. We have just seen one unloaded at the Racine and Mississippi depot. It is the design of the owners of the right for Wisconsin to run this machine in Racine and Kenosha counties for the present. They offer farm and town rights on easy terms—will also do ditching until the work of the drainer is proved among our farming community to be what is claimed for it.

Those farmers who have wet, unproductive lands, should lose no time in visiting the machine, to see it operate and satisfy themselves of its great utility.—*Racine Advocate.*

[From the Michigan Farmer.]

THE CRANBERRY.

We condense the following remarks on the cranberry from an article read before the Farmers' Club of New York, and published in the *Homestead*, by J. C. Young of Lond Island:

Mr. Young states that his operations with the cranberry since 1856, have demonstrated,

1. That cranberries will grow and do well, though the vines are taken directly from the marshes where they grow wild.

2. That they will grow upon upland, and immediately after it has been broken up.

3. That they will grow without manure, and without a wet sub-soil.

4. That they do as well without any artificial irrigation.

5. That they need a moderate amount of labor, to keep them clean and free from weeds and grass.

The land which has been used by Mr. Young for the cranberry, is located near the village of Lakeland, on Long Island, and is a portion of that generally known as the Pine Barrens. In 1855 the plot containing about a third of an acre, was used to grow potatoes. In 1856 the land was grubbed, stubs taken out and the plot raked, and the vines planted. The vines were set in drills thirty inches apart, at intervals in the rows of twelve inches. In 1856, 1857 and 1858 the plants were kept clean by hand weeding and the scuffie hoe.

The vines when first planted were not thicker than a broom straw, and were taken from the edges and driest places of marshes adjoining, where they were growing wild. They are now as thick as a pie-stem, and the rows are a compact mass from ten to twelve inches in width. It is not yet determined whether it is best to leave a space between the rows or to allow them to cover the whole ground. The use of the scuffie hoe in cleaning the spaces between the drills, whilst it loosened the roots of many vines, seemed to give a new impetus to their growth. The land itself is a sandy yellow loam, in which wells have to be sunk 57 feet to procure water, and there is no running stream within a mile and a half, so that all the watering and irrigation afforded depended entirely upon the rains. From the plot there was gathered last year 24 bushels. Another cultivator set out about an eighth of an acre in the spring of 1855, from which in 1856 he had half a bushel; in 1857, three bushels; in 1858, six bushels; and in 1859, sixteen bushels. Mr. Young himself set out another plot of about a fourth of an acre in 1855, from which, in 1859, he gathered between twenty and thirty bushels, thus showing that his system gave certain returns of about the same amount at the end of three years. As a general rule it takes three years before a full crop can be realized from the setting out, and during this time the lot wants a certain amount of attendance.

NOTE.—Who among our Western correspondents can tell us their experience in cranberry cultivation, either upon high or low lands? It is a subject upon which there begins to be some inquiry, and on which we would like to elicit all important information. —EDS.

THE SEASON IN GREAT BRITAIN.—The advices from Liverpool to the 31st March, state that the winter has been colder and the spring later than they have been for 30 years. The season for sowing spring wheat in Britain and France is said to be in a measure lost, and oats and barley must be sown instead. The fall wheat has also been injured by frost. The wheat crop of western Europe, therefore, is expected to be short, but the prospect was never better in Russia.

HOW TO SAVE THE MELON VINES AND PRODUCE GOOD MELONS.

We have an abundance of good soil in every portion of our State for the production of the best kind of melons, though the best specimens and the largest quantities are produced in the sandy-loam districts. Nevertheless there is a lack of good melons in nearly all the markets. The cause is chiefly owing, as we think, to late frosts, the depredations of insects, and to careless cultivation.

The best protection against insects and frosts, is a simple, bottomless box, about a foot square and five or six inches deep, covered with fine musquito netting, or better still, with glass. If covered with glass, the top of the box should incline towards the sun, be made with a groove on two of the sides, so that the glass may be slid up or down so as to cover the vine entirely or in part, according to the necessities of the plant. Insect ravages are principally committed during the night or very early in the morning, so that during mid-day the young vines may be safely exposed to the sun and air.

If the preparation of the box covering shall have been neglected until the vines have begun to spread so as to preclude its use, it will be very difficult to destroy the bugs or prevent their attacks. A sprinkling of sulphur, ashes, &c., while the dew is on, has been recommended, but as the ravages are usually committed on the under side of the leaf, none of these remedies are entirely efficient. In such a case, it is well to water the plants with manure water and other fertilizers, which will push them forward with a rapid and vigorous growth.

Under the head of defective cultivation, it may be well to remark, that, in most cases, too many sets are allowed to attempt maturity. It is better to pinch off such of the flowers as appear late, and thus give to a few melons the whole force of the vine. Indeed, the vines themselves are often pinched back with advantage to the fruit.

CHLOROFORM FOR HORSES.—A correspondent of the *Cotton Planter* states that it having been suggested to him that chloroform was a good remedy for colic in horses and mules, he had tried it in eight or ten cases, in all of which it afforded almost instantaneous relief. He gave at a dose from one to two table-spoonfuls of chloroform, mixed with half a pint of water. He considers this remedy preferable to any other on account of the quickness of the relief afforded, and the fact that its administration is not attended with any bad consequences. We infer that the medicine is to be *swallowed*, not inhaled.

CORN FODDER FOR STOCK FEEDING.

At the seventh "Legislative Agricultural meeting" at Boston, the subject under discussion was "Stock Feeding," and many interesting remarks were made for which we cannot spare room in the present crowded state of our columns. But we thought that an abstract of the opinions presented on the value of corn fodder for stock, would be interesting to a large share of our stock growing readers, and hence give place to the same, gathered from our Boston papers.

The chairman, Dr. Loring, "thought good English hay" the most satisfactory food for stock—corn fodder and the like, "will serve for variety, but they will not do as a substitute, and whenever they are used to produce beef or milk, they require a larger proportion of more concentrated nourishment, such as grain, roots, and oil-cake." He does not speak as though having had much experience with corn-fodder, but more with straw and wild or "meadow hay."

Mr. Gardner, of Swansey, said that "corn-fodder was good, and he would give as much for the corn-fodder from an acre of ground, as for the English hay produced on an acre for stock feeding."

Mr. Asa Sheldon, of Wilmington, said that "one ton of dry corn stalks, well cured, are worth more than the same green, and as good as a ton of English hay, and that working oxen would travel longer on corn butts than on any other food. He had found it advantageous to mix molasses with poor hay—puts the molasses in water, heats it, and puts it on the hay, which is kept covered over night. Ten cents worth of molasses is better than a bushel of turnips.

Mr. Hurd, of Wayland, thought Indian corn "one of the best crops we could raise for feeding stock, considering the value of stalk and grain. The great trouble was farmers did not cure it properly. He cut corn at the roots, a little later than is commonly done, and cured in the air, as he considers this better than curing in the shade."

Mr. Peters of Southboro', kept his cattle in good order with cut corn-fodder, mixed with about a quart and a half of meal to each animal per day.

Mr. Thompson, of Nantucket, "deemed it of advantage to mix salt hay, corn-fodder, and upland hay, at the time of storing. Cows fed with the mixture had done better than when fed with the same articles separately."

STOCK REGISTER.

CATTLE DISEASE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

In the issue of the *Rural* for March 31st, we made mention of the appearance in Massachusetts of that dreaded disease, Pleuro-Pneumonia,—which has so frequently ravaged the herds of the old world,—and, at the same time spread before our reader the various modes adopted, both by Veterinarians and Stock Breeders, for its remedy where apparent, and its prevention where it had not already affected an entrance. Since the period referred to, we have scrutinizingly watched our Eastern exchanges, in order to ascertain what steps were being taken toward confining this malady among the herds where its fatality was first exhibited, and as the journals have given prominence to the subject under consideration, we have had all the information obtainable. Our purpose is to review this matter, condensing the same within such limits as our space admits.

The Massachusetts Legislature appointed three Commissioners—Messrs. Fay, of Boston; Walker, of North Brookfield; and Lathrop, of South Hadley,—"to examine into the nature and treatment of this disease, and to exterminate any herds in which it may be found." To meet the necessary expenses, $10,000 were appropriated.

The first place visited was North Brookfield, in which neighborhood are some twelve or fifteen stock-owners whose herds number about one hundred and fifty head of choice cattle.—The disease, in greater or less development, was believed to be among them all. The Commissioners were accompanied by several surgeons and cattle doctors from Worcester and Boston, and upon the farm receiving their earliest visitation, caused fourteen animals to be killed that they might trace the progress and character of the disease in all its stages. A cow that died the night before the Commissioners arrived was examined, and both her lungs were a mass of frothy, cheesey corruption. One cow that was taken so long ago as the 1st of January, and seemed to be recovering, appearing bright and healthy, was slaughtered. The lobe of the lungs was sound, but from the right was taken a mass of pus, looking like rotten cheese, of more than a pint in measurement. She might possibly have thrown off the disease and lived, had she not been killed. Another cow in the same herd, and showing stronger signs of the disease, had similar, but a greater amount of pus in the lungs, and with it a large amount of watery fluid. An ox that looked bright and well, and ate and chewed his cud as if in a healthy condition, was among the slain, and one of his lung was a mass of corruption. Another singular case was that of a cow that calved some ten days ago; one lung was healthy, but in the other the disease was developing itself in scattered balls, or masses of pus, looking like liver on the outside, but on cutting, like rotten cheese; and her calf was found to have the disease in precisely a similar stage. A calf nearly a year old, that was brought from Mr. Chenery's herd in Belmont at the same time with the calf to which the whole disease is traced back, was also among the animals killed by the Commissioners and it was found to have the disease only in the very earliest stages.

On the day following, the stock belonging to C. P. Huntington, where there were some "bad cases," had an examination. Mr. H. had previously lost eleven cows by pneumonia, and the Committee killed three more, diminishing his stock to eleven head. Dr. Bates immediately entered the stable and began the laborious process of examination by percussion, while the appraisers estimated the value of the stock. Two cows were found diseased, and the rest had been so much exposed to infection, that it was decided to kill them also. A hill-side back of the barn was selected as the place of execution, and eleven pits were dug for the reception of the bodies. In the first one examined, they found a strong adhesion of the lungs to the diaphragm, and acute disease of the right lung. The second case also exhibited adhesion, accompanied by indurated lung tissue, and sloughing of the left lung. Cases were observed in the course of the day where the sloughing business had proceeded so far that there was very little healthy lung left. And yet, so insidious is the progress of the disease, that the farmer stoutly declares his cow has never been sick, and will not be convinced that there is anything the matter with her till the proof is laid before his eyes.

From North Brookfield the Commissioners proceeded to New Braintree and visited the farm of Alden W. Woodis. At this point the medical force was much increased. The disease was introduced upon the farm of Mr. W., by the temporary presence of an ox, from the "Stoddard" farm, Mr. Stoddard having purchased cattle from Mr. Chenery, at Belmont, who imported the infected stock. The disease being revealed, eighteen head, the entire herd of Mr. Woodis, were slaughtered and buried.

The next farm visited was that of Chas. Needham, also in New Braintree, where the Committee had three cows killed before. Mr. Needham had exchanged cattle with Curtis Stoddard. The doctors found a great deal of water in the left chest of the third cow examined, and only a few healthy spots in the lung. Twenty-eight cattle were killed, completely emptying the barn.

Following that of Mr. Needham came the farm of Leonard Stoddard. The doctors made their examination, and every hoof in the barn, numbering forty-nine, including ten pairs of fine oxen, was condemned to die in the morning. Next in order came the stables of W.

W. Chenery, whose residence is in Belmont. It is several months since Mr. C. lost an animal, and he felt quite confident that the malady had entirely left his herd. To render assurance doubly sure, three cattle were chosen for the knife,—one a cow that had been sick, but was deemed nearly well, with two heifers, one having shown no signs of disease, and the other but slight, such as were indicated by a slight cough, and they all proved to be diseased—one of the lungs of one of the heifers being filled with pus. After an examination of the animals slaughtered, the Commissioners returned to the barn and submitted the entire herd to a professional inspection. The stock consists of about forty head, and all but three or four proved diseased, some of them very bad—the symptoms and indications of the disease being unmistakable. The mode of examination was by sounding the chest of an animal over the lungs, by slight raps—the tone of the resonance, or reverberation of the sound thereof being the test.

Cases similar to the foregoing, might be multiplied did space permit. When our latest intelligence was received, the number of cattle slaughtered had reached 108, valued at $5,000 being an average of $46 8.27 per animal, and the Commissioners were about returning to North Brookfield for the purpose of destroying all the stock (comprising about 150 head,) in that village, when 100 new cases were reported by the medical examiners. As one half of the appropriation had been expended, and the balance would fall far short of meeting the emergencies of the case, the slaughter ceased, in order that the Governor might be consulted. A consultation has been held, and the expediency of calling an extra session of the Legislature urged, but this movement will not be made at present. It has been decided, however, that a Medical Board of the most experienced surgeons will at once be called in Boston to investigate the subject, and until they shall make a report all further destruction of cattle will be suspended.

As exhibiting the effect upon the community in Massachusetts generally, and those residing in the "infected districts" particularly, we quote from the Boston *Post* as follows:—"The proposed State Fair, and also the Annual County Cattle Shows, will probably not be held this year, for fear of spreading the distemper still wider. At present the disease is confined to a territory about twelve miles square, a territory abounding in cattle, and from which, at this time last year, from one to two car loads of butter and cheese per week were forwarded to Boston. Now all trade is suspended, the cattle are forbidden, under penalties, to be sold, and the herds are ordered by the Commissioners to be closely kept on their premises."

☞ It is a mistake to suppose a man knows much because he talks loud. Empty barrels make the most noise.

CASTRATING AND DOCKING LAMBS.

Mr. Editors:—The time is now at hand when sheep growers should pay more than ordinary attention to their flocks, especially to the ewes and lambs. The mode and time of docking and castrating my lambs, which I have adopted for the past twenty years and which I have found very successful, I can confidently recommend as follows: When the lambs are from one to two weeks old, they should be docked and ear marked, if the latter is practiced by the owner. The tail should not be left more than one and a half or two inches long, as the sheep not only looks better with a short tail but it keeps much cleaner.—These operations should be performed in good weather.

Get up your ewes and lambs in the latter part of the afternoon in a dry yard or shed.—Drive them in a pen where you can select out the lambs without racing them much. As you pick off the lambs put them in a snug pen and let the ewes out into the yard. If the weather is pretty hot let the lambs cool off before disturbing them further. If convenient, have a man to hand them out to another person who holds the lamb in such a position as suits the operator, who should now with a suitable instrument (I use a sharp shoe knife) first mark the ear and then take off the tail with a quick blow. Let the lamb go and he will find his mother, and after suckling, both the ewe and lamb will usually lie down; the mutilated member will then stop bleeding.—Keep them in the yard over night.

In about six or ten days after this, bring up the ewes and lambs as before in the latter part of the afternoon, drive them in a close pen and select out the ram lambs and those that want tailing. Have a man to hand out the lambs to an assistant, who should be seated upon a low stool or bench. The assistant should take the lamb by the hind legs, one of them in each hand, and place the lamb on his back with the rump in the man's lap, and his head against his breast, as this will be found the most convenient position for the operator. The ewes and lambs should be kept in the yard over night. In the morning the lambs will go off as smart and live as if nothing had occurred.

Docking and castrating should not be performed at the same time, as the operations together are too severe for the lambs. I think docking the more severe operation of the two.

These operations are often performed in the morning, and the sheep then turned to pasture. The ewes are hungry and ramble about in search for food, and the poor mutilated lamb has to drag along after its dam, the hot sun and exercise often causing the loss of much blood.

If any sheep grower will try this plan once, I think if he is possessed of any human feelings he will not again perform these operations in the morning. O. F. M.

Wheeler, Steuben Co., N. Y.

RAISING COLTS.

PREGNANCY AND PARTURITION.—Having secured the services of the stallion of your choice, the management of the mare during her pregnancy and in parturition is now the proper subject for consideration. The first point to be determined is whether the mare is, or is not, with foal. Most horse keepers urge the return of the mare to the horse for trial on the ninth or tenth day, but this is certainly too soon, for experience has proved that more mares will again come in season in from eighteen to twenty-eight days, than on the ninth or tenth day. If the mare passes over *thirty* days without evincing a desire for the horse, in nine cases out of ten it may safely be concluded that she is with foal. If, however, the mare has a colt, and it be desired to raise one the following season, she may be taken to the horse in from six to ten days after foaling; after this she will usually again come in heat at intervals of from three to four weeks.—When in a healthy condition, mares come in heat regularly once a month, and not at intervals of ten or eleven days as has been asserted by some writers on this subject. Recent scientific discoveries, and the testimony of experienced and practical men fully sustain and corroborate my position. Some authors affirm that the mare should not be retuned to the horse until the expiration of a month after foaling, and as far as I have experienced, she is quite as likely to become impregnated then as at any other period. If designed for agricultural purposes she may be put to moderate labor.

The usual period of gestation in the mare is from forty-eight to fifty-two weeks, but she sometimes varies from forty-six to fifty-four weeks. Some writers have asserted that the mare goes with foal eleven months and as many days as she is years old; others that she goes eleven months with a mare, and twelve months with a horse colt; but there is no dependence to be placed in such rules. In some instances I have known mares to foal horse colts in ten months and two weeks and in others to go a year and upwards, and yet bring forth mare colts; one year a mare to foal in eleven months, and the succeeding year the same mare to go three weeks longer, and in both cases had fillies. Out of a record of eighty mares kept in one season the average period of gestation was eleven months and one week; of these there were forty horse colts and a like number of fillies: the horse colts averaging one day the longest, which was caused by one very old mare going over a year.—These facts prove the fallacy of such predictions.

After your mare has been put to the horse of your choice, she should not be confined too closely during her preganancy. A run to grass for four or five months would be highly advantageous. But if her services are needed either for agricultural or other purposes, she may be kept at moderate work from the time of connection up to the period of foaling, not only without injury but with decided advantage. Moderate exercise is essential to the production of healthy offspring. When half the period of pregnancy has expired, she should be more generously fed, as by this time the fœtus will be making greater demands on her for sustenance, and she should therefore be allowed one, two, or three feeds of grain a day, according to her condition and amount of labor required to perform. This is also the period when abortion is most likely to occur. The mare is in danger of slinking her foal from foul blows, over-exertion, the use of musty hay or grain, and offensive objects of smell or sight of any kind. Good feeding and careful exercise are the best preventatives of this misfortune. The mare should not be let out or exposed to cold winds and storms, and at night she should be placed in a wide stall or loose box well littered with clean straw, affording her a good bed, which will add much to her thrift and comfort; she should also be curried and rubbed down, if worked, at least once every day.

When the mare is near foaling she should be by herself, either in a small lot or good roomy stable, under the frequent inspection of her owner, or some careful person. The approach of parturition is indicated by the formation of milk in the udder and the filling up of the teats; milk often flowing out a few hours before delivery. She must now be closely watched, as many a fine colt has been lost by being suffocated in the sheet. If the mare has been well taken care of while with foal, and is in good health, but little danger will attend the act of parturition. When all is right she will be delivered in a very short time; if, however, there appears to be any great difficulty in producing her foal a little gentle assistance is sometimes necessary.

The act of labor over, it is necessary to secure the cord by a ligature near the colt's body—the cord may then be severed by a sharp knife. This practice I have never seen recommended, or heard considered as necessary, but I am fully satisfied of its importance, as in some cases I have found the cord so strong that disastrous consequences would certainly have attended its violent rupture. It will be better to leave the mare alone for an hour or so, that she may be permitted to perform the natural operation of licking her foal undisturbed, and that it may gather strength sufficient to enable it to rise. When once upon its feet, and having learned to suck, there is but little danger but that both mare and colt will do well. The young horse having now received a separate existence, it will be necessary to treat him as an independent being; our next article, therefore, will be devoted exclusively to the care and management of colts.

A PENNSYLVANIA FARMER,

in Amer. Stock Journal.

BEST AGE OF MARES FOR BREEDING.—In reply to the question, "At what age ought mares to breed to make it best for them to colt, and to produce the best possible horses in the long run?" a correspondent of the *Genessee Farmer* states that the most solid horses are from parents past ten years old. It is quoted as the opinion of Col. Wm. R. Johnson, an "old Napoleon of the turf," that if raising a mare for breeding purposes only, one should commence at two years old, if she were well grown, not for the value of her first colt, but for the extension of her breeding properties and enlarging her nursing capacities.—*Homestead.*

Now we have had considerable experience in the raising of horses, and have, moreover, been a careful observer of these matters for many years, and it is our decided conviction that both of the parties above named are in error. We do not question that a mare of good healthy constitution and uninjured by hard service, will often produce her best colt as late in life as at ten years of age—that is, if she has already given birth to a number of offspring. But we are very confident that in the great majority of cases it is safer to look for the best colt at the age of *eight or nine.* This is ordinarily the period of the greatest vigor and physical perfection, and it is reasonable to suppose that the offspring nourished and born at that period would have the greatest bodily health and physical perfection also.

As to the period when mares should be put to breeding, the second year is too young; three is early enough to secure the "breeding properties" desired, and the dangers of injury to the constitution are less at that period than at two.

TO REMEDY SOWS EATING THEIR PIGS.—*Eds. Wis. Farmer:*—Seeing an inquiry about a remedy to prevent sows eating their pigs, I would state that I have had several sows that would eat their pigs, if dropped when they could not get green feed, but never when they could. This eating of their pigs only in winter suggested a remedy which I tried and found successful. I had two sows drop their pigs in mid-winter—both of the cannibal family—about three weeks before their time. I commenced feeding on greasy slops from the kitchen, with some raw potatoes and fresh meat every day, until the pigs were six or seven weeks old; by which means I remedied the difficulty. To the above mentioned feed I added plenty of corn.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Eastman, Crawford Co., April 4, 1860.

ANOTHER REMEDY.—In reply to the inquiry in the April number of the *Farmer*, for a remedy to prevent sows eating their pigs, we give them the run of a pasture field, and when the ground is frozen hard in winter, we daily give each sow with young pigs a few shovelsful of fresh earth, which is easily procured in the woods under the leaves. The causes for the unnatural appetite are too constipating feed and confinement in small pens.

EGYPT.

South Pass, Union Co., Ill., April 4, 1860.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Will you or some of your numerous correspondents please inform me, through the columns of the *Farmer*, as to the best method of treating the Lampas in horses, so as to effect a radical cure. I have a valuable colt which has them pretty bad. A great many recommend burning, but I feel somewhat diffident in resorting to such barbarous treatment. Please give the information in the June number of the *Farmer*, and you will much oblige. Respectfully yours,

WM. G. BRUCE.

Wyoming, Iowa Co., May, 1860.

NOTE.—We are not personally much acquainted with this ailment, nor do we find much in relation to it in the books; we quote the following paragraph, and would suggest to others who may be informed on the subject, to more fully answer Mr. B.'s inquiries.—EDS.

LAMPAS may occur from inflammation of the gums, shedding of the teeth, a febrile tendency and from over-feeding or want of exercise. It will generally subside by low dieting and proper exercise; or it may be at once relieved by lancing the bars with a sharp penknife.—*Allen's Domestic Animals.*

GREAT EXHIBITION IN LONDON IN 1862.—At a meeting of the Society of Arts in London, February 23d, the guarantee deed for raising £250,000 for the exhibition in 1862, was approved; and, Earl Granville, K. G., London, President of the Council, Marquis of Chandos, Mr. Thos. Baring, M. P., Mr. Wentworth Dilke, who were Commissioners in the Exhibition of 1851; and Mr. Thos. Fairbairn, of Manchester, were appointed Trustees of the Fund—and the matter is settled that the Exhibition will be held.

We trust the farmers, inventors, mechanics, implement makers, and others, of New York, will be prepared for this great Exhibition, and have a representation there, in the different departments, which will do credit to our State and country.

HORTICULTURAL.

REMARKS ON FRUIT CULTURE IN WISCONSIN.

Eds. Wis. Farmer—There are, doubtless, at the present time, not a few who are resolved to bid adieu to Wisconsin, with all its charms and resources, for a less congenial clime, if it is really demonstrated that our soil and climate are not adapted to the cultivation of fruit. For myself, I shall be among the number to join the general exodus, and take up my march for Nebraska, or some other place where the greatest luxury of life may be enjoyed—even though the eating thereof be intermingled with occasional "ager shakes." From what information and experience I have gained from the past, I have arrived at the following conclusions:

First, that the apple and cherry should not be planted on our rich and damp soils, or in situations too much exposed.

Second, that the ground about young trees should be well cultivated during the fore part of the season, but left untouched after August. The great difficulty seems to be not in *the extreme cold in winter but in the immaturity of the wood.* Our soil is generally so rich, and our autumns so warm and pleasant, that young apple trees especially grow very late. The cold weather, therefore, comes on before the wood becomes ripened. I am inclined to think this may be obviated by following the above directions. But in order to keep the ground in a proper condition and free from weeds, mulching should be kept about the tree, which must be watched in winter or mice will be troublesome unless the snow is trodden down.

In the case of pears and plums, there seems to be but little trouble, from the fact that the wood ripens early in the season. They need a richer soil and better culture—dwarf trees, in particular, must be well attended, or else they will not be very profitable.

Transplanting.—The best time in this latitude is in the spring. All decayed and mangled roots should be cut off smoothly when the tree is planted, and the branches likewise shortened in a corresponding manner.

Dwarf trees need cutting back every spring, say one-half or one-third of the previous year's growth; but in doing which, be careful to give the tree a proper form. The head should be round, or in the shape of a pyramid, and kept near the ground.

For more particular details I would refer the fruit-grower to "Barry's Fruit Garden," or "Elliott's Western Fruit Book," and no one who attempts to manage trees, particularly on the Quince, should be without one or the other of these valuable works, if they have not over a dozen trees.

Yours, truly, Chas. H. Ford.

Oshkosh, Winnebago Co., Wis.

FRUIT PROSPECTS.—TREE PEDLERS, &c.

Messrs. Editors:—No time for a number of years has the fruit-grower's prospects been so flattering, as at the present time (May 10), and he justified in having his hopes to zenith point of realization.

Pears have been in full bloom, completely covered with blossoms, and fruit now set.—Apple trees are looking their "prettiest," and if nothing in future prevents, Wisconsin will make a better show next fall than she has ever yet done, and the hearts of the disconsolate may be revived; yes, there is hope. The world is growing wiser; enlightened men in the West are becoming more numerous; they are "seeing" for themselves, what will succeed and what will not; they are laying aside Eastern books and the "list of hardy fruits," so generously furnished by them; and they are now examining the orchards of their own State. The soil, conditions of success, or the reasons otherwise, till they are satisfied of their own list, which has sometimes proven but one variety, been "sure they were right then gone ahead." This is as it should be; one list for the sandy soils and another for the black prairies, but northern varieties for the whole Northwest.

During the month of April, more trees were dug and planted in Rock County, and towns adjoining, than there has been for four years past, notwithstanding the hard times. Nurseries are well cleaned out, and if one-fourth the trees planted ever come into full bearing, this part of the country will be supplied with fruit. This demand for trees has been called for by two classes: one a wide awake, intelectual go-to-the-nursery-for-their-trees; the other plants, because their neighbors do and their fathers did before them. All apple trees are alike to them: black hearted, lousy or stunted, no matter what, if they are but assured they are "apple trees," their end is gained, and pest like, they have been set. These have usually been furnished by "tree pedlars," who as a class are non-responsible; who boast,

many of them, "they don't care a d——n, as they go in the same section but once," consequently will buy cheap trees, or a mixed lot, and not unfrequently whole loads of sucklings have been bought in the nurseries to supply the tree trade of the country "with well tested cultivated varieties." This is decidedly scandalous. It is the nurseryman's privilege to sell his products at what they are worth, but to knowingly sell to miserable, itinerant tree pedlars, who are going through the country with their worthless trash, is not as it should be—against their own interest, besides doing the country at large a great wrong. A reform in this respect is needed, and the day is not far distant when such an order of things will be changed. The consequence is, men will learn wisdom; select their trees in the nursery, enlarge their bump of observation, and learn that there is a vast difference, for prairie soils, between Golden Russets and Rhode Island Greenings or Yellow Bellflowers and Baldwins; of the first and last, also Newton's Pippin, there are orchard trees, six years planted, in this section, as thrifty, smooth and healthy as any I ever saw in Western New York. Each year brings new developments, and if I am not mistakened the Spring of 1861 and seasons following, will prove that many have learned a valuable lesson during the past tree season.

Yours, &c.,

APPLE EATER.

NOTE.—We have talked long and pointedly to our friends through the *Farmer*, for the last five years, against buying trees of parties *they did not know;* as well as against buying varieties that were not also proved *hardy and adapted to our climate.* That there are such, we are well satisfied from our own observation and experience. We have an orchard of nearly two hundred trees, upon our farm, that have been six years planted; therefore having gone through all the hard winters, and if they are not thrifty good looking trees, almost without exception, we are not judges, that's all.

They have received none but quite ordinary care; began to bear in 1857 and '58, were prevented by the frost in 1859, but bid fair to do the handsome thing this season.

Let those who doubt if well selected fruit trees will grow and *promise well* in Wisconsin look at them; not a scabby one among them. The same with a small orchard at our residence in the city. We ascribe our good luck thus far, to having planted good hardy varieties, and confidently believe that we shall ere long have a fine bearing orchard—even a good many bushels of apples the present season.

P.

BARK LOUSE OR SCALE INSECT.

It has become a serious question if there be any practicable measure of ridding our apple orchards of these pests, when once they become fastened upon the trees. So far as washing with soap, lye, lime, or any other application that must be applied to every part of each limb and twig goes, it is quite certain that as a practical remedy it is wholly out of the question, on large trees and large orchards. Upon the west shore of Lake Michigan, they have seized upon nearly every orchard of ten years' growth, and bid defiance to all efforts to exterminate them.

The little insect is covered with a scale, hard, dark and shiny, exceedingly like a minute muscle shell, but more elongated, transversely wrinkled, rounded at the tail, and attenuated at the head, which is semi-cylindrical. These adhere firmly to the bark, having the margin broad beneath, and wooly, and when dislodged the space they have covered appears white. Within the shell is found a fleshy, green, female grub, occupying part of the cavity towards the tapering extremity, the remaining space being filled with white and pearly eggs, to the number of fifty or more. They produce a little flat animal with two anttennal and six legs. They are very lively and run about for a few days; are visited by the male, when they permanently locate themselves, then grow, and by degrees become very different creatures from what they were at birth. On opening a full grown scale and taking out the occupant, it will be found that she is not attached to the scale, but a fat yellowish green maggot, very shiny. The animal lives upon the sap of the tree. In this vicinity, in ordinary seasons, the eggs hatch about the fifteenth of June, varying, however, according to the warmth of the season, from six to ten days. Immediately after birth they must be examined with a magnifying glass to be readily seen. They are very tender at this stage and easily destroyed, if we could but reach them; they exist, however, in such countless myriads that no application that shall fail to reach every part of each limb and twig will be effectual.

Rain storms or frost, occurring at this stage

of their existence, would probably destroy them largely and prevent their destructive increase. It may be owing to the fact that upon the lake shore we have few rain storms between the tenth and twentieth of June, that their increase is so rapid and destructive, and it also may explain why they increase in some years more than others. They are more destructive upon poorly cultivated and unthrifty trees than upon free growing ones, probably from some quality of the sap, or that the one is sooner exhausted than the other. So far their ravages are mainly confined, in this vicinity, to the Apple, the Mountain Ash, and the Black Currant, though I have often seen them on the Pear, if standing near an apple tree containing them. It is quite apparent that a remedy must speedily be found, or we upon the lake shore will lose our orchards. I have an orchard of about one thousand trees, of some ten years' growth, until within two or three years as thrifty and promising as I ever saw, that is now nearly covered with lice, notwithstanding that I have fought them thoroughly from their first appearance. In vain I have washed, and scrubbed, and syringed, and limed—onward has marched this invading army until nearly every tree is *alive* with them.

Despairing last spring of any hitherto known remedy, I determined to try the effect of fumigating with tobacco smoke immediately after hatching, which I had observed to be about the twentieth of June, the previous year. I accordingly procured about one hundred yards of common cotton cloth, sewed it into a square form, and filled it with starch so as to hold the smoke, having pockets in two of the corners into which could be inserted poles to raise it over the tree. Taking two strong men to aid me, on the twentieth of last June I visited my orchard to commence the operation of fumigating. On examining the trees I found I was too late, they were all hatched and past the stage of activity, had located and commenced forming the scale.—Last season being one of unusual warmth, I found myself too late for tobacco. Here was a dilemma. Something stronger than tobacco was needed, and I resorted to sulphur. Selecting some trees more than half dead already from their depredations, I spread my cloth before them, procured two poles about sixteen feet long, laying them parallel with the cloth, each side of the tree, with the small end inserted in the pockets; we then steadily raised the poles, their buts resting on the ground, until the cloth was carried up so that its centre was over the top of the tree, then the poles were dropped and the cloth fell so as to completely envelop the tree; we then tied the corners to the body or lower branches, and it was entirely enclosed. The next step was to evaporate sulphur, which was done by placing a pan containing it over a spirit lamp, under and within the envelop. This immediately brought down every bug, spider and insect within, and the minute lid or scale insect was evidently *done for*. But alas! the foliage of my trees I found was also dried up. It turned out that the insects were destroyed, and the trees slowly put forth new foliage, and are at present very little injured by the fumigation. I have little doubt that fumigation with tobacco in the same manner during the first few days of the insects' existence while in the active state, would be an effectual destroyer.

Being somewhat uncertain of the effects of the sulphur treatment, I confined my operations to about twenty trees, which were already partly destroyed by the insects. I intend to try the tobacco this season, and if taken at the proper time, have little doubt it be effectual. But even if it should fail, we have a sure remedy, as I think, in sulphur, as a fumigator, and if prudently used, the injury to the foliage is of little moment, as the tree will speedily put forth again. The time, however, for the application of this remedy is immediately after hatching, which must be diligently looked for, and in this State, especially upon the lake shore, will be found not many days from the middle of June.

L. W. Weeks.

Milwaukee, May 1, 1860.

THE BARK LOUSE—A BOUNTY FOR A REMEDY.

Rosendale, May 3, 1860.

Friend Powers:—If I mistake not we had a promise in the April number of the *Farmer* of an article on the Bark Louse, which was to make its appearance in the May number. I had looked with a great deal of interest for that number and that article, but as disappointment is the common lot of man, I found when that number came I to was doomed to disappointment in that particular.

Now I have a suggestion to make, as you are intimately connected with the State Agricultural Society, (I know of no one that would

be better situated to bring a proposition of that kind before the Society than yourself,) it is this: That that Society offer a premium of $50 or $100 to any person that will discover or produce a remedy for the extermination of the Bark Louse. Money appropriated in that way will yield a greater revenue in the end, than on fast nags and rowdyism. I find upon examining different orchards, that most of them are troubled with the Bark Louse; very many know nothing about their being on their trees; others confound them with the leaf louse. I am fully satisfied that unless some remedy can be sought out to rid our trees of this pest, that fruit growing is sure to prove a failure, and that Eastern and Southern fruit growers are to continue to make heavy drafts upon us for that which we ought to produce ourselves.

H. W. W.

NOTE.—In this Number will be found the promised article on the Bark Louse.

It will be in ample season for use, and we hope those who are troubled with the Bark Louse will give Dr. Weeks' plan a thorough trial. It strikes us as an effectual although at first though an inconvenient remedy. Still it is much less work than scrubbing a tree all over when one is once prepared for it. After this use, the cloth could be put to other purposes without material loss. If effectual it is a much cheaper remedy than the loss of good trees. It would probably destroy all growing fruit on trees fumigated.

EDS.

THE SAP-SUCKER DISSECTED AND DESCRIBED

EDS. WIS. FARMER:—I have just read a communication from G. de Neveu concerning the Sapsucker. I agree with De Neveu in not having any sympathy for the sap-suckers.—Now, for some time past I have been making observations about the sap-sucker, and have killed between twenty and thirty of them and dissected them, and in every case found their gizzard full of bark, except in one case, when I found one solitary worm in, with the bark. Now I think this conclusive evidence against the sap-suckers, and say, "death to them."

I examined the bark under the microscope, and found neither grubs or insects.

Now the bird that does all this mischief is the Sphyeapicus Varius Baird, (or yellow-bellied wood-pecker.) It arrives here about the last of March or first of April, and is abundant about the 10th of April. It picks out for its depredations especially the apple tree, poplar and pines—sometimes girdling the apple tree so as to kill it entirely, and tapping the pines so that they bleed to death—especially the Scotch and Austrian pines. It does not make much noise in its depredations; its tap is noiseless.

I will give a short description, which is better than a cut of it: Fourth quill longest, third a little shorter; general color above black, much variegated with white; feathers of the back and rump brownish white and spotted with black; crown scarlet, bordered on the sides of the head and nape; a triangular broad patch of scarlet on the chin, bordered on each side by black stripes from the lower mandible, which meet behind and extend into a large quadrate spot on the breast; rest of under parts yellowish white, streaked on the sides with black; length 8¼ inches, extent 15¼ to 15½ inches, wing about 4¼, tail 3 3-10. Female with the red on the throat replaced by white. Young male without black on the breast, or red on top of the head.

Habitat—Atlantic ocean to the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains.

Yours, EDWIN A. CLIFFORD.

Evanston, Ill., April 16, 1860.

EGYPT *vs.* WISCONSIN.—*Eds. Wis. Farmer:*—Enclosed I send you a few more names of subscribers.

I have read with particular interest Mr. Hanford's account of Egypt, in southern Illinois. I suppose nobody took an interest in telling him of the vipers, rattlesnakes, copperheads and mosquitos there, and of the miasmas which cause the fever and ague, which has occasionally swept over the country considerably high up, as here sometimes a frost is, and in some latitudes the milk sickness. In southern Illinois weeds grow spontaneously, and to keep them down takes more than comfortable exercise, in the hot season, when we are healthy; but when we get the fever for a year or two, to break down our constitutions for life, it gets intolerable. In the two years I lived there, I got the opinion that the country had over its share of curses; and I rather live healthy in Wisconsin, in these hard times, than sickly in Illinois, even if the country was overflowing with milk and honey, and the roasted pigeon, and all kinds of delicious fruit.

Yours, very truly,

JOHN P. KRAMER.

Alcove, Fond du Lac Co., Wis.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Away from Home.

During the interval between issuing this and the next number of the *Farmer*, we shall take a quiet run via Wheeling and Baltimore to Washington; and if anything notable presents itself, will duly chronicle it for the benefit of our readers and our own satisfaction.

P.

Wool, Prices, Crops, Real Estate, Dog Law.

So far as we can gather, good prices are expected for wool; the small amount of the old stock on hand together with the high prices of woollens, seem to warrant it.

The fine rains that have at length followed the Spring drouth, have very favorably advanced the growing crops. Everything now (May 15) betokens goodcrops of all descriptions. The wheat crop especially, is beyond doubt much the largest ever sown, throughout the entire Northwest. 100,000,000 of bushels in the seven Northwestern wheat growing States, is not to high an estimate. This will make the farmers look up again, and feel new courage.

Real Estate already seems to slightly feel it. A farm of some 60 acres, across Lake Monona, opposite this city, was sold yesterday for over $60 per acre cash; this, together with several other good sales we have heard of, show a returning confidence. That a fair degree of confidence will soon return and the country soon be on its feet again, we have no doubt; the present determined economy, industry and average crops and prices, are all that are wanted to certainly and soon produce these much wished for results. A liberal increase of the sheep and wool crop of the State under the dog law protection, will materially aid and expedite these matters.

The Dog Law, we are glad to learn, is meeting with almost universal favor; wherever else hoops are going out of fashion, nothing is truer than that they are rapidly coming in with canines. Dogs of all degrees now wear this stylish legal ornament. The very dogs themselves appear to appreciate this mark of distinction, and almost to claim citizenship by virtue thereof. All right, let the law-abiding be duly recognized and encouraged.

Sugar Cane Seed.

Some of the last we distributed for Crawford Speers, was not as clean and good as we could have desired. But Mr. S. informs us that it was the best he could get, thus late, as the great demand upon him for it had well nigh exhausted the stock. Thus much of an apology we have deemed due to such as might otherwise have supposed that we would intentionally have sent them poor seed. We doubt not it will mostly all grow.

Cook's Evaporators, Sugar Mills, &c.—Answers to Enquirers.

In reply to numerous correspondents asking information in relation to the above articles, we will answer in brief as follows:

COST OF EVAPORATORS.

Their are four sizes of Cook's evaporators, the precise dimensions of which we cannot give in feet and inches. Those made of galvanized Iron cost from $40 to $65, depending upon the size, at the shop in Mansfield, Ohio. Those made of copper cost from $10 to $15 additional.

The smallest size is probably large enough for any ordinary small business; while those wishing to do more would undoubtedly find it good economy to buy larger sizes. Their large evaporating surface and the immediate application of the fire causes them to evaporate very fast.

HOW TO ORDER AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

Having the most implicit faith in the superiority of Cook's Evaporator over all other apparatus for syrup and sugar making—in fact, believing it the only thing worth having for that purpose—we have through the solicitation of Mr. Crawford Spears, proprietor of the patent for this State, accepted of the agency for Wisconsin; therefore those wanting Evaporators will order them through the undersigned.

From and after the 1st of June (which will be as soon as any one will know for certainty what they want), we will have blank orders, circulars of instructions, &c., &c., complete for all who order them, *enclosing a stamp to prepay postage.*

The terms of payment will be cash; or when preferred, one-half down and the balance in in 60 to 90 days, on undoubted paper.

Specimen Evaporators are solicited by numbers on trial, but that is not the way they propose to do their business. The character of *Cook's Evaporator* is already so well established that it is wholly unnecessary, besides it would be wholly impracticable and unsafe to

scatter property around in that manner. No machine will be ordered from the manufacturers until ordered on purchase by responsible parties. Should the Cane crop be good generally, the manufacturers will be crowded with orders, probably making it difficult or impracticable to get them at all, late in the season.

SUGAR MILLS.

In connection with the foregoing, we have taken the agency of several first class mills, varying in price from $60 to $100, and adapted to all amounts of business.

Thus we will be able to furnish anything desired in the way of sugar making apparatus, and whatever we sell for a first class article we will warrant to prove so. We have made the subject of Sugar Cane manufacture a study and the machinery a matter of careful observation, and feel the fullest confidence of ample ability in judging of its merits.

All further enquiries in relation to the foregoing matters, will be dully answered when letters contain the stamp to prepay; when this is lacking it will be *mighty unsartin.*

Address, D. J. POWERS,
Wisconsin Farmer Office,
Madison, Wis.

Siberian White Rye.

We are in receipt of a sample of rye by the above name from MILO BALDWIN, Esq., of Jackson. It is a very large kernneled and handsome sample, and he represents it as being decidedly superior, in various important respects, to other rye. Among other things, that it yields heavily even upon light soils, and makes a very good article of flour, nearly or quite equal to spring wheat, &c., &c. We should think it might be a good thing. Mr. B. proposes to report further his success with it, the present season.

Fruit Trees

To a large amount are said to have been sold from most of the Western nurseries the present Spring, besides a great many *peddled,* by the Lord knows whom. As our people get wiser and know what and how they plant and protect, we shall hear less complaint of failure.

Fruit Prospects

Are said to be extraordinary all through the Northwest at the present time (May 15). Let us hope that they will be realized; it certainly seems due us after our long waiting and tribulation in these matters.

THE PREMIUM LIST of the State Agricultural Society, necessarily crowds out considerable matter that we would gladly have published in this number. Among other things a highly interesting address of Hon. H. H. Giles, delivered before the Dane County Agricultural Society, but it will keep until the next number.

Downer's Prolific Strawberry.

We received a neat package of the above variety of strawberry plants by mail, from Mr. J. S. Downer, of Forest Nursery, Elkton, Ky., for which he has our thanks.

It is one of the new varieties that is attracting considerable attention. We shall give it a careful trial in our northern climate.

The Atlantic Monthly

By some mishap left us off from their exchange list for a couple of numbers; our domestic matters soon began to go wrong and we found we could not keep house without it. A hint to the publishers soon supplied back No.'s and since that all has gone on well. But we felt in duty-bound to frankly state the foregoing fact, presuming that many other households might be suffering from the same want, and may be wolly ignorant of what ailed them. We can conscientiously prescribe the Atlantic Monthly for all families or single gentlemen or ladies, arrived at the age of discretion who are in need of additional mental aliment; try it one and all. We send it and the *Farmer* one year for $3.00; just the subscription price for it alone.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of Wisconsin

Hold their annual election at their office in Milwaukee, on the 4th day of June.

So far as we can learn this Company is prospering highly, and rapidly taking rank with the old and well established companies of the country. Many of the first men of the State are already insured in it, and others are being constantly added.

Feeling the uncertainty of all human, and especially *pecuniary* things, in these precarious times, we followed suit last winter and insured a few thousands upon the most uncertain of all things, human life. After careful inquiry we prefered this home company to any other. From what we then and have since learned of them, we can cheerfully recommend them to all wishing the same thing.

Mr. Wilson, Esq., of Milwaukee, is their General Agent, and S. G. Benedict is the agent of this locality; both good men. See their advertisement.

THE WISCONSIN STATE FAIR FOR 1860,

To be Held at Madison, Sept. 24th to 29th.

The first Exhibition of the Industry of Wisconsin was held at Janesville, in 1851; the second at Milwaukee in 1852; the third at Watertown in 1853; the fourth at Milwaukee in 1854; the fifth at Milwaukee in 1855; the sixth at Milwaukee in 1856; the seventh at Janesville in 1857; the eighth at Madison, in 1858; and the ninth at Milwaukee in 1859. In view of the infancy of our State, and the financial stringency of the times during which at least three of these Exhibitions have been held, they were, in the main, remarkably successful; and the members and friends of the Society, under whose auspices they were held, may justly remember them with emotions of pleasure and pride.

Fairs of various grades are coming to be considered an important instrumentality for the advancement of the industrial arts and the elevation of the laboring masses of the people to a higher plane of social and intellectual life; and the rapid increase, in number and interest, of these exhibitions in this country is one of the most hopeful signs of the times. The stimulation and instruction which they afford can do no possible harm, and must necessarily be productive of a vast amount of good.

In locating the Annual Fair of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society at one place for two successive years, the Executive Committee were influenced by two important reasons—one in the end to which they look, yet diverse and opposed in the policies to which they would prompt.

Economy would dictate a permanent location; since the annual fitting up of the Grounds, with temporary buildings, fences, &c., must not only necessarily prove inadequate to the requisite security, comfort, and good taste, but likewise prove, in the course of a few years, much more expensive than if the improvements were permanent.

But on the other hand, the *convenience* of the people by whom they are supported, in the various sections of the State, and hence *the interests of the industrial arts* in those sections, which otherwise would scarcely be reached by a stationary or localized Fair, demand with equal or, perhaps, even greater force of argument that the Society, in the holding of its Fairs, should continue to circulate from place to place, as the wants and capabilities of the different portions of the State may seem to require. The location for two years was a compromise upon a difficult question, which could not otherwise be easily settled: the wisdom of the decision must be tested by time.

The location at Madison was largely influenced by the eminent success of the Fair of 1858, which is understood to have given almost universal satisfaction.

The Grounds—the same as occupied before—are unsurpassed, if indeed they are equaled by any in the West. Located directly on the great railroad which connects the Mississippi with Lake Michigan—with a beautifully undulating surface, affording most advantageous sites for every class of buildings, tents and stands required—with a pleasant half-mile track on one side, where the trials of speed and the exercise of horses will not interfere with the freest passage from hall to hall of the Exhibition—and the whole crowned by a beautiful mound which commands a most enchanting view of the city and the three lakes, Mendota, Monona, and Wingra, it is hard to conceive of a spot, anywhere, more pleasing to the familiar eye, or better calculated to give the visitor from abroad a just appreciation of the unrivaled scenery of our

beautiful State. In order to ensure an abundance of room, full one-third more land will be enclosed than in 1858, and all the arrangements for entrance, &c., which proved faulty before will be so far corrected that nothing of importance will be left to desire.

In addition to the ordinary halls, tents, offices, saloons, stands, stalls, &c., &c., all of which will be of larger dimensions and more securely and substantially built than at any previous Fair, it is intended to have a large and handsome green and orchard house, where not only delicate plants may be securely exhibited, but where will also be illustrated the practicability of economical orchard-house cultivation for tender fruits, and the best and cheapest method of construction.

Among the novel features of this Exhibition the *competition of counties*, will prove most interesting. County pride is but patriotism on a less than national scale, and the stimulation and fostering of that laudable sentiment cannot but result favorably to the Agriculture of the State. It is our belief that the splendid *Prize Banner* so liberally contributed by citizens of Madison, and now offered by the Society, will have that effect. We shall wait with intense interest to see which one of our noble Societies will win for its county the proud distinction of THE BANNER COUNTY.

Should the season continue as favorable as it has begun, there will be no lack of fruits vegetables, and grains for that division of the Exhibition; and the display of machinery and implements promises to exceed anything that has yet been seen in the State. Besides the *Steam Plows*, which we shall undoubtedly have on trial, with sundry Draining Machines, it is proposed to secure the exhibition of other new and valuable machinery which the Committee are not now prepared to announce.

Touching the office of Entry, Ticket Office, and the General Executive Arrangements for the conduct of the Fair, it is proper to say that the Officers of the Society have devoted so much thought and investigation to their perfection in general and in detail, as to feel warranted in the hope that they will meet all reasonable demands of the public.

We deem it unnecessary to offer any special assurances of material comfort to the multitude who will come together at that time, as the well established character of the people of Madison for the most generous hospitality, furnishes the best guaranty in the world, that nothing within the compass of their ability will be omitted by them.

The evenings during the week of the Fair will be devoted to the discussion of subjects of interest and importance connected with Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Mechanic Arts, and to popular lectures appropriate to the occasion. Prominent and competent men in this and in other States have been enlisted in this incidental but highly important branch of the Exhibition, and that portion of the public who look to the Fair as a source of useful information may confidently expect to be unusually profited and entertained.

In concluding our remarks we gladly avail ourself of this opportunity to solicit from all friends of the Society such specimens of minerals, fertilizers, representative soils, timber peculiar to their localities, plants, grain and fruits, noxious insects, &c., &c., as would add to our present small beginning. It is our earnest desire and determination to collect, as rapidly as possible, the materials for a Cabinet, which shall illustrate the natural history of the State in its bearing upon Agriculture, and we trust that many who come to the Fair in September will cheerfully respond by generous contributions in some of the classes suggested above. To those who will do so we promise, in absence of the ability to better renumerate them, the 5th vol. of Transactions, just published, comprising the Acts of the Society for the years 1858 and 1859, and a large number of valuable Communications, Essays, and Addresses.

J. W. HOYT,
Secretary Wis. State Agricultural Society.

STATE AGRICULTURAL ROOMS,
MADISON, May 22d, 1860.

OFFICIAL ARRANGMENTS OF THE TENTH ANNUAL FAIR.

OFFICERS OF THE EXHIBITION.

COMMITTEE OF PREPARATION.

B. R. HINKLEY, J. V. ROBBINS,
J. W. HOYT, DAVID ATWOOD,
C. H. WILLIAMS.

COUNCIL OF GENERAL MANAGEMENT DURING THE FAIR,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SOCIETY.

GENERAL INSPECTOR AND EXECUTIVE HEAD,

B. R. HINKLEY, PRESIDENT.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT,

J. V. ROBBINS, VICE PRESIDENT.

CONTROLLER OF OFFICE OF ENTRY,

J. W. HOYT, SECRETARY.

CONTROLLER OF TICKET OFFICE,

DAVID ATWOOD, TREASURER.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE EXHIBITION,

[See heads of the several Departments in the Premium List.]

SUPERINTENDENT OF GATES,

DAVID WILLIAMS, SPRINGFIELD.

TICKET ACCOUNTANT,

H. K. EDGERTON, OCONOMOWOC.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

RULES GOVERNING ENTRIES.

1. It is very desirable that as many as possible of the entries intended to be made—particularly such as are to be accompanied by "statements," or pedigrees—be forwarded before the date of the Fair, as thereby much of the confusion or hurry otherwise necessarily incident to entries made at the time will be avoided.

All letters of entry, enclosing the requisite fee, and directed to the Secretary, at Madison, will be by him duly filed and promptly acknowledged.

2. No article or animal may be entered in any other name than that of the owner, and any person violating this rule will forfeit the premium which might otherwise be awarded.

3. All entries of *blooded* animals must be accompanied with satisfactory evidence of purity of blood.

4. No article or animal can be entered to compete for more than one premium, except as part of a collection in the same class.

5. In making entries, the following form should be observed, care being taken to write the *name* and *post office address* in a plain legible hand:

Name and Residence of Exhibitor.

TIMOTHY JONES, Alkanetta, Dane Co., Wis.,

Animal or Article Entered.	Class.
1 Stallion, "Bucephalus," 5 yrs old,	Thoroughbred
1 Sorrel Mare, "Flora," 4 yrs old,	Roadsters
1 Tile Machine,	Operative Machinery
25 lbs June Butter,	Products of Dairy, &c.
2 Pots Phlox Maculata,	Amateur List Flowers
1 Pair Mittens (by daughter, 9 yrs old,)	Domestic Manft'r

6. The "statement" required in certain classes should be as concise as possible and furnish the facts required, but may contain such further information of interest to the Society as may be deemed worthy of publication in the Transactions.

7. Exhibitors may facilitate the making of entries and prevent errors by carefully noticing, that the Premium List is divided into four "Divisions," alphabetically arranged, and commencing with A, with a suitable number of Departments and Classes under each; and that the Secretary will have a window in his office and a clerk allotted to each Division, where and by whom all entries will be received that properly belong to each. A sign over each window will plainly indicate where the entries should, respectively, be made.

8. *The Office of Entry will positively be closed on Tuesday evening*, and *no entries for competition will afterwards be received in any event whatever*, except for the Plowing Match, Equestrian Display, and Trotting Match, any of which entries may be made at the Secretary's office up to 10 o'clock, A. M., of each day on which these trials take place, respectively.

9. The entry fee of one dollar, must, in all cases, accompany the entry, and the person paying it will be entitled to exhibit as many articles as he may choose without further charge—except in certain specified Classes.

Life Members will be required to pay no fee for entries except as competitors for Special Premiums.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS.

After having properly entered their articles, as a pre-requisite to their admission to the Grounds, Exhibitors must *themselves see to their delivery to the Superintendent of the appropriate department*, so that they may be in *their places and properly ticketed by Wednesday morning, nine o'clock.* They are likewise required to attend to their articles or animals while on exhibition, and truthfully to *answer such questions* as the Judges may deem essential to a correct estimate of their relative value. But any volunteer effort of what ever kind to bias the judgment of the committees and thus secure a partial decision, will

subject the offender to exclusion from the list of competitors.

The Executive Committee will take every precaution in their power for the preservation of articles and stock on exhibition, but will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur during either their delivery upon the Grounds, their exhibition, or their removal; nor will they in any case make provision for their transportation to or from the cars, or be subjected to any expense therefor.

☞ No article or animal entered for exhibition will be allowed to be removed from the Grounds until 5 o'clock, P. M., of Friday, except by written permission of the General Superintendent.

COMPETITION FROM WITHOUT THE STATE.

All premiums for Animals, Agricultural Implements, Manufactures other than Domestic, Machinery, and Miscellaneous Articles, will be open to competition from without the State, except when otherwise distinctly specified at the head of the several lists or classes.

FORAGE FOR STOCK.

Hay and straw for litter, and water will be supplied on the grounds. Grain will be furnished to those wishing it, at first cost.

☞ For the convenience of Exhibitors who may wish to dispose of animals on exhibition, PUCLIC SALES will be allowed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, between the hours of 8½ and 9½ A. M.; and an experienced auctioneer, with reasonable limitations as to charges for his services, will be on the Grounds at these appointed times. It should be understood, however, that no change of ownership will invalidate the authority of the Society over the said animals during the the Fair.

THE SUPERINTENDENTS

Are required to take particular charge of all matters in their respective departments, to receive and properly arrange for easy approach and examination everything intended for exhibition, to attend to the conspicuous posting of the several signs prepared for their departments, and to see that the Programme, so far as it involves their respective departments, is *literally* and *promptly* carried out.

They are authorized, by the Executive Committee to appoint, with the approval of the General Superintendent, any assistants that may be necessary to the efficiency of their departments.

In order to the orderly arrangement of every thing on the Grounds, it is highly important that they be in attendance as *early as Monday morning*, and that they allow nothing during the continuance of the Fair, to interfere with the faithful performance of their duties.

THE JUDGES

Have been selected with the utmost care and solicitude, on the part of the Society, and inasmuch as nearly all have given a written promise to be present and attend to the duties of their appointment, it is confidently hoped that much of the confusion and dissatisfaction heretofore necessarily incident to the hurried filling of vacancies will be avoided.

All whose names appear at the heads of the several classes are expected to report themselves, on their arrival, at the Secretary's Office, where tickets of admission will be furnished them, and at the Office of the Executive Council as soon thereafter as possible, so that any vacancies may be filled before the delivery of the Class Books to the several Committees.

A majority of the Judges in any Class shall constitute a quorum and be authorized to award premiums; and the first on the list shall be Chairman.

Any information that may be needed as to the locality of articles or animals on Exhibition will be furnished by the Superintendents of the departments to which the classes severally belong.

The Judges will report not only the animals and articles entitled to premiums, but also those not thus entitled, when possessed of a high order of merit and therefore worthy of special commendation.

They are also instructed, in all cases of an attempted interference on the part of Exhibitors with their deliberations and decisions, to exclude the party so offending from competition in that particular class.

Premiums will not be awarded when the articles are not worthy, even though there be no competition

No article will be excluded on account of having taken a premium at previous Fairs.

No premiums awarded to barren females shown in the *breeding classes*.

The Class Books should be returned each evening to the Secretary, for safe keeping, and it is especially enjoined that the Judges make their final reports of awards at the earliest possible moment after their completion—12 o'clock, M., of Thursday being the hour, determined by the Executive Committee when said returns *must actually all have been made.*— The more elaborate, written reports, which the Society expects the Chairman of each Committee of Judges to prepare for publication in the volume of Transactions, may be deferred until after the awards have been declared, or even until the 1st of November, at which time it is important that they be in the hands of the Secretary for preparation for the press.

Articles and animals properly belonging to the several classes but not included in the list of premiums offered, *will, in all cases, be referred to the Miscellaneous and Discretionary Committee*, who will examine and report upon them as their merits shall seem to require.

In order that the public may judge of the correctness of their decisions and derive instruction therefrom, the Judges are required to place the premium cards and rib-

bons upon the successful articles and animals as soon as the decision is made.

A *blue* ribbon or card will represent the 1st premium; a *red* ribbon or card, the 2d; and a *white* ribbon or card, the 3d premium.

THE AWARDS OF PREMIUMS

Will be announced by the Secretary at the close of the Annual Address, and paid on demand at the Treasurer's Office, on the Grounds, during the remainder of the day, and after that at his office in the city of Madison.

The Diplomas awarded will be prepared as soon after the Fair as possible, and either delivered to their owners at the State Agr'l Rooms, or sent, at their expense, by mail or express, to such place as they may direct.

☞ But all premiums and diplomas not claimed and called for within six months after the award will be forfeited to the Society.

DAILY PROGRAMME OF THE FAIR.

Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 24th and 25th,

Entering, receiving, and arranging articles, &c., for exhibition.

Wednesday, Sept 26th.

Eleven o'clock, A. M., Opening Address by the President.

Delivery of the Books of Entry to the several Committees of Judges, by the Secretary.

Thursday, Sept. 27th,

8½ to 9½ o'clock, A. M., Sales of Animals at Auction.

10 o'clock, A. M., Plowing Match.

2 o'clock, P. M., Ladies Equestr an Display.

4 o'clock P. M., Grand Parade of Premium Animals.

Friday, Sept. 28th,

8½ to 9½ o'clock, P. M., Sales of Animals at Auction.

10 o'clock, A. M., Annual Address.

Declaring of the Awards of Premiums.

2 o'clock, P. M.. Trials of Speed in the Class of Trotting Horses.

4 o'clock, P. M., Presentation of the Prize Banner.

Saturday, Sept. 29th.

Sales at Auction of whatever Exhibitors may wish to sell.

TERMS OF ADMISSION.

Life Members and their families admitted free to all the privileges of the Fair, except as competitors for Special Premiums.

Exhibitors are entitled, by virtue of their entry fee, to six single admission tickets.

The Superintendent of the Horse Department may give to any Exhibitor in his Department, one Exit Ticket each day of the Fair; which shall entitle the holder to one exit and one admission of horses, carriage and driver.

"Helpers Tickets" will also be given to such persons as are necessarily required to take care of animals on exhibition.

Single Admission Tickets, 25 cents. Children under fifteen years, half-price; under ten, *free*, if accompanied by parent or guardian.

Private Carriages admitted during the Fair at $2.50; but all passengers, except the driver, will be required to have Tickets of Admission.

Life Members will be required to pay the same rates of carriage admission as others.

☞ Any ticket or badge found in the hands of any other person than the owner will be forfeited to the Society; and the offender will further be punished by law, as provided in Chapter 80, of the Revised Statutes.

Editors, *Reporters*, and *Invited Guests* of the Society will please report themselves, on their arrival, either at the Agricultural Rooms, in Porter's Block, at the north corner of the Capitol Park, or at the Secretary's Office on the Grounds, where, on the presentation of their names and credentials, they will be furnished with cards of admission—if not already provided—and be directed to the Committee of Reception in the President's Marque, or Editorial Hall.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

RAILROAD ACCOMMODATIONS.

The usual arrangements are being made with the several Railroads in the State for the transportation of visitors, stock and other articles for exhibition, viz: passengers at half fare, stock and other freight without charge.

Full pay will be required for tickets going to the Fair and these tickets will be good for the return trip.

The freight of stock and other articles over the roads to the Fair must be pre-paid. On the return of the same property, with a certificate on the orignal freight bill, stamped by the Secretary of the Society, stating that the same was exhibited at the State Fair, the Freight money will be refunded.

A week's notice should be given by owners of stock and other heavy articles intended for exhibition at the Fair, to the officers at the station where they design to ship.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES AND INVITED GUESTS.

The Judges, Superintendents, and Invited Guests, will dine with the Officers of the Society, daily, at 1 o'clock. To prevent mistake or confusion, they are required to procure dinner tickets, daily, at the office of the General Superintendent.

For the greater convenience of Editors and Reporters for the Press, a tent will be specially set apart for their use, and every facility will be afforded for receiving and transmitting intelligence. A Committee of Reception, from the Press, will receive their brethren from abroad and give them such aid and directions as will further the purposes of their visit.

OFFICIAL LIST OF PREMIUMS.

DIVISION A.

Domestic Animals.

DEPARTMENT OF HORSES, JACKS AND MULES.

SUPERINTENDENT, GEN. BERTINE PINKNEY.

CLASS 1.—THOROUGH BRED.

JUDGES.—C. L. Martin, Beloit; Wm. Hobkirk, Waupun; Dr. J. Lewis, Oconomowoc.

Best Stallion, 4 years old and over,			$30
2d	do	do	20
Best Stallion, 3 years old and under 4,			15
2d	do	do	10
Best Stallion, 2 years old and under 3,			10
2d	do	do	8
Best Stallion, 1 year old and under 2,			7
2d	do	do	5
Best Sucking Stallion colt,			5
2d	do	do	3
Best Blood Mare, 4 years old and over,			25
2d	do	do	15
Best Blood Mare, 3 years old and under 4,			15
2d	do	do	10
Best Blood Mare, 2 years old and under 3,			10
2d	do	do	8
Best Filly, 1 year old and under 2,			7
2d	do	do	5
Best Sucking Mare colt,			5
2d	do	do	3

CLASS 2.—ROADSTERS.

[To be shown in harness.]

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 1.

Best Stallion, 4 years old and over,			$20
2d	do	do	15
Best Stallion, 3 years old and under 4,			15
2d	do	do	10
Best Brood Mare, over 4 years do,			20
2d	do	do	15
Best Brood Mare, 3 years old and under 4,			15
2d	do	do	10

CLASS 3.—HORSES FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

JUDGES.—Hon. F. D. McCarty, Fond du Lac; John Van Metre, Fayette, Lafayette Co.; E. O. Rudd, Reedsburg.

Best Stallion, 4 years old and over,			$20
2d	do	do	15
Best Stallion, 3 years old and under 4,			10
2d	do	do	7
Best Stallion, 2 years old and under 3,			7
2d	do	do	5
Best Stallion, 1 year old and under 2,			5
2d	do	do	3
Best Sucking Stallion Colt,			3
2d	do	do	2
Best Brood Mare, over 4 years old			15
2d	do	do	10
Best Brood Mare, 3 years old and under 4,			10
2d	do	do	7
Best Brood Mare, 2 years old and under 3,			7
2d	do	do	5
Best Filly, 1 year old and under 2,			5
2d	do	do	3
Best Sucking Mare colt,			3
2d	do	do	2

CLASS 4.—DRAFT HORSES.

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 3.

Best Stallion, 4 years old and over,			$15
2d	do	do	10
Best Stallion, 3 years old and under 4,			10
2d	dd	do	7
Best Stallion, 2 years old and under 3,			7
2d	do	do	5
Best Stallion, 1 year old and under 2,			5
2d	do	do	2
Best Sucking Stallion Colt,			3
2d	do	do	2
Best Brood Mare, 4 years old and over,			10
2d	do	do	7
Best Brood Mare, 3 years old and under 4,			8
2d	do	do	6
Best Brood Mare, 2 years old and under 3,			5
2d	do	do	4
Best Filly, 1 year old and under 2,			5
2d	do	do	3
Best Sucking Mare Colt,			3
2d	do	do	2

CLASS 5.—JACKS AND MULES.

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 3.

Best Jack,			$10
2d	do		5
Best Jenny,			10
2d	do		5
Best pair working Mules,			10
2d	do	do	5
Best single Mule,			5
2d	do		3

CLASS 6.—MATCHED HORSES AND MARES.

[To be exhibited in harness. A single horse may be exhibited as one of a pair.]

JUDGES.—Hon. W. D. McIndoe, Wausau; Hon. A. E. Elmore, Mukwanago; Hon. O. F. Bartlett, East Troy.

Best pair of Carriage Horses or Mares,		$15
do	Roadsters,	15
do	Farm or Draft Horses or Mares,	15

CLASS 7.—GELDINGS OR MARES FOR HARNESS, SADDLE, &c.

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 6.

Best for light harness, 4 years old and over,			$10
2d	do	do	5
Best for saddle, 4 years old and over,			10
2d	do	do	5

CLASS 8.—TROTTERS.

[Exhibitors to furnish satisfactory evidence that the horse entered has been kept as a *stock* horse during the season. Speed to be tested by time, not by competition; *distance one mile*, and but *one trial* allowed, except in case of unavoidable accident, when the Judges may, at their discretion, grant such privileges as will ensure fairness and impartiality.]

JUDGES.—Dr. E. B. Wolcott, Milwaukee; H. C. Williams, Chippewa; G. P. Delaplaine, Madison; J. M. Learned, Janesville; J. McNaughton, Waupun.

Best and fastest trotting Stallion, over 4 years old,				$30
2d	do	do	do	20
3d	do	do	do	10
Entrance fee, $5.00.				
Best and fastest trotting Stallion, under 4 years old,				$25
2d	do	do	do	15
3d	do	do	do	10
Entrance fee, $4.00.				

CATTLE DEPARTMENTT,

SUPERINTENDENT, HON. BENJ. FERGUSON.

[The Judges of Cattle *are expressly required not to give encouragement to over-fed animals*, in the breeding classes. The standard authority in all cases, for pedigrees, will be the English and American Herd Books.—Exhibitors must come prepared to have their cattle led into the ring when directed to do so by the Superintendent *precisely at the time specified*, and animals not so brought forward will be ruled out of competition.]

CLASS 9.—SHORT HORNS.

JUDGES.—I. N. DeForest, Windsor; John Heckett, Beloit; Richard Richards, Racine.

Best Bull, 3 years old and over,			Engraving or $20
2d	do	do	15
3d	do	do	10
Best Bull, 2 years old and under 3,			15
2d	do	do	10
3d	do	do	8

Best Bull, 1 year old and under 2,..... 10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best Cow, 3 years old and over,..... 20
2d do do 15
3d do do 10
Best Heifer, 2 years old and under 3,..... 15
2d do do 10
3d do do 8
Best heifer, 1 year old and under 2,..... 10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best Heifer Calf,..... 7
2d do 5
Best Bull Calf,..... 7
2d do 5

CLASS 10.—DEVONS.

JUDGES.—J. E. Dodge, Potosi; G. M. Lyman, Ripon; Geo. C. Green, Fox Lake.

Premiums same as for Short Horns.

CLASS 11.—ALDERNEYS.

Judges and Premiums same as for Class 10.

CLASS 12.—AYRSHIRES.

Judges and Premiums same as for Class 10.

CLASS 13.—HEREFORDS.

Judges and Premiums same as for Class 10.

CLASS 14.—GRADE CATTLE AND WORKING OXEN.

JUDGES.—Hon. E. Pier, Fond du Lac; J. C. Holloway, Lancaster; Jas. Clark, Summit.

[Working Oxen will be tested on draft.]

Best Grade Cow, 3 years old and over,.....$10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best Heifer, 2 years old and under 3, ... 5
2d do do 3
Best yoke Working Oxen,..... 10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best yoke 3 years old Steers,..... 7
2d do do 5
Best 2 years old Steers,..... 5
2d do 3
Best 1 year old Steers,..... 3
2d do 2

CLASS 15.—MILCH COWS.

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 14.

Best Milch Cow,.....$15
2d do 10
3d do 5

The cow must be kept on grass *only*, during the experiment, and for fifteen days previous to each period of trial.

Time of trial from 20th to 30th of June, and from 20th to 30th of August.

Statement to be furnished, containing:—

1st. The age and breed of cow and time of calving.

2nd. The quantity of milk in weight, and also of butter during each period of ten days.

3rd. Butter made must be exhibited with the cow, at the Fair, and the statement made, verified by the affidavit of the competitor and one other person conversant with the facts.

CLASS 16.—FAT CATTLE.

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 14.

Best pair Fat Oxen, 5 years old and over,.....$10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best pair 4 years old and under 5,..... 8
2d do do 5
3d do do 3
Best Fat Cow, Steer, or Heifer,..... 5
2d do do 3

SHEEP DEPARTMENT.

SUPERINTENDENT, C. F. HAMMOND, JR.,

CLASS 17.—SPANISH MERINOS.

JUDGES.—Geo. C. Pratt, Waukesha; Almon Atwood, Waupun; Dr. Dodge, Beetown.

Best Buck, 2 years old and over,.....Engraving or $10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best Buck, 1 year old and under 2,..... 7
2d do do 5
3d do do 3
Best pen of three Buck Lambs,..... 5
2d do do 3
3d do do 2
Best pen of three Ewes, 2 years old and over..... 10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best pen of three Ewes, 1 year old and under 2,..... 7
2d do do do 5
3d do do do 3
Best pen of three Ewe Lambs,..... 5
2d do do 3
3d do do 2

CLASS 18.—FRENCH MERINOS.

Judges and Premiums, same as for Class 17.

CLASS 19.—SAXONS.

Judges and Premiums, same as for Class 17.

CLASS 20.—SILESIAN SHEEP.

Judges and Premiums, same as for Class 17.

CLASS 21.—LONG WOOL, MIDDLE WOOL, LEICESTER.

Judges and Premiums, same as for Class 17.

CLASS 22.—FAT SHEEP.

Judges same as for Class 17.

Best Fat Sheep, not less than 3 in number,.....$
2d do do 3

DEPARTMENT OF SWINE & POULTRY.

SUPERINTENDENT, WHILDEN HUGHES, ESQ.

CLASS 23.—SMALL BREEDS OF SWINE—SUFFOLKS AND OTHERS.

JUDGES—James Y. Caldwell, Baraboo; Jos. Scribner, Jr., Rosendale; John Y. Jones, Arena.

Best Boar each of above breeds, 2 years old and over, $10
2d do do do 7
3d do do do 5
Best Boar 1 year old and under 2,..... 7
2d do do 5
3d do do 3
Best Breeding Sow, 2 years old and over,..... 10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best Breeding Sow, with litter of Pigs, not less than 6, under 3 months old..... 10
2d do do 5
Best Boar Pig over 6 moths old,..... 5
2d do do 3
Best Sow Pig over 6 months old,..... 5
2d do do 3

CLASS 24.—LARGE BREEDS—LEICESTER, WOBURN, BEDFORD OR SUSSEX.

Judges and Premiums, same as for Class 23.

CLASS 25.—POULTRY.

JUDGES.—John Dearsley, Racine; S. R. Chase, Rock; E. P. Allis, Milwaukee.

Best and greatest variety of Poultry owned by Exhibitor, ... $5
Best lot Shanghai fowls, not less than 3, 1 cock, 2 hens, 2
" Dorkings, do do 2
" Bolton Greys, do do 2
" Cochin China Fowls, do 2
Best lot Spangled Hamburg, one cock and two hens 2
" Black Spanish, do do 2
" Polands, do do 2
" Bantams, do do 2
" Turkeys, do do 2
Best pair Ducks,..... 2
" Guinea Fowls,..... 2
" Geese,..... 2
" Pea Fowls,..... 2
" Game Fowls,..... 2

DIVISION B.

Products of the Soil, Dairy, and Household.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

SUPERINTENDENT, DR. O. T. MAXSON.

CLASS 26.—FIELD CROPS, BY THE ACRE.

[Competitors must file a notice with the Secretary by the 15th of June enclosing the $1.00 and a specification of the crop or crops so entered. The report must embrace a verified statement of the character of the soil, and of the manure, of the mode of culture, and the expense; also the affidavit of one other competent witness that the land and its products were accurately measured; and must be accompanied by samples for the inspection of the Awarding Committee.

The Executive Committee will award at their meeting in December, but will withold the premiums if either the quantity or quality of the crop is not deemed creditable and worthy.]

Best one acre Winter Wheat,..... $10
2d do do 5
Best one acre Spring Wheat,..... 10
2d do do 5
Best one acre Oats, ... 10
2d do 5
Best one acre Indian Corn,..... 15
2d do do 10
Best one acre Barley,..... 10
2d do 5
Best one acre Potatoes,..... 10
2d do do..... 5
Best one-quarter acre Carrots,..... 10
2d do do 5
Best one acre Hops,..... 10
2d do 5
Best one acre Timothy Seed,..... 10
2d do do 5
Best one acre Clover Seed,..... 10
2d do do 5
Best one acre Hungarian Grass Seed,..... 10
2d do do do 5
Greatest amount in value of Syrup and Sugar from one acre of Cane,..... 15
2d do do do do 10
3d do do do do 5

CLASS 28.—FIELD PRODUCTS.

JUDGES.—Hon. L. P. Harvey, Shopier; D. B. Bailey, Prescott; Hon. L. W. Joiner, Wyoming.

[The Products must have been grown by the exhibitor.]

Best sample Winter Wheat, not less than one bushel, $3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Spring Wheat, not less than one bushel, 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Rye, not less than one bushel,..... 3
2d do do 2
Best sample Oats, not less than one bushel,..... 2
2d do do .Transactions
Best sample Barley, not less than one bushel,..... 2
2d do do Transactions
Best sample Buckwheat, not less than one bushel,.... 2
2d do do Transactions
Best sample Fax Seed, not less than one bushel,..... 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Hops, not less than twenty-five pounds, 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Timothy Seed, not less than one bushel, 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Clover Seed, not less than one bushel, 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Peas, not less than one bushel,..... 2
2d do do Transactions
Best sample Beans, not less than one bushel,..... 2
2d do do Transactions
Best sample Seed Corn, not less than one bushel,..... 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Carter Potatos,..... 2
2d do ..... Transactions
Best sample Mercer do 2
2d do ..... Transactions
Best sample Pinkeye do 2
" sample Early, do 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best show of known and excellent varieties,..... 5
2d do do 3
Best sample Carrots,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best sample Turnips,..... 2
2d do ....Transactions

CLASS 28.—GARDEN VEGETABLES.

JUDGES.—H. J. Starin, Whitewater; G. B. Salmon, Hudson; Richard Arundel, Dodgeville.

Twelve best stalks Celery,.. .....$2 00
2d do .....Transactions
Six best heads Cauliflower,..... 2 00
2d do .....Transactions
Six best heads Brocoli, ... 1 50
2d do .....Transactions
Twelve best Beets, ...Transactions
2d do 50
Twelve best Parsnips, ...Transactions
2d do 50
Best sample Onions,..... 2
2d do . ...Transactions
Six best heads Cabbage,.....Transactions
2d do 50
Twelve best Tomatoes,.....Transactions
2d do 50
Twelve best Purple Egg Plants,.....Transactions
2d do 50
Twelve best Sweet Potatoes, ... 3 00
2d do 2 00
Best half-peck Lima Beans, ...Transactions
2d do 50
Best half-peck Windsor Beans,.....Transactions
2d do 50
Three best heads Lettuce, ...Transactions
2d do 50
Twelve best Winter Radishes,.....Transactions
2d do 50
Twelve best Summer Radishes,.....Transactions
2d do 50
Best and greatest variety Garden Products,..... 5 00
2d do do 3 00
Best and greatest variety Garden Seed raised in the State,..... 5 00
2d do do do 3 00

CLASS 29.—PRODUCTS OF THE DAIRY AND HOUSEHOLD.

JUDGES.—F. C. Curtis, Rocky Run; J. C. Plumb and Wife, Madison; O. B. Hazletine and wife, Black Earth.

BUTTER.

Best 25 lbs. June made Butter, book & set spoons, or $10
2d do do do 7
3d do do do 5
Best 25 lbs. at any time, do do 7
2d do do do 5
3d do do do 3

[Competitors for premiums must state in writing where the butter was made; the number of cows kept on the farm; the mode of keeping them; the treatment of the cream and milk before churning, winter and summer; the mode of freeing the butter from the milk, and the kind of salt used.

Butter offered for premiums must be presented in butter tubs, jars, or firkins, and preserved only with salt.]

CHEESE.

Best three Cheeses made in the State,..... .....$10
2d do do 7
3d do do 5
Best single Cheese, do 3
2d do do 2

[Competitors must state in writing when it was made; the number of cows kept; whether the cheese was made from one, two, or more milkings; whether any addition was made of cream, and the quantity of rennet used; the mode of preparing it; the mode of pressure; and the treatment of cheese afterward, and the kind of salt used.]

Best cured Hams, with method of preserving the same $2
2d do do Transactions
Best sample Honey,.. 3
2d do 2
Best barrel Winter Wheat Flour,.. 5
2d do do 3
Best barrel Spring Wheat Flour,.. 5
2d do do 3

BREAD, CAKE, ETC.

Best loaf Wheat Bread, yeast rising,.. 3
" do salt or milk rising,.. 3
" Graham bread,.. 3
" Corn bread,.. 3
" Sponge Cake,.. 2
" Fruit Cake,.. 2
" Plain Cake,.. 2
Best specimen Cake made with Chinese Cane molasses, 2
" Cookies,.. 2
" Crackers,.. Dis
" and Greatest Variety of above, by one exhibitor, 5

JUVENILE UNDER FOURTEEN.

Best loaf Wheat bread,.. 2
" Graham bread,.. 2
Best Sponge cake,.. 2
" Cookies,.. 2
" Gingerbread,.. 2

[Mode of manufacture to accompany each specimen.]

FRUIT AND FLOWER DEPARTMENT.

SUPERINTENDENTS, MR. & MRS. A. G. HANFORD.

[All fruits must be arranged on the tables by Wednesday, 10 o'clock, A. M. Fruits receiving premiums in one Class cannot compete in another; and the Judges are instructed to withold the premiums offered, in all cases where the fruits presented are either *not named* or have not sufficient merit. Exhibitors, if required, must likewise present to the Judges a certificate that the fruits offered were actually grown by them.]

CLASS 30.—FRUITS GROWN BY NON-PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

JUDGES.—Gen. K. K. Jones, Quincy, Ills.; Dr. L. W. Weeks, Milwaukee; W. H. Canfield, Baraboo.

Best and greatest variety of Apples, not less than three specimens of each,.. $7
2d do do do 5
3d do do do 3
Best Ten varieties,.. 3
2d do .. 2
3d do .. Transactions
Best Five varieties,.. 2
2d do .. Transactions
Best show of Autumn Apples, .. 7
2d do .. 5
3d do .. 3
Best show Winter Apples,.. 7
2d do .. 5
3d do .. 3

PEARS.

Best and largest variety of Pears, not less than three, 7
2d do do do 5
3d do do do 3
Best two varieties of Pears,.. 5
2d do .. 3
3d do .. 2

PLUMS.

Best and greatest variety Plums, not less than 3 each $3
2d do do do 2
3d do do Transactions

QUINCES.

Best show of Quinces,.. $5
2d do .. 3
3d do .. 2
Best two specimens of one or more varieties, .. Trans

PEACHES.

Best show of Peaches,.. $5
2d do .. 3
3d do .. 2
Best single variety, three specimens of each,.. 3
2d do do .. 2
3d do do Transactions

GRAPES.

Best and greatest variety of Grapes, not less than three clusters each,.. $3
2d do do do 2
3d do do Transactions
Best and greatest variety of Fruit of all kinds, raised by exhibitor,.. Dip and 10

MELONS.

Best Ice Cream,.. $2
2d do .. Transactions
Best Mountain Sprout,.. 2
2d do .. Transactions
Best Black Spanish,.. 2
2d do .. Transactions
Best Long Island,.. 2
2d do .. Transactions
Best show of Watermelons,.. 3
2d do .. 2
3d do .. Transactions
Best Citron for preserves,.. 2
2d do .. Transactions
Best and 2d best Muskmelons,.. Tranactions and $2
" and greatest variety, .. Dip
" cultivated Cranberries, .. 3
2d do .. 2

CLASS 31.—FRUITS BY PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

JUDGES.—Dr. John A. Kennicott, West Northfield, Ill; Samuel Edwards, Lamoille, Ill; S. S. Daggett, Milwaukee.

[Premiums same as in Class 30.]

CLASS 32.—WISCONSIN WINES.

JUDGES.—Same as for Class 30.

Best sample of Grape Wine, not less than two bottles $5
2d do do do 3
Best sample Currant Wine, do do 3
2d do do do 2
Best sample Rhubarb Wine, do do 3
2d do do do 2
Best from any other materials, discretionary.

[Specimens competing must have been made without the addition of spiritous liquors, and be accompanied with a statement in writing, showing when, where, by whom, and how manufactured, together with its cost per bottle.

CLASS 33.—FLOWERS BY NON-PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

JUDGES.—Mrs. E. O. Sampson Hoyt, Madison; Mrs. B. R. Hinkley, Summit; Mrs. H. M. Billings, Highland; John Budd and wife.

Best floral design of Natural Flowers,.. $5
2d do do 3
Best display in quality and variety Cut Flowers,.. 2
2d do do Transactions
Best and greatest variety named Flowers,.. 2
2d do do .. Transactions
Most tastefully arranged Basket of Flowers,.. 2
2d do do Transactions
Best and greatest variety of Wild Flowers,.. 3
Best display of Dahlies not less than ten varieties,.. 2
2d do do Transactions
Best display in quality and variety of Verbenas,.. 2
2d do do Transactions
Best five named varieties Roses,.. 3
2d do do .. 2
Best variety and quality Asters,.. 2
2d do do .. Transactions
Best do Gladiolus,.. 2
2d do do .. Transactions
Best do Phlox,.. 2
do do do .. Transactions
Best do Petunias .. 2
2d do do .. Transactions
Best do Pansies,.. 2
2d do do .. Transactions
Best Pyramid Boquet, .. 5
" Flat do .. 3
Most tastefully arranged Boquet of Flowers,.. 2
Best Herbarium Plants and Flowers gathered within the year and correctly named,.. Dip

EVERGREENS.

Best show of Evergreens, nursery grown, in boxes or or tubs,.. 5
2d do do do 3

CLASS 34.—FLOWERS BY PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

JUDGES.—J. H. Southwick, Prescott; Mrs. E. S. Carr, Madison; P. B. Spaulding and wife, Beloit; Thos. Hislop, Milwaukee.

Best Ornamental Design of any desirable material, $5
2d do do do 3
Best and greatest variety Green House Plants, 3
" twenty varieties in bloom, 3
" twelve Geraniums, 2
" and greatest variety of Dahlies, 3
" twelve named do 2
" seedling do 2
" and greatest variety of Verbenbs, 3
" twelve named sorts do 2
" seedling do 1
" six Fuchias in pots, 1
" six Petunies do 1
" six Phlox do 1
" six Asttery do 1
" six Carnations named, 1
" display in quality and variety of Roses, 3
" twelve named sorts do 2
Most tastefully arranged and largest collection of cut Flowers, 3
Best pair Round Boquets, 1
" pair Flat " 1
" and greatest variety of Phlox, 1
" do Asters, 1
" do Peonies, 1
" do Petunbs, 1
" do Pansies, 1
" do Gladiolus, 1
" and greatest variety of all sorts of Flowers raised by exhibitor, Dip and 5

CLASS 35.—DELICACIES.

JUDGES.—Mrs. E. W. Edgerton, Summit; Mrs. S. S. Daggett, Milwaukee; Mrs. Delos Mills, Rochester.

[Process of preparation, &c., to be given in all cases in writing.]

PRESERVES.

Best and greatest variety, not less than 10, 1 exhib'or, $5
" Apple preserves not less than one quart, 1
" Peach do do 1
" Strawberry do do 1
" Gooseberry do do 1
" Currant do do 1
" Cherry do do 1
" Plum do do 1
" Tomato do do 1
" Grape do do 1
" Quince do do 1
" Pear do do 1
" Catsup do do 1

JELLIES, ETC.

Best and greatest variety, not less than 8, 1 exhibitor, $5
" Apple Jelly, not less than one quart, 1
" Peach do do 1
" Plum do do 1
" Grape do do 1
" Strawberry do do 1
" Gooseberry do do 1
" Quince, do do 1
" Cherry do do 1
" Currant do do 1
" Cranberry do do 1
" Crab Apple do do 1
" Raspberry Jam do do 1
" Black Currant Jam do 1
" Apple Butter do do 1
" Peach do do do 1
" Tomato do do do 1

PICKLES.

Best and greatest variety not less than 8, $5
" Cucumber Pickles, 1
" Apple do 1
" Plum do 1
" Cherry do 1
" Artichoke do 1
" Pear do 1

DIVISION C.

Machinery Manufactures and Works of Art.

[Every machine and implement will be tested so far as practicable, by *actual trial*. The premiums will in all cases be awarded upon the basis of *economical value*, and it is requested that the competing articles shall not be of better quality than the average stock on sale at the warehouse.]

DEPARTMENT OF MACHINERY.

SUPERINTENDENT, D. J. POWERS.

CLASS 36.—MACHINERY FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

[All heavy machinery *must be upon the grounds as early as Monday.*]

JUDGES.—Ira Miltimore, Janesville; C. W. Olney, Madison; James Seville, Milwaukee; Wm. Blair, Waukesha; H. C. Snow, Avoca.

For that Steam Plow which shall do good and thorough work, and shall most satisfactorily demonstrate the practicability of tillage by steam with economy of labor, power, time and money, $200
Best portable Grist Mill and Bolting Apparatus, complete, in actual operation during the Fair, grinding feed and economically, making good flour, and not costing over $500, Dip and 25
2d do do do 15
Best Grist Mill without bolting apparatus, 10
2d do do 5
Best Feed Grinding Mill, Dip and 10
2d do 5
Best Clover Huller, 5
2d do 3
Best Fanning Mill, Dip and 3
2d do
Best Wind Mill for raising water, in operation, Dip and 15
2d do do 10
Best Corn-stalk and Straw Cutter to operate by hand or horse power, Dip and 5
2d do do do 4
Best hand power Corn-stalk Cutter, 3
2d do do 2
Best dressed French Burr Millstones, Dip and 5
Best Mole Drainer, in operation, Dip and 15
Best Grain Drill, Dip and 15
Best Drain Tile Machine, Dip and 5

CLASS 37.—MACHINERY FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.

JUDGES.—Hon. W. M. Shafter, Sheboygan; Joseph Powers, Hebron; S. G. Williams, Janesville; Hon. A. J. Craig, Palmyra; Thos. Falvey, Racine.

Best portable steam rotary or circular Saw Mill, in operation, not more than 20 horse power—saw 40 inches in diameter, or larger, to run as much as one entire day, 25
2d do do do
Best Locomotive Steam Boiler, not less than six horse power, Dip and 10
2d do do do 5
Best portable Steam Engine for farm use, Dip and 20
2d do do 10
Best stationary Shop Engine not less than 6 horse power, 15
2d do do do 10
Best Stationary Engine not over 4 horse power, particular reference being had to security from fire, economy of fuel, and compactness, adapting it for printing presses, Dip and 10
2d do do do 5
Best Siding Mill in operation, Dip and 10
Best Shingle Machine in operation, Dip and 10
Best Planing, Tongueing and Grooving Machine, in operation, Dip and 10
Best surfacing only, 7
Best set of Machinery for manufacturing sash, doors or blinds, in operation, Dip and 10
Best Morticing machine, 3
Best Bank Lock, 3

[Discretionary premiums by Miscel. Com.]

CLASS 38.—MACHINERY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF SORGHUM SYRUP AND SUGAR.

JUDGES.—J. G. Knapp, Madison; A. G. Tuttle, Baraboo; O. P. Dow, Palmyra.

Best manufacturing apparatus complete upon the Fair Grounds, for Sugar and Syrup making, comprising grinding and boiling fixtures, parties to fur-

nish canes and be at the whole expense of fitting up and working same on Fair Grounds during Fair,. $50
2d do do do 25
Best sample Sugar, not less than 20 pounds,..... 10
2d do do 8
Best sample Syrup, not less than 20 gallons,..... 5
2d do do 4

[The above premiums to be awarded only on the exhibition of a superior establishment for the manufacture of sugar and syrup and a full and elaborate statement of the whole process, suitable for publication in the Transactions of the Society.]

DEPARTMENT OF IMPLEMENTS.

SUPERINTENDENT, T. C. DOUSMAN.

CLASS 39.—FARM IMPLEMENTS, ETC.

JUDGES.—Orin Guernsey, Janesville; D. S. Curtiss, Madison; A. H. Atwater, Oak Grove.

Best Farm Wagon,.....Dip or $5
2d do 3
Best Harrow, ... 3
2d do 2
Best Corn Cultivator, ... 3
2d do 2
Best Horse Cart for farm,..... 5
2d do 3
Best Ox Cart, ... 5
2d do 3
Best Horse Rake, ... 3
2d do 2
Best Ox Yoke, ... 2
Best Roller for general use, ... 5
2d do 3
Best Clod Crusher and Roller combined,..... 5
Best Horse Hoe for cleaning drilled grain crops,..... 5
Best and most numerous collection of Agricultural Implements,..... Dip
Best and most numerous collection of Agricultural and Gardening Tools and Implements manufactured in the State, by or under the superivsion of the exhibitor, materials, workmanship, utility, durability and prices to be considered in both cases,..Dip and 10
2d do do do 5

[Articles in the above *collection* shall not receive individual premiums.]

Best dozen Axes,.....$2
2d do ..... Transactions
Best Churn, ... 3
2d do 2
Best Cheese Press,..... 3
2d do 2
Best twelve Milk Pans,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Potato Washer,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Grain Cradle,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best twelve Hand Rakes,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best six Hay Forks,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best six Grass Scythes,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best six Cradle Scythes,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Scythe Snath and Scythe,..... 2
2d do do .....Transactions
Best six Manure Forks,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Potato Digger,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Hay Rigging,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best lot of Grain Measures, not less than six, ... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best dozen Brooms, ... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Pails,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Tubs, ... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Vegetable Cutter,..... 5
2d do 3
Best Farm or Road Scraper,..... 3
2d do 2
Best Sod Plow for stiff soils,....Certificate of Excellence
" do light soils,..... ....do
" Steel Crossing Plow,..... ..... do
" Corn Plow,..... ....do
" Sub-soil Plow,.....do
" collection or assortment of Plows in use in this country, with price attached to each,.....do

DEPARTMENT OF MANUFACTURES.

SUPERINTENDENT, DANIEL DAGGETT.

[Articles in this Department to be manufactured or produced within the year and within the State; and in all cases Exhibitors to furnish a written certificate to Chairman of Committee that the articles were so manufactured]

CLASS 40.—CARRIAGES, STOVES, HARNESS, ETC.

JUDGES.—Hon. Simeon Mills, Madison; Hon. Wm. E. Smith, Fox Lake; Gen. Stevens, Dodgeville.

Best Double Carriage,.....Dip or $10
2d do 5
Best single Top Buggy,.....Dip or 7
2d do 4
Best single Riding Buggy,.....Dip or 5
2d do 3
Best Pleasure Wagon,..... 5
" double Sleigh, ...Dip or 5
2d do 3
Best single Sleigh,.....Dip or 3
2d do 2

[Discretionary premiums allowed on articles of superior merit not included in this list.]

HARNESSES, ETC.

Best Carriage Harness,.....$ 7
2d do 5
Best Wagon Harness,..... 5
2d do 3
Best Single Harness,..... 5
2d do 3
Best Gent's Saddle,..... 3
" Lady's Saddle,..... 3

STOVES, FURNACES, ETC.

Best Cooking Stove for wood,.....$ 3
2d do 2
Best Cooking Stove for coal,..... 3
2d do 2
Best Cooking Range for families,..... 5
2d do 3
Best Ornamental Parlor Stove,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best Hall Stove,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions
Best sample Hollow Ware,..... 2
" Fire Grates,..... 2
2d do .....Transactions

CLASS 41.—CABINET WARE, COOPERAGE, WILLOW WARE, LEATHER, BOOTS AND SHOES, INDIA RUBBER GOODS, ETC.

JUDGES.—H. W. Hayes, Palmyra; Ambrose Ely, Milwaukee; Thos. Reynolds, Madison.

CABINET WARE.

Best specimens School Room Furniture,..... $5
" assortment Cabinet Ware,..... ....Dip
" lot Enameled Furniture,..... 3
" lot Rosewood Chairs,..... 4
" Mahogany do 3
" Black Walnut do 3
" Rose Wood Sofa,..... 3
" Mahogany do 3
" Black Walnut do 3
" Bedstead,..... 3
" Bureau,..... 3
" Breakfast Table,..... 3
" Extension Table,..... 3
" Centre Table,..... 3
" Washstand,..... 2

COOPERAGE, BASKET WARE, ETC.

Best specimen Flour Barrels,.....$ 3
2d do .....Transaction

Best Barrels for liquors and meats,..... 2
2d do do .....Transactions
Best Pails,..... 2
" Butter Firkins, oak,..... 2
" Display of Cooperage,.....Dip 2
" Splint Baskets of oak or ash,..... 2
" Willow Baskets, ... 2
" display Willow Ware made in State,. ...Dip and 5
" Spec. Willow, prepared for use of Wis'n growth 2
" Window Blinds,..... 2
" Window Sash,..... 2
" Doors,..... 2
" Pine Lumber,..... 2

BOOTS, SHOES, ETC.

Best Leather Hose, for fire engines,.....Dip and 2
Best Gent's Winter Boots,..... 3
2d do 2
Best Gent's Fancy Boots,..... 3
2d do 2
Best Gents Gaiters,..... 3
2d do 2
Best and neatest Ladies' Winter Boots, anti-consumptive,..... 3
2d do do do 2
Best ladies every day Gaiter Shoes, not too thin sol'd 3
2d do do do 2
Best ladies' Fancy Shoes,..... 3
2d do 2

LEATHER, INDIA RUBBER GOODS, ETC.

Best specimen Trunks, ...Dip and 2
" Carpet Bags, ... do 2
" Ornamental Leather Work,..... do 2
" India Rubber Goods,..... do 2
" do Shoes,..... do 2
" Sole and Upper Leather,..... do 2
" Calf Skins, ... do 2
" Morrocco for Bookbinding,..... do 2

[Discretionary premiums by Miscel. Com.]

CLASS 42.—LIGHTING APPARATUS, ETC.

JUDGES.—Prof. E. S. Carr, Madison; Hon. A. I. Bennet Beloit; F. J. Blair, Milwaukee.

Best portable Gas Works, for hotel or family use, not to exceed $250 in cost,.....Dip
Best apparatus for Burning Fluid,..... do
" Lamp for burning Kerosine or Pariphin oil,..... do
" and most economical of the above kinds of lighting Apparatus for family use,..... do

[Discretionary premiums by Miscel. Com.]

CLASS 43.—MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Best grand or semi-grand Piano-forte,.....Dip and $5
" Boudoir Piano,..... do 3
" Square Piano,..... do 3
" Parlor Organ,..... do 3
" Melodeon,..... do 3

[Discretionary premiums allowed on those manufactured out of the State.]

CLASS 44.—SILVER WARE, CUTLERY, BRITTANIA WARE.

JUDGES.—Wm. Genet, Madison; Thos. Davey, Mineral Point; D. L. Deo, Milwaukee.

Best exhibition Silver Ware,.....Dip
" do Silver Table Cutlery,..... do
" do Table Cutlery,..... do
" do Pocket Cutlery, Amer. munufacture, do
" specimen Silver Ware with agricultural design, suitable for premiums,..... do
" specimen Argentine or Britannia Ware,..... do
" set Surgical Instruments,..... do
" set Dental do ..... do
" set Mathematical Instruments,..... do
" set Surveyors " ..... do
" Microscope,..... do
" Chronometer Clock,..... do
" Watch,..... do
" specimen Plated Ware,..... do
" do Electro-plated Ware,..... do

[Discretionary premiums on articles not manufactured in the State or nation.]

CLASS 45.—PAPER, PRINTING, BOOK-BINDING, ETC.

JUDGES.—Hon. Chas. D. Robinson, Green Bay; Wm. C. Rogers, La Crosse; Jas. H. Greene, Prairie du Chien.

Best specimen Print Paper, exhibited by manufacturer $5
2d do do do 3
Best specimen Writing Paper, do 3
2d do do do 5
Best specimen Book Printing,..... 3
2d do 2
Best specimen Pamphlet Printing,..... 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Handbill Printing,..... 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Circulars and Bill-heads,.. 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Card Printing,..... 3
2d do 2
Best specimen Blank Book Binding,..... 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Law Book Binding, ... 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Library Book Binding,..... 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Fancy Book Binding, ... 3
2d do do 2
Best specimen Book Work, all in all,.. 7
2d do do 5

CLASS 46.—TEXTILE FABRICS, CLOTHING, ETC.

JUDGES.—E. W. Skinner and wife, Madison; Thomas Turner, Menasha; Chas. Eslinger, Manitowoc; S. Buck, Appleton.

Best piece Woolen Carpet, not less than 10 yards,....$5
2d do do do 3
Best piece Satinet, do do 5
2d do do do 3
Best piece Blanketing, do do 5
2d do do do 3
Best piece Flannel, do do 5
2d do do do 3
Best Gent's Blanket Shawl,..... 5
2d do 3
Best Ladies' Blanket Shawl,..... 5
2d do 3
Best assortment of Machine Knit Hosiery,..... 5
2d do do 3

CLOTHING, HATS, FURS, ETC.

Best exhibition Men's Clothing,.....Dip or $2
" Boys' Clothing,..... do 2
" Mens' Hats and Caps,..... do 2
" Childrens' Hats and Caps,..... do 2
" Hat Case,..... do
" Furs,..... do 2
" Gent's Fur Gloves,..... do 2
" Ladies' Fur Gloves,..... do 2

[Discretionary premiums allowed on articles in this Class not included in the list.]

CLASS 47.—DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

JUDGES.—Mrs. H. J. Starin, Whitewater; Mrs. H. W. Hayes, Palmyra; Mrs. C. Eastman, Oconomowoc.

Best 12 skeins Sewing Silk,.....$2
" specimen Cloth or Ribbon, 5 yds,..... 2
" Woolen Kersey blankets,..... 2
" 10 yards Flannel,..... 3
" do Woolen Cloth,..... 3
" 15 yards Wool Carpet,..... 4
" Rag Hearth Rug, ... 1
" Embroidered Hearth Rug,..... 2
" Rug of other materials, ... 1
" 15 yards of Rag Carpet,..... 3
" Wool Stockings,..... 1
" Wool Mittens,..... 1
" 10 knots Woolen Yarn,..... 1
" 10 yards Linen Cloth, ... 2
" 10 do Diaper, ... 2
" 10 yards Tow Cloth, ... 2
" pair Cotton Stockings, ... 1
" pair Linen do 1
" pound Linen Sewing Thread,..... 2
" Patch Quilt,..... 2
" White Quilt,..... 2
" double Carpet Coverlet,..... 3
" single do 2
" Knit Counterpane,..... 2
" Wrought do 2
" Crotchet Wool Cape,..... 1
" do Shawl, ... 2
" White Wove Counterpane,..... 2
" exhibition of taste and skill in cutting and making Boys' Clothing, by other than professional manufacturers..... 4
" do Gent's Clothing, do 4
" do Ladies' Dresses,..... 3
" Gent's Shirts,..... 2

Best specimen Straw Hat,..... 2
2d do 1
Best do Bonnet,..... 2
2d do do 1

JUVENILE,—GIRLS SIXTEEN YEARS AND UNDER.

Best pair Woolen Socks,..... 2
2d do 1
Best six skeins Woolen Stocking Yarn,..... 2
2d do do 1
Best pair Woolen Fringe Mittens,..... 2
2d do do 1
Best Patch Work Quilt,..... 3
2d do 2
3d do 1
Best specimen Darning,..... 1

CLASS 48.—MILLINERY.

JUDGES.—Mrs. T. J. Otis, Mineral Point· Mrs. Dr. Maxson, Prescott; Mrs. P. M. Perkins, Burlington.

Best Silk Bonnet, domestic manufacture,.....Dip or $3
2d do do 2
3d do do 1
Best Straw Bonnet, do .....Dip or 3
2d do do 2
3d do do 1
Best Ladies' Cloak, do 3
2d do do 2
3d do do 1
Best Ladies' Dress, do 3
2d do do 2
3d do do 1
Best Bonnet Flowers, do 2
2d do do 1
Best and greatest variety of the above and other articles of Millinery, manufactured by exhibitor, in this State,.....Dip and 5

CLASS 49.—ORNAMENTAL NEEDLE WORK.

JUDGES.—Mrs. Harvey Durkee, Kenosha; Mrs. Morgan L. Martin, Green Bay;

Best Embroidered Shawl,..... $3
2d do 2
Best Embroided Scarf,..... 3
2d do 2
Best Muslin Embroidery,..... 2
2d do 1
Best Lace Embroidery,..... 2
2d do 1
Best Worsted Embroidery,..... 2
2d do 1
Best specimen of Plain Needle Work,..... 2
2d do do 1
Best Embroidered Skirt, ... 2
2d do 1
Best Chair Cover,..... 2
" Knit Tidy,..... 2
2d do..... 1
Best Crotchet Tidy,..... 2
2d do 1
Best Wrought Slippers,..... 2
2d do 1
Best Piano Spread, ... 2
2d do 1
Best evidence skill and taste in Embroidered Handk'f 2
2d do do do 1
Best do do Hem-stitched do 2
Best Ottoman Cover, tufted on cloth,..... 2
2d do do 1
Best do tufted on hair cloth,..... 2
2d do do 1
Best do plain on canvas,..... 2
2d do do 1
Best evidence skill and taste in Lamp Mat of any kind 1
" Crotchet Lamp Mat, ... 1
" Embroidered Lamp Mat,..... 1
" Fringed Lamp Mat,..... 1
" evidence skill and taste in fancy Work Basket.. 2
2d do do do .. 1
Best do do fancy Card Basket,.. 2
2d do do do .. 1
Best do Ornamental Shell Work, 2
2d do do do 1
Best do fancy Hair Work,..... 2
2d do do do 1
Best do Hair Flowers, ... 2
2d do do 1
Best do Embroidered Reticule,.. 2
" exhibition Wax Fruit, representing choice varieties,..... 5
2d do do do 3
Best do Flowers, do 3
2d do do do 2

JUVENILE,—UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS.

Best evidence of skill and taste in Crotchet Work..$2 00
2d do do do .. 1 00
Best plain Needle Work,..... 2 00
2d do 1 00
Best specimen of Darning and Repairing,..... 2 00
2d do do 1 00
Best skill and taste in Ornamental Needle Work,.. 2 00
2d do do do 1 00
Best Crotchet Needles,..... 1 00
2d do 50
Best Knit Mittens,..... 1 00
2d do 50
Best Knit Stockings,..... 1 00
2d do 50
Best Knit Socks, ... 1 00
2d do 50
Best specimen Hair Work,..... 1 00
2d do 50

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS.

SUPERINTENDENTS, I. A. LAPHAM AND WIFE.

CLASS 50.—FINE ARTS.

JUDGES.—Judge Howe and wife, Green Bay; W. H. Watson, and wife, Madison; H. W. Spaulding and wife, Janesville.

Best specimen of Statuary in marble,.....Dip
" do Carving in Wood,..... do
" do do stone,..... do
" do do plaster,..... do

OIL PAINTING.

Best Oil Painting,.....Dip
2d do $3
Best specimen of Animal Painting,.....Dip
2d do do $3
Best do Portait Painting,.....Dip
2d do do $3
Best do Fruit and Flower Painting,.....Dip
2d do do do $3
Best do Wisconsin Landscape,.....Dip
Largest and best exhibition of Paintings, by the Old Masters,..... $5

WATER COLOR PAINTING.

Best Painting in Water Colors,.....Dip
2d do do $3
Best specimen of Animal Painting,.....Dip
2d do do $3
Best do Fruit or Flower Painting, ...Dip
2d do do 2
Best do Wisconsin Landscape,.....Dip
2d do do 2
Best Crayon Drawing,.....Dip
" Pencil do ..... do
" specimen Pen Drawing, ... do
" mapping,..... do
" India Ink Drawing, ... do
" specimen of Writing Book by pupil in any of the public schools,..... .....Dip and $2
" systemiatzed and best executed Record Book of a County Agricultural Society,..... $5
" Wood Engraving,.....Dip
" do ..... do
" Lithographs,..... do
" specimen of Engraving on Copper,..... do
" do do Steel, ... do
" do Electrotyping, ... do

SUN PAINTING.

Best specimen Daguereotypes,.....Dip and 5
2d do do 3
Best do Melainotypes,.....Dip
Best do Ambrotypes,.....Dip and 5
2d do do 3
Best do do of Animals,.....Dip
" do do of Street Views, ... do
" do Photographs, plain,..... do
" do do water colors,..... do
" do do oil,.....$5 and do
" do do india ink,..... do
" do Hallotypes, ... do
" Monochromatic Drawing,..... do
" Grecian Painting,..... do
" Oriental Painting,..... do

CLASS 51.—MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

JUDGES.—Hon. D. Worthington, Summit; Hon. E. L. Phillips, Fond du Lac; Hon. E. D. Masters, Jefferson.

[Articles of whatever class not otherwise provided for have been assigned to this Committee, who will carefully examine into their claims and report according to merit.]

DIVISION D.

Farm Work and Equestrian Exercise.

DEPARTMENT OF FARM WORK.

SUPERINTENDENT, W. F. PORTER.

CLASS 52.—PLOWING MATCH.

JUDGES.—Eli Stilson, Oshkosh; Gustavus Goodrich, Raymond; Hon. Thos. P. Turner, Eagle; Erastus Bement, Oregon.

WITH HORSES.

First Premium,.....$10
2d do 6
3d do 3

WITH OXEN.

First Premium,.....$10
2d do 6
3d do 3

BOYS UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE.

WITH HORSES.

First Premium,.....$5
2d do 3
3d do 2

WITH OXEN.

First Premium,..... 5
2d do 3
3d do 2

The name of plowman must be given, as well as the kind of plow to be used, at the time of entry.

RULES FOR PLOWING.

1. The quantity of ground for each team to be one-fourth of an acre.
2. The time allowed to do the work will be two hours.
3. The depth of the furrow to be not less than six inches.
4. The teams to start at one time, and each plowman to do his work unaided.
5. No person except the viewing Committee will be allowed to enter upon the grounds after the work is commenced, until the Committee leave the ground.
6. Each plowman to strike his own land, and plow entirely independent of the adjoining land.
7. Within the fourth of an acre plowed, each plowman will be required to strike two back furrowed lands, and finish with the dead furrow in the middle.
8. Premiums awarded for best work within reasonable time.

DEPARTMENT OF EQUESTRIANISM.

SUPERINTENDENT, HON. J. F. WILLARD.

CLASS 53.—LADIES' RIDING.

JUDGES.—Col. L. H. D. Crane, Ripon; B. F. Hopkins, Madison; G. C. Gunn, Fox Lake; J. I. Case, Racine; B. Williams, Sheboygan.

First Premium,.....$20
2d do 15
Third Premium..... 10
4th do 5

[The Executive Committee wish it distinctly understood that the above prizes are offered, not for the fastest riding, but rather for superiority of ease and grace in the saddle, and for skill in horsemanship.]

Special Premiums.

EXHIBITION BY COUNTIES.

For the largest and most creditable contribution made by the citizens of any one county, exclusive of Dane,.....A PRIZE BANNER WORTH $100

[The Banner offered by the Society will be the voluntary gift of some twenty of the citizens of Madison for that purpose, and a prize worthy the competition of the best counties in the State. The Judges are to be selected by the Executive Committee at the time of the Fair, and will be required to base their decision upon such circumstances of population, remoteness from the locality of the Fair, &c., &c., as will ensure equal advantage to all the counties in competition. The award will be made to the Agricultural Society of the successful county, and notice of an intent to compete must be filed by the competing societies with the Secretary as early as the first day of August. The articles and animals exhibited will not be classified by counties, but each exhibitor from counties competing, will be furnished with a card bearing the name of the county to which he belongs, so that the Judges appointed will be enabled to decide after an examination of all the articles thus labelled in the several classes.]

FARMS.

JUDGES.—Hon. B. Ferguson, Fox Lake; Col. H. M. Billings, Highland; I. A. Lapham, Milwaukee; B. R. Hinkley, Summit; Gen. David Atwood, Madison.

Best Cultivated Farm of not less than 40 acres, a Silver Pitcher worth..... $50
2d do a Silver Goblet worth $30
Entries for competition must be made by the 15th of June. Entree fee $5.

[The Judges will visit farms between the 15th of June and the 15th of July, and in awarding their premiums will have more regard for judicious and superior tillage, proper rotation of crops, and general good management, calculated to be economical and profitable, than, to costly building or large outlays of an amateur or fancy nature.]

SWEET POTATOES.

Mr. J. W. Tenbrook, of Rockville, Ind., who, for two successive years, has presented the Society with two barres of Sweet Potatoes, to be used as premiums, generously renews his offer:

Best sample Sweet Potatoes, not less than one bushel, grown in the State, from Mr. Ten Brook's seed, one of the barrels of Potatoes offered by him, valued at $10
2d do ¾ of a barrel, valued at..... 7
3d do ½ do do 4
JUDGES.—Same as for Class 28.

[Competitors to take the risk of delivery and pay their respective proportions of freight.]

THE PREMIUM LIST FOR THE FAIR OF 1860.

It is sincerely hoped that the Premium List published in this number of the *Farmer* will meet with the approbation of the friends of the Society, and especially that portion who are more directly and practically interested in its Annual Industrial Exhibitions. It has been the effort of the Secretary to so far systemize the whole as that the natural and logical order of subjects will facilitate the frequent reference which must necessarily be made to it; and the modifications observable in the List of Premiums and in the General Arrangements are such as have been approved by a large number of the prominent farmers and mechanics of the State.

The premiums on Field Crops and on Farms will require the immediate attention of those who may wish to compete—of whom we hope there will be a larger number than ever before.

There are some as successful growers of grain and root crops in Wisconsin as can be found in the country anywhere, and we find it difficult to understand why they are not willing to give the Annual Report of the Agriculture of the State the benefit of the creditable results of their labor. State pride, if not personal ambition, should prompt them to do so. Nor is Wisconsin without some beautifully located and well cultivated farms; and yet, so far as the Society has knowledge there is but *one* farmer in the State who has the courage to enter for competition. Is it because State pride is so rare an article, or that the credit of having the best farm in the State is considered a thing of little moment? or are elegant *silver pitchers and silver goblets* so aristocratic in their character, that the modest, democratic and republican farmers of Wisconsin would be ashamed to have them in their houses!—Who will answer?

The Committee will probably not commence their inspection until about the first of July, but the entries should be made *immediately*. Come, farmers, if you have any pluck, or spirit of enterprise, now is a good time to show it.

Award of the Manny Reaper.

After due consideration, the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society have awarded the Reaper offered in 1859, by Manny, Blinn & Co., of Rockford, Ill., "for the best crop of Spring Wheat, of twenty acres or more, grown within the State in the year 1859," to Jas. P. Carr, of Medina, Dane Co.; the said Carr having grown 654½ bushels on 22 acres and 136 square rods of land.

It may be proper to add, that the Committee were aware of considerably larger crops having been grown by other parties, but unfortunately the successful cultivators had not properly entered them, and were not, therefore, entitled to compete for the prize.

J. W. HOYT, *Secretary.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Long Orange Carrot,

ACKNOWLEDGED BY ALL CULTIVATORS TO BE the most valuable root crop now in cultivation. We have a limited supply of seed raised from the finest stock in the world. PRICE PER POUND, $1.00, or at reduce rates in large quantities.

—ALSO—

Large White Sugar Beet,	℔	50c
Yellow Globe Mangel Wurtzel,	do	50c
Long Blood Beet,	do	75c
Long Smooth Blood Beet,	do	75c
Premium Flat Dutch Cabbage,	do	2 50c
Extra Fine Large Drumhead Cabbage,	do	2 50c
True White Spined Cucumber,	do	75c
Improved Dwarf Okra,	do	75c
Large Red and Yellow Onion, each	do	1 00
Large White Onion,	do	1 50

Turnips, Long White French, and 20 other sorts, each 75c
Dioscorea Batatas (Tubers) or Chinese Potatoes, 25c ℔ doz.; $1 50 ℔ 100; $10 ℔ 1000.

☞ Send for our Catalogues.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
15 John Street, New York.

New Watermelon Seeds.

WE HAVE GREAT PLEASURE IN OFfering to the public a limited quantity of the

Strawberry and Honeydew Watermelon Seeds.

D. L. Adair, Esq., of Kentucky, speaks of them in the following terms:

"During the last seven years I have experimented with over forty varieties of the Watermelon. Out of that great number I have selected only three varieties that I now cultivate, two of which are the Strawberry and Honey-Dew. The Strawberry I consider the sweetest of all the melons, but with its sweetness has no mawkishness, but is rich and racy, and being almost devoid of pulp, melts in the mouth like a ripe strawberry. It is a long narrow melon, generally about two feet long and from four to six inches in diameter; the rind is of a light green color, marbled and veined with a daker tinge; it is also very thin and brittle. The flesh is of a lively pinkish red color, almost scarlet at maturity, and received its name from a perceptible resemblance in flavor to a good strawberry.

"The Honey-dew is of about the same shape and size of the Strawberry melon, and is equal to it in flavor, but is a little more pulpy—very valuable for long keeping without decay. The skin is of a very dark green color, with faint irregular stripes of a lighter shade running lengthwise of the melon. The rind is thin, but very hard and tough; this peculiarity is the cause of its long keeping qualities. I have kept them in an open room three weeks in the heat of summer without any perceptible injury to their flavor."

Each of the above 25 cents per packet; by mail, postpaid, on receipt of the amount.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Seed Warehouse, 15 John-st., New York.

JOHN NAZRO & CO.,

121, 123, 125,

East Water-St., Milwaukee.

—:o:—

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

HARDWARE!

And House Trimmings.

—:o:—

Cultivator Teeth, Staw Cutters, and all kinds of

Farming Tools.

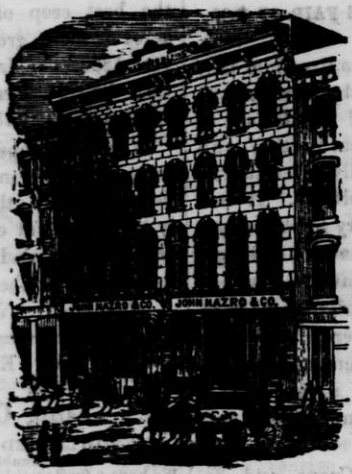
—:o:—

ALL KINDS OF

TIN PLATE

SHEET IRON,

COPPER, &c., &c.



R. HOE & CO'S

SAWS,

WIRE & ROPE,

AXES

SHOVELS AND SPADES,

IRON & STEEL

Blacksmith', Cooper's, Carpenters' and Cabinet Maker's

TOOLS,

OF ALL KINDS.

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS,

GUNS & PISTOLS,

PLATED FORKS,

CUTLERY AND SPOONS,

Belting and Bells.

THE SPRING TERM OF THE EVANSVILLE ACADEMY,

Will commence on **Wednesday, March 21st, 1860,** at 9 O'clock A. M.

In addition to what is required to prepare young men for College, provision has been made to furnish instruction in the FRENCH AND GERMAN LANGUAGES, PRACTICAL SURVEYING and CIVIL ENGINEERING.

☞ Special attention will be given to Students in the NORMAL DEPARTMENT.

BOARD, including rooms, fuel and lights, can be procured in good families at $1.75 per week. A large number of Students boarded in clubs during the last term, at an average expense of less than $1.00 per week.

TUITION ranges from $4.00 to $7.00 per term of eleven weeks.

For further information inquire of

D. Y. KILGORE, Principal.

Evansville, Rock Co., Wis., February 28, 1860.

☞ N. B.—School District officers are informed that a few of the members of our Normal Class, who design to teach the coming summer, have not yet engaged schools, and any communication, giving full particulars of wants, compensation, etc., directed to the Principal, will receive prompt attention. [XII VI VI] D. Y. K.

1,000 Tons Land Plaster.

WE are prepared to fill all orders for HOVEY & CO.'S

SUPERIOR LAND PLASTER & STUCCO.

This PLASTER is now being ground daily; is put up in strong, new casks of about 250 lbs. each, and will be delivered on board of cars at $1.25 per cask.

A fair discount made on large quantities.

TERMS CASH.

Freights by railroad to all stations on the Milwaukee & Mississippi, Milwaukee and La Crosse, and Milwaukee & Horicon roads, one and a half cents per ton of six casks per mile, and by the Watertown railroad, two cents per ton per mile.

Also on hand

New York Plaster, Water Lime, Salt, Stucco, and Rosendale Cement.

H. & J. F. HILL.

Milwaukee, March 20, 1860. [xii vi iv]

WALDO J. ELMORE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

China, Glass and Earthen Ware,

House Furnishing Wares,

LAMPS, AND CORNELIUS' GAS FIXTURES,

And Manufacturer of Looking Glasses.

No. 163 East Water-St., Milwaukee

XII VI tf

Sheep Wanted,

In exchange for an Improved or Unimproved Farm.

The Undersigned offers the choice of five farms,—two of which are improved—four in Butler county, in good settlements, near schools, post offices, and railroad route, 160 to 320 acres. One in Alamakee county, 12 miles from Lansing, on the Mississippi River, 240 acres. One of 420 acres, in Crawford county, Missouri, on the route of the L. W. Pacific Railroad, five miles from depot, one mile from court house and seminary, 20 acres improved, two log houses and spring.

Address the undersigned, giving description of flock, as to quality, &c.

G. SPRAGUE,

Island Grove P. O., Butler Co., Iowa.

February 28th, 1860. [xii vi iii

LEWIS BLAKE,

JOBBER AND RETAILER OF

MILLINERY & FANCY GOODS,

EMBROIDERIES, LACES,

ALEXANDERS' KID GLOVES,

Dress Trimmings, Straw & Silk Hats,

&c., &c., &c.

NO. 23, WISCONSIN STREET,

MILWAUKEE, - - - - - WISCONSIN.

Cahoon's Patent Broadcast Sower,

THE CHEAPEST AGRICULTURAL MACHINE IN THE WORLD for the work it does, and the labor it saves. Sows all kinds of Grain, Grass Seed, Plaster, Lime, Guano, &c. *Hand Machine* sows from four to six acres per hour; *Horse Power Machine* from ten to fifteen—doing the work in the most perfect manner.

For sale by GEORGE CAPRON,

Madison, Wis.

CAUTION!

Office of Cahoon's Patent Broadcast Sower,
Portland, Maine,

In a suit at law and equity, in the United States Court, against A. Ring, for infringement of the Cahoon Patent, the jury having given a verdict against the said Ring, all persons are hereby cautioned against making, selling or using the Ring machine, or Roots improvement on the Ring machine, (sometimes called Rickey's machine, or Young America,) as the subscriber will hold all such infringers accountable. [xii vi 3] D. H. FARBISH, Proprietor.

KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER!

Best Combined Mower & Reaper in the World.

Independent Action Machine.—A Perfect Combined Machine.

Patented 1856, with all the Improvements for 1860.

LIGHT DRAFT—NO SIDE DRAFT.

Requiring one-third less draft than any other machine, as numerous tests at trials, with the Dynamometer, and the testimonials of farmers abundantly show.

STRONGEST AND MOST DURABLE MACHINE.

Being all Iron, except seat, pole and platform, and the weight so distributed as to give the greatest amount of strength with the least weight of Iron. The Castings are made of Salisbury iron, and the finger-bar is of Wrought Iron, with a flange on the front edge, giving it great strength with light weight.

NO PRESSURE UPON THE HORSE'S NECK.

The weight of the driver counterbalancing the weight of the front of the frame, throwing the whole upon the driving wheel.

INDEPENDENT ACTION.

In this respect it is entirely unequalled by any machine yet produced. The finger-bar works up and down independently of the driving-wheel, enabling it to go through dead furrows and ditches, among stones and bogs, over knolls and hills, where no other machine can follow it. It can also be set to work at any height from two to eighteen inches, and the change can be made in an instant, thus adapting it to all kinds of work, whether mowing or reaping, or gathering grass or clover seed.

REVOLVING TRACK CLEARER.

This is a new patent track clearer, and the only one that will thoroughly separate the cut from the uncut grass, without leaving the cut grass in bunches.

A PERFECT COMBINED MACHINE.

Working equally well whether mowing or reaping, and surpassing the best single mower as a mower, and the best single reaper as a reaper. As a Clover Gatherer no machine has ever come in competition with it.

RAKER'S POSITION EASIEST POSSIBLE.

In this point it surpasses all reapers; the raker's position enabling him to deliver the gavels at the side with but one movement of his arms, which is as natural and easy as if he were standing on the ground and raking.

EASILY MANAGED AND OPERATED.

By means of a lever the driver can at pleasure throw the cutters out and in gear; by another lever he can raise either or both ends of the finger bar to pass over obstructions, or move from field to field; the change from mower to reaper is easily and quickly made; the oil-boxes, bolts, screws and nuts, are easily accessible.

PERFECT IN ALL MINOR POINTS.

It cannot be clogged; has no side draft; is marvellously simple in construction, and not liable to get out of repair; is made of the best materials, and the workmanship and finish superior to any other machine in the country.

THE PREMIUM HARVESTER.

The Kirby is the favorite machine at all important Trials and Fairs, and has probably taken more first premiums during the last two years than any other machine in the country.

☞ The Harvesters are sold by the following Agents in Wisconsin:—

H. O. GREEN,.....Milwaukee.	ELIAB PERKINS,.....Fond du Lac.
JOHN GRAHAM,.....Delafield.	S. BARTLETT,.....Oshkosh.
JESSE MILLS,.....Janesville.	W. S. NEWTON,.....SPARTA.
CONRICK & TOPPING,.....Delavan.	N. F. CONE,.....La Crosse.
F. E. SHANDREW,.....Watertown.	FRENCH & CO.,.....Eau Claire.
JAMES ACKERMAN,.....Ripon.	D. C. GASKILL,.....Kenosha.
TAGGART & BROS.,.....Beaver Dam.	MOORE SPEARS,.....Black Earth.

The factory price of the Improved Harvester, for 1860, is $140; for Mower $120.
For the Little Buffalo Harvester, $100; for Mower, $90.

MANUFACTURED BY THE

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

N. J. BUSH, *General Agent*,
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

$25,000 WORTH OF

SPRING AND SUMMER

DRY GOODS:

AT THE NEW FIRM OF

MENGES & BARTELS,

No. 2, United States Block,

MADISON, WISCONSIN.

Our MR BARTELS has just returned from NEW YORK and BOSTON, where he has purchased the best assorted Stock of

STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS!

EVER SEEN IN THIS CITY.

As their DOMESTIC GOODS have been bought for CASH exclusively, they are able to compete in prices with MILWAUKEE and CHICAGO, and they invite

COUNTRY MERCHANTS & FARMERS

To call on them, before purchasing elsewhere.

We also keep on hand a Good Assortment of

Yankee Notions!

A. MENGES,
Formerly Deputy Bank Comptroller.

JOHN L. BARTELS,
Formerly with S. Klauber & Co.

FARMERS! ARE YOU INSURED?

E. G. RIPLEY, President.
T. A. ALEXANDER, Vice Pres't.
THO'S K. BRACE, Jr. Secretary.
J. B. BENNETT,
General Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

INCORPORATED
1819.
Charter Perpetual.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - - - - $1,500,000!
Capital and Surplus, - - - - - - - - $2,194,100.02.

THIS old established Company gives especial attention to the insurance of

Farm Buildings, Barns and Out Buildings, Furniture, Grain, Stock, &c.,

for terms of 1 to 5 years. For this class of property, a scale of rates has been fixed low enough to enable every farmer to insure his property. Dwellings, stores, warehouses, taverns, manufactories, &c., insured as low as is consistent with solvency and fair profits.

LOSSES EQUITABLY ADJUSTED AND PROMPTLY PAID.

UPWARDS OF $12,000,000 of Losses have been paid by the Ætna Insurance Co., in the past forty years.

Agencies in all the principal cities and towns throughout the State Policies issued without delay, by any of the following duly authorized Agents of the Company. Apply to the nearest local agent.

W. H. WYMAN, State Agent, Madison.

Appleton, ...JOHN ELLIOTT.	Hudson.....S. CURTIS SIMONDS.	Platteville .. ...J. H. ROUNTREE.
Baraboo,... ....H. H. POTTER.	Janesville.....H. W. COLLINS.	Portage... ..... D. VANDERCOOK.
Brodhead.....E. A. McNAIR.	Jefferson..... ...D. OSTRANDER.	Prescott .....P. V. WISE.
Beloit .....T. L. WRIGHT.	Kilbourn,.....G. J. HANSEN	Potosi.....J. W. SEATON.
Berlin.....J. H. TURNER.	Kenosha.....L. G. MERRILL.	Prairie du Chien.IRA B. BRUNSON.
Beaver Dam.....G. E. REDFIELD.	Lancaster,.....H. H HYDE.	Racine .....DURAND & SEYMOUR
Cassville,.....W. P. DEWEY.	La Crosse.....THEO. RODOLF.	Ripon... .....H. L. EGGLESTON.
Chippewa Falls..JAMES A. TAYLOR.	Manston... .....JOHN TURNER.	Richland Centre.PRIEST & MINER.
Columbus.....R. W. CHADBOURN	Menasha..... F. W. PERRY.	Reedsburg.....WM. HASKELL.
Delavan.....N. M. HARRINGTON.	Madison.....W. H WYMAN.	Sheboygan.....EUGENE CARY.
Darlington.....W. H. ALLYN.	Milwaukee .... W. H. HOLLAND.	Shullsburg.....M. HOLLISTER.
East Troy,.....J R STONE.	Mineral Point....R. L. READ.	Stevens Point....WILLIAM McNAIR.
Edgerton .....R. S. FASSETT.	Manitowoc... ..S. A. WOOD.	Stoughton.....S. T. BUCKMAN.
Elkhorn .....J. A. PERRY.	Monroe..... .....E. A. WEST.	Sparta.....E. S. WHITAKER.
Eau Claire..... H. C. PUTNAM.	Mazomanie. ...S. E. WATERHOUSE.	Superior.....WM. R. PERRY.
Fox Lake.....G. W. BURCHARD.	Kilbourn .....G. VANSTEENWYCK	Sauk City,.....G. B. BURROWS.
Fond du Lac ....W. T. GIBSON.	Neenah .....C. C. TOWNSEND.	Viroqua, ... A. F. TERHUNE.
Fort Atkinson...N. F. HOPKINS.	New Lisbon. ....M. McQUIEN.	Watertown.....J. A. HALL.
Geneva.....E. D. RICHARDSON.	Oconto.....J. P. WOODRUFF.	Waukesha.....W. SOPER.
Grand Rapids...POWERS & LANG.	Oshkosh.....C. H. BRUSH.	Waupaca .....WINFIELD SCOTT.
Green Bay.....H. S. BAIRD.	Ozaukee .....S. A. WHITE.	Weyauwega.....JNO. FORDYCE.
Horicon.....W H BUTTERFIELD	Pepin.....HENRY D. BARRON.	Waupun.....W H. TAYLOR.
Hazle Green,....CHANDLER & YORK.		Whitewater.....O. MONTAGUE.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE Directors of the DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmers') INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *Large, Prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra-hazardous risks. Its character as a well conducted, reliable, and prompt-paying institution has become well established, *and shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmers'* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings, and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY, Director. GEO. B. BLY, President.
LOGAN GRAVES, do E. BARKER, Vice Prest.
MATTHEW L. COE, do EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER, do JHON WARE, Treasurer.
L. B. HILLS, Act'ng Director. E. BARKER, Gen'l Agent.

XII 8 1y*

HERRING'S PATENT
FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,

WITH HALL'S PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS, HAVE NEVER FAILED in more than three hundred disastrous Fires.

THE SAFEST AND BEST SAFE IN USE.

Delivered to any Railroad Station in the United States or Canada, at the very lowest rates, by

JAMES G. DUDLEY, Sole Agent,
128 at 98 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Albany Tile Works.

Cor. Clinton Av. and Knox-st., Albany, N. Y.

THE Subscribers being the most extensive manufacturers of DRAINING TILE in the United States, have on hand, in large or small quantities, for Land Draining, ROUND, SOLE and HORSE-SHOE TILE, warranted superior to any made in this country, hard burned, and over one foot in length. Orders solicited. Price List sent on application.

XI VII 12 C. & W. McCAMMON, Albany, N. Y.

CAST STEEL BELLS,
For Churches, Academies, Fire Alarms, Factories, &c.
FROM SHEFFIELD, ENG.,

HAVE been tested in all climates, Europe and America. Weigh less; cost less per pound; have better tones; can be heard farther than any other bells. They cost 50 per cent. less than

THE BEST COMPOSITION BELLS,

Which are also sold by me at maker's prices.

BROKEN BELLS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE,

Or re-cast on short notice. Such bells will nearly pay for Steel Bells of same size.

Send for Circular. Bells delivered in all parts of the United States or Canada, by

JAMES G. DUDLEY,
128 98 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapte 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations		$39,080 95
ASSETS.		
Premium Notes of policy holders,	$35,462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,	2,956 02	
Amount due secured by mortgage and in judgment,	332 47	
Office furniture and fixures,	300 00	
		$39,080 95

Whole number of Policies issued		4807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,		$20,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,		None.
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,		None.

Number of Policies issued in 1859,	1187
Amount of outstanding risk thereon,	$1,140,076 00
Amount of Premium Notes rec'd thereon	17,109 82
Amount of cash premium rec'd thereon,	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid (12 in number,)	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents	3,817 70
Amount of expenses paid including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,	3,817 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madison Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President.
D. J. POWERS, Vice Prest.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do.
WM. DUDLEY, do.
JAMES MORRISON, do.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860.

T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

Feb. 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge Co,	$10 00
do do J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland Co	10 00
April 23—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau Co	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane Co	50 15 00
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson Co	69 0 38
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co	65 0 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge Co.	6 8 00
do do Jas. K. Main, do do	40 8 57
do do Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha Co	21 60
Dec. 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison, Dane Co	20 00
Dec. 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth Co	400 00
Dec, 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha Co	100 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $3,966 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business, without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance on a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in the above Report.

The officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS.

N. W. Dean,	D. J. Powers,
B. F. Hopkins,	Geo. F. Hastings,
James Morrison,	William Dudley,
C. C. Washburne,	G. F. Taylor,
J. W. Boyd,	H. H. Giles,
S. H. Vandercook,	David Atwood,

L. W. Hoyt,

OFFICERS.

N. W. DEAN,.....President.
D. J. POWERS,.....Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD,.....Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS,.....General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expenses; while Stock Companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refuse to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1.50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged, not exceeding the amount insured.

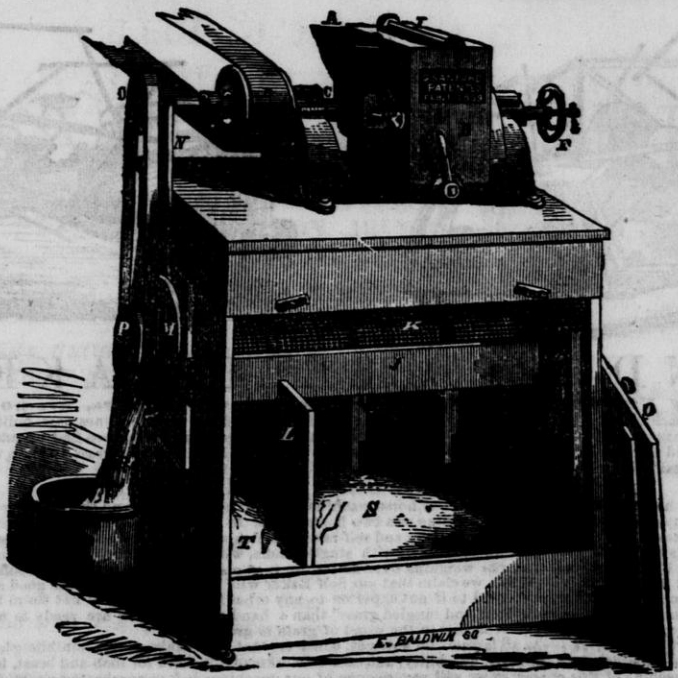
10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

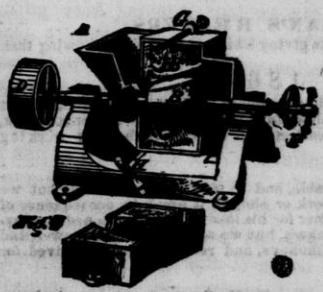
Madison, January 7, 1860. XII II

OFFICE IN BRUEN'S BLOCK, MADISON, WIS.

EXCELSIOR MILL,
FOR FARMERS AND MILLERS.



P. L. CARMAN & Co., Madison, Sole Agents for Wisconsin.



THIS MILL, invented by Mr. G. Sanford, is now on exhibition, and for sale at the Agency above; and though it has been patented but a few months, has gained a wide and enviable reputation as a Flouring, Corn and Feed Mill. It is also adapted to grind dried fruit, spices, coffee, plaster of paris, whiting, soap stone, white lead, salaratus, cream of tartar, etc., etc.

Persons wishing Mills for any of the above purposes, will do well to examine this before purchasing, as it has many advantages over those now in use.

The quality of the work performed by this Mill, and its great durability, (lasting a life-time,) ought to commend it to those who have been so often deceived in purchasing *Iron Mills*.

Middlings.—No mill can be compared to the "Excelsior" for grinding middlings, and owners of mills would save the price of it in a few months by purchasing one for this kind of work; by many experienced men it is pronounced superior to the ordinary flat stone mill, for general milling purposes, as it will do an equal amount of work, equally well, with one-third less power; and is much more easily handled and kept in good working order.

Meal, for ordinary domestic purposes, can be ground with this mill, in great perfection, and very rapidly, as also the coarser grades for feed.

Feed.—As a feed mill we challenge comparison with any in use, both as to quality and quantity of the work.

The advantages of the construction of the conical grinder and divided shell herein described, are that the mill grinds the best flour or the coarsest feed by a *turn* of the adjusting screw; that it heats the meal *less* than the flat stone mill; that it can be taken apart and dressed by any person of ordinary intelligence; that it can be operated with less power than any other mill of equal capacity; that it is more compact, simple, and less liable to get out of order than any other mill now before the public—advantages that will be appreciated by all who have used mills that are complicated in construction, and that require the attendance of a practical and experienced miller or mill-wright to put them in order.

From actual experiment, we are prepared to say, that with *one horse* three bushels of fine Indian meal per hour can be ground from the hardest corn, which is equal to the work of a four and a half feet flat-stone mill, under an eight feet head of water, on a horizontal wheel. Two horses, with Sanford's new patented "Anti-friction Horse Power," will grind with this mill five bushels meal the hour.

The mill can be run up to *one thousand revolutions per minute*, which is the most economical rate of speed for our mill, grinding from five to seven bushels fine meal the hour, and of feed eight to fourteen bushels, according to fineness. Four to five horse steam power will drive the small mill to its utmost capacity, and six to seven is sufficient to run our large flouring mill to the greatest speed required.

From fifteen hundred to three thousand bushels of corn can be ground with the mills, as we deliver them, without dressing them, after which any intelligent man can put in the same dressing, in a few hours, by using a sharp stick.

The farm mill is 36 inches long, 18 wide and 18 high, and weighs 300 pounds. The box containing the bolt is three feet square.

☞ Persons ordering mills should state the kind of work they wish them to perform, and if more than one kind, which will be *the principal grain ground*. It is also very important that we should know the kind of power to be employed in driving them, that we may send a mill perfectly adapted to the power and work.

The Prices are as follows:—Corn Meal and Feed Mill, $105; Flouring Mill, same size, without Bolt, $105; Flouring Mill with our improved Bolt, $140; Flouring Mill with Millers Bolt, $150; Large Size Flouring Mill, without Bolt, $170.

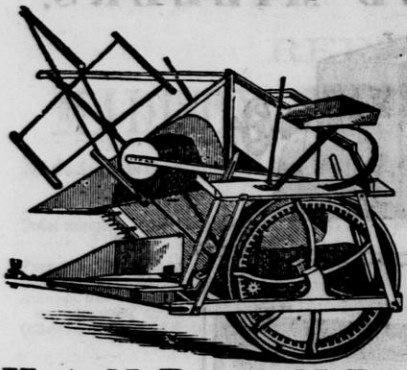
Our terms are CASH on delivery in this city. Letters requiring urther information addressed to the undersigned will meet prompt attention.

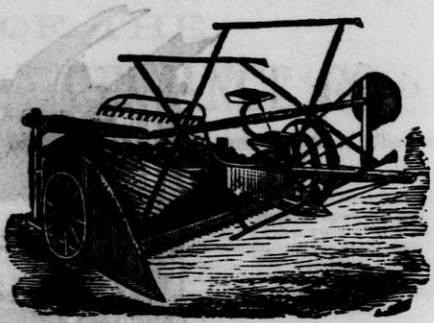
P. L. CARMAN & Co., Madison, Wis.,
Near the Milwaukee & Mississippi R. R. Depot.

[xii 5]

SEYMOUR & MORGAN'S IMPROVED NEW YORK

REAPERS AND MOWERS.





HAND AND SELF-RAKERS.

THE NEW YORK REAPERS, both Hand and Self-Rakers, are now built as combined machines, and for both mowing and reaping are not excelled by any machines now built. At the great State trial of Kentucky, held at Louisville last harvest, these machines were awarded the two first premiums, as a reaper and as a combined machine, over some of the best harvesters now in use. In all kinds of grass or grain they qui e equal in good workmanship the best single reapers or single mowers.

TWO HORSE REAPERS.

Farmers, take notice, we do not offer you a four horse machine as a two horse reaper, and then take your order in such a way that if you are dissatisfied with the machine as a two horse reaper to compel you to keep it at all events. We offer two horse machines of about five feet cut, both hand and self-rakers, which *we guarantee one team to manage with ease*, and although many of our six feet machines are used with single teams, we would not insult the common sense of any farmer by telling him that a six foot reaper weighing over half a ton is of easy draft for two horses on soft prairie.

SELF-RAKERS.—While we claim that our Self Raker will leave the bundles in as good shape as the best of hands can do on a hand-raker, and equal to if not superior to any other Self-Raker, we do not claim that it will necessarily "work any better in heavy, lodged, and tangled grass" than a hand-raker, but we are ready to warrant either of our machines as capable of satisfying the farmer in the worst of grain or grass.

HAND-RAKERS.—As all farmers do not yet consider that hand-rakers are annihilated, to such we offer a combined machine, which for simplicity, durability, and ease of workmanship, both for man and beast, is unequalled, to all who want a machine of this character we will say, see one of our machines before purchasing elsewhere, and buy the best.

COMBINED MACHINES.—As all our Reapers are combined machines, they are more readily changed from reapers to mowers than those having mowing attachments.

TWO MOTIONS TO SEYMOUR & MORGAN'S REAPERS.

Seymour & Morgan have a patent for using two pinions of different sizes thus giving a higher motion for mowing than is necessary for reaping, thereby preventing clogging in heavy grass.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR 1860.

While our reapers for 1859 worked admirably and gave good satisfaction, the improvement for 1860 is greater than that made in any previous year. The machine is perfected in all its details, and without impairing its durability or strength, the weight has been diminished some two hundred pounds, making it now the easiest draft as well as the best working reaper in use.

WARRANTY.

We not only warrant our machine to be well made, of good materials, and durable, and to work as represented, but we guarantee the principle of its construction to be perfect, and should it fail to work or should it break in consequence of such imperfection, we will make the machine good free, and remunerate the farmer for his loss of time occasioned thereby. We also not only warrant every part of our reaper, including the rake in self-rakers, but we also warrant the mower, and should the machine fail either as reaper or mower, we are willing to refund all moneys, and return all notes received for such machine.

AGENTS.

HALVER HALVERSON, Leeds, Columbia Co.
H. C. SNOW, Avoca Depot.
JOHN MCKENZIE, West Blue Mounds.
WM. P. STRONG, Lowville,
ANDREW HANSEN, Burke.
JACOB JACKSON, Cambria.
CLARENDON ROYES, Hampden.
A. G. DARWIN, Delivering Agent, at M. & M. R. R. depot, Madison.
DONALD MCDONALD, Verona.
DICKINSON & WILLARD, Bridgeport Depot.
J. B. STICKNEY, Masomanie Depot.
S. P. ELWELL, Salem, La Crosse Co.
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TERMS.

Four Horse combined Self Raking Reaper and Mowers, in Milwaukee,			$175
Two Horse	"	"	170
Four Horse	" *Hand-Raking*	"	155
Two Horse	" "	"	145
Sngle Reaper,			120

TEN DOLLARS DEDUCTION FOR CASH.

N. B.—The above prices include more extras than go with any other Reaper, besides a complete set of whiffletrees, adapted expressly for use on the Reapers.

The subscriber can also supply those desiring the new PALMER & SEYMOUR CRANK REAPER.

Those wishing testimonials or any information respecting Seymour & Morgan's Reapers will please address

XII VII. S. L. SHELDON, Madison, General Agent for Wisconsin.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, JULY 1, 1860. NO. 9.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

A TRIP TO THE NATIONAL CAPITOL—WHAT WE SAW THERE AND ON THE ROAD.

In conformity with a hint in the June No., we contrived to hurry off some things a little out of season, and to leave others to take care of themselves as best they could, for two or three weeks, while we availed ourselves of the courtesies of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, and its Western connections from Chicago, in the way of a complimentary, or free ticket, for a thousand-mile ride and back, through the heart of our great country.

We enjoyed so many pleasant *sites* and scenes during said journey, that we are inclined to make a brief reference to some of them for the perusal of such of our untravelled readers as find in them a novelty.

THE JOURNEY,

In and of itself, was merely a railroad ride of a thousand miles, *via* Chicago, (three days delayed by the great Republican Convention,) down through the heart of Indiana and Ohio to Wheeling, on the North-Western extreme of Virginia. Here commences the great road that had originated the Editorial Excursion—the Baltimore and Ohio—it is claimed to have been the first railroad commenced in the United States. It is 379 miles long, exclusive of branches, extending from Baltimore to Wheeling; over and through the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountains. It was, in its conception and prosecution entirely the project and enterprise of the City of Baltimore for the purpose of opening a great commercial communication directly between their city and the great new States West of it; and gigantic and almost heaven-daring as was the undertaking, especially in that early period in our railroad history, no similar project has been more successfully carried through, nor more fully accomplished the object in view, to wit: the building up of Baltimore. From a city of a few thousand inhabitants at the commencement of this road, it has now grown to 250,000, and increased in still greater proportion in its commercial importance and wealth. The Baltimore of to-day is one of the most inviting and beautiful cities, either for residence or business in the United States. We know that it has at the present, and probably justly, a rather hard name for rowdyism and disorder, but with the rapid changes of population and views that are taking place among its citizens, despite the old fogy character of the hide-bound rural population of Maryland, it must and will soon rise to be a first class Atlantic City, and one desirable to dwell in; it has one of the finest medium climates in the Atlantic States, as well as one of the finest bays and harbors, for an unlimited commerce, both ocean-ward and interior. Its surrounding soil, once apparently good, now looks pale and exhausted—poorly cultivated, and overgrown with brush and weeds. It is evidently in a transition state, having been exhausted by negro cultivation, and extensively abandoned—fenceless, houseless, orchardless. Much of it, even between Baltimore and Washington, presenting as wild an appearance as the newer portions of Wisconsin. Here it will rest until the Yankee takes hold of it, and by modern appliances, restores the soil to fruitfulness, and the whole aspect of the country to that thrift and beauty of which it is eminently capable.

The recent Editorial Excursion, gotten up by the far-seeing enterprise of Baltimore, will, in its ultimate results, largely pay them beyond a doubt, in advertising them and their resources throughout the great West, that can so easily and speedily reach them; that it may so be, we especially hope. We always rejoice to see liberal, trusting enterprise rewarded,

and, *a priori*, old fogyism that will venture nothing, allowed to sleep.

THE COUNTRY TRAVERSED,

Between Chicago and Wheeling, is too familiar to most of our readers to call for even a passing remark; suffice it to say that, in the main it is rich and beautiful, unequaled except by the States West of it. But as you approach the Ohio river, and cross over on to the *pan handle* of Virginia, the scene suddenly changes, and instead of the fine plains of the West, you find yourself among the hills and hollows, yea! the mountains and rocks of the East.—The first 100 miles, to Grafton, is merely a rough Vermont or New England country, with just about a similar soil and aspect, with this difference, however, that the homes and improvements are all different in their appearance. New England has its old fashioned peculiar style of rural architecture; so has Virginia, but as different as is the Southern from the Northern man. The old style New England house is a square, two-story, semi-church like institution, usually unpainted, and unfinished upper story—no verandahs nor porches. On the other hand the Virginia domicil is apt to be a thin, shaddy-looking side-hill affair, with coarse, wide verandahs, both above and below, and not unfrequently used as stowage rooms for farm and household implements.

As has already been said about the country between Baltimore and Washington, we may repeat that most of the distance traversed by the B. and O. road looks prematurely old and rusty; even the best portions of it are hardly worth inhabiting; not a school house; hardly a first class, pleasant, rural homestead, or an orchard to be seen in the whole distance. We were told by those who ought to know that the fault is with the people, and that is just our opinion. About the same number of idle, sleepy-looking loungers stand around upon the platforms of the depots as with us in the West—usually a sorry commentary on humanity, and poor advertisement for the country in both cases. Less colored people are seen on the line of this railroad, especially the Western end of it, than in Ohio; it is not probably considered a safe region for them; the constantly passing trains must be too suggestive to their uneasy spirits; besides the soil is not usually worth working with such expensive help.—Western Virginia is not one half so well adapted to profitable slave labor as Southern Wisconsin, and we are quite sure it would, under its most favorable aspects, be a mighty poor paying institution here, unless the sale of the young stock was counted in, and then it would be very doubtful.

THE MOUNTAIN REGION

Commences soon after leaving Grafton, going East, and a mountain region it is indeed.—From Grafton to the summit, at Altamont, a distance of 44 miles, you ascend some thousands of feet amid more rugged scenery than the dweller in a level country can well imagine. Now you are passing under a mountain, through a damp dark tunnel, perhaps a mile in length; where the condensed rattle of the mighty train hushes you to hold your very breath; next you emerge upon a giddy mountain side, where the train threads its way, like a mighty serpent, upon the very ridges of the steep declivities; often having a table only wide enough for the mere passage of the train, and where the least mishap would hurl the whole vast enginery and its giddy human freight five hundred feet down the almost perpendicular precipice into the angry, tumbling stream below. Thus the train moves on, swift and fearless, (not always so with the passengers,) to the top of the mountain, making a daily and hourly pathway for man, where, until recently, only the wild deer and eagle found a safe retreat. On the very top of the mountain, in the beneficence of things, is to be found considerable quite arable land, with its springs and running streams; and, as nothing was made in vain, so these lands are being cleared and settled, and thriving railroad villages are springing up, inhabited by a tidy and intelligent looking people. In fact, one lady, evidently a resident, rode from one station to the next on the cars, who was as bright, and even handsome, and as neatly dressed to the fullest expansion, as any we saw, even at the Capitol. Thus it will be seen that even the Alleghany summits are not devoid of female charms, or cultivated people. The white oaks here were only just leaving out, to about half size, (May 29,) owing of course to the mountain elevation.

Down the mountain, upon the other side, perhaps the scenery is a little less bold, but not less grand and beautiful. But we need not dwell longer, except to say that to be appreciated in full it must be seen. All in all it is one of the boldest works of engineering extant, and seems almost a reversing of the intentions of Providence, but probably not quite.

HARPER'S FERRY

Is the next naturally and historically interesting point upon the road; but it has been so fully and often described of late that we shall not enlarge upon it. It is evidently a point that is less important, comparatively, than in early times. Railroads undoubtedly scatter and divide the business that used to center here, at the junction of the two important rivers, the Potomac and Shenandoah. Railroads make and unmake, and more frequently the latter. But for JOHN BROWN'S folly, and the following of it up by GOV. WISE, upon the Sancho Panza plan, Harper's Ferry would have rapidly dwindled in its claims upon public attention. We saw the veritable bullet holes, yea! the port holes made in the famous engine house, on that memorable occasion; it presented an appearance fully equal to what we have seen upon the scarred boards of some Yankee barn after a shooting match; and, in our unwarlike opinion, called for about as much of a demonstration on the part of the Virginian authorities to restore order and keep the peace. It has become a quandary in our mind whether JOHN BROWN or Governor WISE showed themselves the greatest fool on that occasion; and we are inclined to believe that when its absurdity comes to be fully appreciated and *paid for*, that it will as effectually kill the latter politically, as it did the former physically.

WASHINGTON,

As a city, we shall say little about, it being too trite a subject; but we would like to devote more space to its institutions than we shall have to spare, and what we do not complete now we may recur to again hereafter.

The Capitol, to the stranger approaching the city, is the most elevated, massive, and attractive feature. It is a vast pile, and though somewhat contracted in its earlier portions, and not, as a whole, what might be embraced in a new and complete design, commensurate with our present and prospective development—not what the new Capitol, to be built in the great Mississippi Valley, probably will be, still it is a noble structure, and almost bewildering to the rural stranger from its very vastness; yet perseverence enables one to find all its more attractive features, and they well repay examination.

THE HALLS OF CONGRESS,

If during the session, are, of course, the first points sought, (the sessions are indicated to outsiders by raised flags over each hall, which are lowered when the body to which it belongs adjourns.) The new Hall of Representatives is said to be one of the finest legislative rooms in the world. It is, in fact, all that could be desired; but the members in it, with many exceptions, of course, are the most ungainly, disorderly, and ill-behaved set of men that we ever met with on the face of the earth. We have contemplated Western, and even Wisconsin legislative bodies, when all sense of propriety or business decorum seemed to have been lost, yea! we have seen cross-roads new country mass meetings under the control of pothouse politicians, but never have we seen the equal of the national House of Representatives when under some trifling excitement. A hundred members rushing to their feet, and into the area before the speaker, all howling at the top of their voices, "Mr. Speaker!" and flourishing their printed bills in their hands like short swords, to catch his eye. A pack of hungry prairie wolves could not make a more unseemly noise and jargon; often wholly interrupting all business, and only to be restored to order by an adjournment. Such is not an unusual display and mode of doing business, where common sense would seem to dictate that all should be order, system, and deference to each other. We do not expect a basswood speaker improves the condition of things very materially—probably not. It is a common remark among old and observant residents at the Capitol, that the business character of Congress has been rapidly degenerating for the last fifteen years. In fact these said residents affect to have a very contemptible opinion of members, as they are called, as a general thing, insinuating among other things, that they do not always pay their board bills; and are by no means to be taken, as a rule, for fit members of good society, merely because they are Members of Congress; but usually the reverse, until their special character and standing are known.

THE SENATE

Is somewhat more of a dignified body, although not much to brag of. WIGFALL, and such crack-brained lights contrive to monopolise a good deal of its time. In the way of transacting business, both houses seem emphatically to study "how not to do things," however essential and important. If a measure of any importance lives through both bodies and becomes a law, it is more of a miracle than many

that surprised the ancients; it is tougher than a cat with nine lives.

The public grounds about the Capitol are neatly embellished with trees, shrubbery, &c., although many of the trees are among the very short-lived species; perhaps they are emblematical of the Union, but we think not. The Capitol building, externally, is not yet nearly finished—the dome, especially seems to take forever for its erection, as well as a mint of money.

The public buildings are much scattered, and many of them mixed up among the common buildings of the city, which greatly impairs their effect and grandeur. They should all have been on a rounded eminence of a thousand acres, and nothing else mixed up with them; then their vast size and elegance would have been much more manifest and easily appreciated; but never mind, we shall know how next time; experience is everything, even in building Capitols.

In closing this hasty though extended article, we cannot do less than express our appreciation of the very superior manner in which the business of the passenger trains on the Baltimore and Ohio road is conducted. All is order and quiet, yet prompt and to time; the conductors are experienced and urbane; no intrusive *officiousness*—no short answers to civil questions; they are a credit to the road, and a comfort to the passengers. In fact we met with none but gentlemanly and pleasant officials throughout the entire route. For their many courtesies they are entitled to our profoundest thanks. We will daguerreotype Mt. Vernon, the Patent office, and divers and sundry other attractive features elsewhere in this number, and in those that follow. P.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR FURS.—To preserve them properly, and in nice condition, they should be packed away in a box, or place by themselves, where they will not be likely to be overhauled, or tumbled, in looking for other things. A cedar box is the best, the furs then requiring no other preventive against moths; but if this cannot be obtained, a flat box, or band box, will answer, into which put the furs, nicely folded in an old linen cloth, and plentifully sprinkled with pepper, or pepper pods, which is much better and more effectual than camphor. This method will keep them in good order any length of time.—*Mrs. J. C. Croly.*

☞ The man who thinks laboriously will express himself precisely.

ADDRESS OF HON. E. H. GILES, BEFORE THE DANE CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, AT THEIR THIRD ANNUAL FAIR, MADISON, SEPT. 1859.

Fellow Farmers, Citizens, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The subject of Agriculture is one on which it is very difficult to say any thing that has the merit of being both original and useful; multitudes of volumes have been published, our book-shelves are loaded with works on Farming, and every intelligent farmer reads (or should read) his agricultural paper.

It was not with the expectation of furnishing you with any new facts, that I was induced to comply with your request to give the address on this occasion, and a want of time and opportunity has considerably abridged what I did intend to say. I shall offer no apologies for any lack of polish that may appear; I shall not weigh phrases or call in the aid of poetry to adorn my views. I want to reach you understandingly, and the easiest way is to speak with the simplicity of candor and the directness of truth.

There is an old book, which we were taught from our earliest infancy to reverence, in which we are told that the earth was cursed for the wickedness of man; that it should bring forth thorns and thistles, and that man should eat his bread in the sweat of his brow. Whether that curse is removed, or we are still under its influence, is not a question for us to settle. As farmers, it is enough for us to know that we can work, that the earth still brings forth thorns and thistles for the slothful, and rewards the hopes of the diligent. I wish to address you to-day as tillers of the soil—as *practical* farmers at least, and I shall speak in words of truth and soberness.

The farmer's calling is one of dignity. All labor, whether of the hands or the head, is noble. The primal curse pronounced upon man for disobedience, "By the sweat of thy brow shalt thou earn thy bread," by the light of modern science is proved a blessing. Better to wear out than to rust out, has become a proverb, its truthfulness acknowledged by all.

The present age is remarkable for its activities, so to speak. Everything goes with rail road speed. Steam, Galvanism and Electricity seem to be at the bottom of all our movements. The conception of an idea is in a day followed by its practical application in the arts of life. The human mind is on the continued strain for the mighty dollar. Men estimate life by what it will bring them in money; they sell their time, their talent, their all for gold, they clutch every moment as it sweeps by, hoping to get something to put in the bank.

Our ideas of what constitutes wealth have all at once received a very great expansion. Within the memory of most of us, the fortunate possessor of a few thousands was ranked as independent. Now, however, only those who can count their thousands by tens are

considered rich. The old land marks of fair, honest dealing, are put far in the back ground, and instead of the maxim, "get money, if you can get it honestly," it seems to be, "get money; honestly if you can, but get money."

Not only our marts of trade, our stores and shops and warehouses, exhibit the genius of money getting, but our very social intercourse is corrupted and perverted by this thirst for gain. Our legislative halls, even, are turned into market places where men allow self-interest to govern their official duties, and even sell themselves to the mammon of unrighteousness. The great conservative element of society, (if such there be,) is to be found among the rural homes of the country. Indeed, if you would look for truth and true manhood anywhere on earth, and expect to find it, you must go among a class of minds whose daily occupation is itself the embodiment and exemplification of truth. Men are what education and circumstances make them. Every deviation from the laws of right, however slight, produces its effect upon the character. There is a harmony between the occupation and habits of life, and the mental cultivation, that in time determines that character.

The farmer deals with facts and realities. Everything with which he is familiar teaches him a lesson of inexorable law. Nature requires conformity to her unbending principles ere she will reward those who depend upon her bounty. The same yesterday and to-day, the lesson repeated, oft times and innumerable, produces its effect upon the education of those who study even the preface to the mighty volume. Hence in all ages, philosophers have extolled and poets sung the virtues and pleasures of rural life. The hardy sons of toil have been ever ready to defend the right and punish wrong. From the days of Greece and Rome to our own struggle for independence, Freedom has found her best defence in the strong right arms of those who guided the plow, and wielded the axe, the spade and the sickle.

Farmers who would succeed in their calling must study Nature. The laws that govern her are eternal and unbending. The natural state of bodies, their respective situations, the changes they undergo, the phenomena of composition and decomposition which animates the whole surface of the globe, are the result of these laws. All the sciences have a natural course from which they never deviate. They begin by collecting and proving facts, and when these facts are well established, they compare them with each other, and from them principles of general application are derived. The facts in agriculture are almost innumerable; the modifications wrought by the nature of the soil, the action of manure, the state of the atmosphere, the influence of climate and variety of exposure, all have an influence in the successful culture of plants. But a fact observed in one place cannot be constantly reproduced in another, or even in the same place; hence, we conclude, that a single fact will not establish a principle in agriculture. If all the agents of vegetable growth were the same at all times and under all circumstances, if heat and light and electricity were uniformly the same in their diffusion, if sunshine and cloud, dew and rain and wind were experienced at regular recurring periods, then might a solitary fact or effect produced, establish a principle. But since it is not so, it becomes necessary to observe and supply the influence of all these agents, and know the modifications each produces in order to draw from them general and practical consequences. Hence agriculture is a science that requires observation.

The enlightened farmer is on a constant voyage of discovery. He goes forth with the mighty volume of nature, the depository of all science continually open before him. The field, the garden and the forest are to him a vast laboratory, in which nature carries forward her processes on a grand scale. He can examine the atmosphere and learn that in uniform proportions the two fluids, oxygen and nitrogen, combine its essential elements and that the same uniformity of proportion exists on the earth's surface, and 23,000 feet above it. He finds, also, existing in the atmosphere, in very variable proportions, carbonicised water, electricity and caloric. and that they exert a very great influence on all the phenomenon everywhere presented to view. He can analyze the composition of soils and learn their adaptation to certain crops, determine what elements are in excess and what are deficient, and thus be able to apply the remedy. He learns that to grow wheat on new land is an easy task, but experience teaches him that all will, in a short time, fail to produce healthy plants many years in succession. Chemistry teaches him that when the alkalies and other elements are exhausted, there is a want of vigor in his wheat and a liability to disease, to the attacks of insects and parasites. The same sciences point out the remedy and direct the kind and amount of the fertilizing agent to be applied.

The old idea, that when John and Jim had learned to plow and sow and reap, that when the boys were trained to do the physical labor required in farming, the whole duty of the parent was finished, has long ago been exploded by a more extensive theory of agricultural education, and the demand now is for educated farmers.

Your attention is invited to another fact—farmers must themselves make agriculture honorable and respected. All history, as well as observation, teaches that the degree of perfection to which any profession attains, depends upon the efforts of its own friends and devotees. Medicine and law have attained their present high standing by the unwearied labors of such minds as Bush, Mott, Wood and oth-

ers, in the former, and Jay, Blackstone, Kent and Marshall in the latter. It is not the quacks and bunglers in the profession that confer lasting benefits on the world, or that add respectability to professional life, but those who can stamp the impress of truth upon the teachings of philosophy.

Science is the grand repository of truth,—it has to do with the known; it sweeps around and graps the whole. Many of its theories, at first dimly seen by what the world called a visionary mind, have been like the morning star that heralds the approach of day. Where all seemed a confused mass of theories, general principles and abstract truths, promiscuously piled together, has been developed perfect individuality, beautiful symmetry and agreeable harmony, each department constituting in itself a perfect system, and with every other system a perfect cosmology. And it has become thus classified and arranged in separate departments by the combined efforts of mind, in each and every department. Does the scientific world to-day enmasse labor to develop one truth in physics and to-morrow turn its attention to philosophy and the next day to chemistry? No; education has prepared and genius has directed those whose habits of thought led them to explore particular parts of the grand cathedral.

The history of astronomical science affords some of the greatest triumphs of the scientific mind. It was after years of trial that the true theory of the earth's revolution was discovered. But now man sets his stakes and draws his bare lines in the etherial fields of infinite space, traces out and defines the unerring paths of the planetary worlds, and marks with a degree of certainty the advent of those blazing wanderers that ever and anon shoot across the sky. Those majestic achievments and glorious conquests are due to the unremitted toil of its devoted friends, from Hepparkus, the father of astronomy, down to the present time.

For farmers to depend upon the professions to advance agriculture, is no more reasonable than it would be for them to depend upon the parsons to do their praying. They must work out their own salvation, temporally as well as spiritually. They must themselves establish agricultural schools and colleges, sustain their own agricultural papers, become scholars and writers, report facts for the consideration of the learned, assert the dignity of labor, and educate their sons for the noblest of all employments.

Above all they must make their homes pleasant and attractive. Let this be the first aim of the farmer. Go with me in imagination to yonder farmhouse, situated on the rising swell of the prairie. Viewed from the highway, with its shady grove, its pleasant lawn, and contrasted with the hot and dusty streets of our cities and villages, it seems an elysian home. Let us enter the enclosure. How hearty and free is the welcome; how natural and unrestrained in all their acts of kindness are the inmates. No conventional ceremony.—None of the constrained and affected airs of upper-tendom; but with true, because unaffected, politeness you are at once made to feel at home. And such a home for those who are sheltered under its roof. The father pursues his daily duties with a consciousness of God's blessing upon the diligent. His open house denotes an honest heart. The sinister expression that ever accompanies conscious guilt is never reflected from that manly face. His whole demeanor denotes a conscience void of offence toward God and man. The kind matron superintends her household with the law of love and kindness as her guide. The sons and daughters heed the word of counsel and are growing up in the nurture and admonition of the lord. Contentment, health and harmony reign. The adornments, although simple and unostentatious, contribute to the poetry of life. The duties of the farm, the household and the school, employ all their time, and the great work of education—physical, mental and moral—is being accomplished.

This fancy picture finds its counterpart in many quiet homes of country life. Would there were more of them; would that all might realize more of the idea of what Eden was. The highest type of heaven is a pleasant, happy home. Home is the great object of life, to which all look at the end of every days' labor. From the altar of home we look across the stream that divides the present from the future, the known from the unknown, and future happy fields and bright mansions where celestial purity dwells.

Would that there were men of taste on *all* our farms, that our fields were laid out in order and arranged with a due regard to system; that the out-buildings, instead of being in front of the dwelling or along side of it, were placed in the rear, and the barnyard back of all. Why should not the farmer, who dwells in nature's temple, seek rather to adorn, or at least not to mar and deface it?

How often in our journeying through the country, do we pass a respectable dwelling whose appearance denotes recent construction as well as thrift in its owner, and within fifty or one hundred feet, and partly in front, we find the old log stable, with its roof shingled with straw, surrounded by the barnyard, containing the accumulated deposit of years, perhaps, and tainting the atmosphere with a fragrance of odors as sweet as that of Egypt.

In noticing the slovenly habits of many of our farmers, I can come to but one of two conclusions. They are either entirely destitute of taste, or else they are waiting for a certain time to migrate somewhere else, and are merely "staying," and consequently it makes but little difference how things look, while they stay. Too many of all classes and professions merely "stay" on earth. They don't believe

life is the enjoyment of all the faculties of mankind, moral, spiritual, intellectual and physical. And the great end of education is to develop that whole nature.

It is an oft repeated saying, that the tiller of the soil enjoys more of substantial independence than any other class. Is this true, or is it a mere repetition of idle flattery. Methinks I hear a murmur of echoing voices from my farmer friends, *foolish flattery*.

It is true that this old adage has been reiterated times innumerable in the hearing of all of us, yet with the farmers of our own productive State there is an evident scepticism as to its truthfulness. The farmers tell us that they are oppressed, that they are left to the mercy of produce dealers, the trickish craft of money jobbers, the humbuggery of professional quacks, the thick flattery and close shaving of merchants—a prey to hundreds of skin-flints in general.

They ask us how can we be so independent, and yet remain in that blissful ignorance of that independence. Here is an apparent contradiction. If what every one says must be true, and the class most interested partially deny its truth, how shall we reconcile the apparent contradiction?

Both assertions are true. Farmers are independent. They have in their hands the power and means to minister to all their physical wants. If mother earth yields her treasures, though ever so sparingly and grudgingly, the man who puts in the seed and reaps the harvest has the first right to the fruit of his labor, and a natural feeling of contentment may well be enjoyed that want is driven from his door. The ships of the merchant may disappoint his expectations of profit, and in a day his family be reduced to penury and want. The banks may suspend, and the denizens of our cities and villages be thrown out of employment, by a stagnation in trade and manufacturing industry.

The farmer has his investments in a bank, that although it may contract, never suspends altogether, since the God of Heaven is cashier, and He has declared that "seed time and harvest should follow each other till the end of time." Where is independence, then, if not with the farmer, who has the first fruits of all the earth.

But, ah! those promises to pay are the trouble with you, brother farmers. You have often placed yourselves at the mercy of the very classes you complain of, and I fear that this is done too often by the purchase of articles of luxury and ornament in an endeavor to rival your more wealthy neighbors. Better let Buck and Bright draw the plow one year, or even two years longer, than to run in debt for that span of greys. Better use Kate and Fan awhile longer on your eighty acres, than to give your note to the Indiana jockey for his nice roans. Better ride on a soft pine board across the old ox wagon a year or two longer, than to get trusted for that splendid carriage. Better have your daughters study the music of the spinning wheel and sing the 'Milkmaid's Song' in the early morning breeze, than to give a promise to pay for one of "Chickering's best." Be content with the old homestead, and let that adjoining, 80x40, alone, rather than to encumber that homestead or its growcrop with even the small amount required down.

I say your profession is the most independent. I do do not say our Wisconsin farmers are the most independent. My advice to you is, to sell everything that can be spared to pay up what you owe, and then, if need be, go back to the extreme primitive days of our early history in the territory, and here (I can speak from experience) improve upon the lesson taught by the last two years of our farming experience. Begin anew, contract no debts, buy no articles of useless show or ornament, educate your sons and daughters in the principles, of Industry, frugality and economy, and stand up for your profession as the most noble and dignified of all employments. Don't be humbugged by politicians, vote conscientiously on election day, and be what you can be—*independent*.

I know of but four ways by which the necessaries of life can be obtained—to beg, to steal, to cheat, or by labor, honest labor. Perhaps there is a fifth that is not properly defined under either of the heads just mentioned, viz., getting a living without as much as saying "by your leave," which in common language is called *sponging*. Stealing, under our improved detective system, is becoming very uncertain business, and very likely to be found out, since Bish. and Welch have taken up the business of rogue catching. To beg in this land of plenty, carries with it a stigma of disgrace, so repulsive to all our ideas of manhood that the mere mention is enough.

There is a kind of operation practiced now-a-days, under the name of shrewdness, that though sugared over under the name of shrewdness, is little better than downright theft. I allude to such practices as putting the screenings of wheat in the middle of the bag and selling the whole as well cleaned wheat; rolling the dirty locks in the middle of the fleece and selling it as well washed wool. Such practices I *know* are pursued by some of our farmers and they work incalculable injury to the whole farming interest of our State. Our wheat and wool, and other products of the farm, are shipped *en masse* to the distant market, and every peck of badly cleaned grain, and each fleece of dirty wool, depreciates the value of the whole as well as injures the reputation of the entire State. What if a few dimes additional are obtained on a load of produce in this way, the final result is that all classes, the knaves themselves and the honest ones, lose a hundred per cent more than is realized in the fraud. Fraud and cheating in

this way, though practiced by a few, are ultimately a loss to that few and a very great injury to all. The old adage, that "honesty is the best policy," will apply to the sale of farm products as well as to all other transactions.

I need not speak of sponging, since among all those who hear me to-day there is not, probably, one who is not following an honest calling. I hold that no one, who is not of his own labor contributing to the welfare of others and at the same time rendering a fair equivalent for the benefits received from society, is entitled to be classed among the *honest* of earth's children. If you see a young man, who spends his time at the saloons and groceries, who has no visible means of support, who talks loudly of politics and theology, ever ready to stand to be treated, set such an one down as a parasite, as a fungus of no earthly use whatever, not even to fill up a vacuum. He lives on; his dress, food and drink is all at the expense of somebody else. The world is no better off for his having lived, and will be none the worse when he dies. This class of "do nothings" live wholly in anticipation of something, they know not what, perhaps a gold mine, a fortune from some hard working relative, or a seat in Congress. They talk big of the laws of trade and commerce, the principles of parties, the constitutional rights of States and citizens, when they don't practice even the rudiments of political ethics, and are as ignorant of constitutional law as their practice shows them to be of the moral law.

I said in the outset that "*all* labor, whether of the head or the hands, was noble. Man must *work*; the almighty fiat has thus decreed. We cannot all work at one thing; from the very nature of things the occupations of men must be various. Some must toil at the plow —must scatter the seed and reap the harvest; some must weave the shuttle—forge the iron, and exercise the various handicrafts that furnish the masses with manufactured products; some must plow old ocean's waves to bring the products of other climes to contribute to our comfort, and ease, and luxury, or use our inland seas and rivers and iron ways to facilitate the exchange of products between the different portions of our own extended country. Some must be educated for the learned professions, such as law, medicine, divinity; some for teachers, some for scientific pursuits. All these in a proper proportion keep the world moving. (But in the catalogue, which might be much extended, there is no place for the *Loafer*; he stands outside a healthy social organization. The whole world is one industrial scene, each member occupying his own particular station, performing his own part in the great social and moral and industrial drama. He that acts well that part, whether high or low, (*high or low*, did I say, *there is no such distinction.*) He that acts *well* his part, in whatever field of active life he may be placed, whatever his pursuit may be, is a *nobleman*. The tiller of the soil, the merchant at his desk, the chemist in his laboratory, the statesman in the legislative halls, the judge on the bench, *all* who discharge their duties honestly, fearlessly, and conscientiously, are on the same platform, and no one can say to the other, I am higher than thou. The humble mechanic at his bench is the peer of the President of the United States in dignity and true nobility.

We conclude, then, that labor, as a means of life, and that alone, is honorable, is dignified. Labor is the discipline that prepares man for real enjoyment. As the great education should be not so much to store the mind with facts and ideas, as to discipline its powers for future action and future progress. so the great aim of all labor should be to afford a means of intellectual, moral and social progress. Industry and thrift, if not accompanied with a corresponding intellectual and moral development in the individual, might as well be enjoyed by the Hottentot, for all the good they confer upon humanity.

Let, then, no niggardly or miserly sentiment find peace in your minds; but let school-houses and churches, and every enterprise that has for its aim and end the improvement of society, receive that attention their importance demands. Instead of *following* the professions, become the leaders in at least "equal co-laborers" with them in the great progressive movements of the age. [Balance omitted for want of room.]

A Fast Dog.—Henry A. Ewers, of this town, left on Friday for Aztalan, Wisconsin, where he had purchased a farm. He owned a small dog, which he gave to Henry Briggs before he left. The dog followed Mr. Ewers to the depot in this town, and upon the cars leaving followed on after, overtaking them at South Deerfield, before they left that station. The distance run by the dog was eight miles, and the time occupied twenty-two minutes, or over twenty miles an hour. Mr. Ewers concluded that such a faithful friend was not likely to be parted with lightly, and took the dog into the cars with him.—*Greenfield (Mass.) Gazette.*

☞ There is, it is said, in a collection of plants in Cambridge, Mass., one of the most remarkable and beautiful camelias ever produced. There are, on the same plant, various colored flowers, some nearly white, some white stripped with crimson, and various other varieties. It is the first time such a combination of colors in the flowers of one camelia has ever been known.

A writer in one of our exchanges has great faith in the efficacy of a peck of onions for ridding cows or oxen of lice. He claims to have found them an infallible remedy in his practice. They also give a tone to the stomach, and are especially valuable in hot weather, when cattle will lie in shade at noon-time and refuse to eat.

CITY MANURES.

[We have always regarded the subject of the following communication as one of the most important that could engage the attention of either the agricultural or public economist, and we have so treated it from time to time, as will appear by the *Wisconsin Farmer* for 1857.—Whether viewed as a sanitary policy, or as a means necessary to save our deteriorating soils from utter impoverishment, it commends itself to the earnest and practical consideration of every intelligent member of society.

The rich, virgin soils of the North-West are undergoing a system of ravishment which already looks toward sterility, and should be a positive disgrace to any even half-civilized people on the globe. H.

The following propositions are undoubtedly sound theoretically, but probably considerably in advance of any show of application in this new country. Even the common stable manures are thrown away in good part. P.

The attention of Agricultural Societies, and City Corporations, and all Boards of Public Works, is respectfully invited to the following propositions:

1. That the population of the older cities of Europe has been increasing for more than a thousand years; and that their progress would have been much more rapid and more regular had it not been for the desolations of war, and the baneful influences of intemperance and other vices.

2. That the population of the younger cities of the United States has, within the past half century, increased faster than the population of the older cities of Europe.

3. That the population of cities increases more rapidly than the population of the rural districts around them; and the prevailing tendencies of the times show that it will continue to gain in a still greater ratio.

4. That, as a consequence, a growingly large proportion of the soil must be consumed in the city.

5. That town-sewerage, or the manures of cities, where so much of the riches of the land are consumed, must be very valuable as fertilisers.

6. That the present expensive and noxious system of *draining* to rivers, or *half*-burying in pits, manures of such great value, stealthily but progressively impoverishes the land; and will, if persisted in, most assuredly exhaust its strength and effect its ruin.

7. That governments and corporations could never direct their energies to *any* improvements of greater importance to the interests of mankind, than to the adoption of effective measures for preventing the existing dreadful waste of city manures.

8. That such masses of manure, *liquid* and *solid*, can never be saved by petty systems of poudretting and deodorizing.

9. That, therefore, manures of such great value ought to be conveyed *as they are*, from the closet to the farm, to be given to the soil in their *native strength*, unadulterated, unpoudretted, unpurified; for deodorization will never meet the case, and overcome the difficulty.

10. That the authorities of any country, or state, or city, or dockyard, or railway, or hotel, or college, or any other establishment public or private—especially such as barracks and garrisons, and penitentiaries, might easily provide suitable *sewage vessels*, and make regulations for their removal, at *fixed* times, from the closet to the farm; each establishment to have two sets, that one set may be left on the premises while the other is being removed to the field.

The writer has had these plain propositions before his mind for the last fifteen years, and has submitted them to the consideration of many scientific gentlemen of extensive observation and experience, who pronounced them demonstrable and practicable. He then memorialized several city corporations and boards of health on the subject; but they were too closely wedded to their systems of *drainage* to consider the feasibility of any other system; and agricultural societies looked too lingeringly over puny processes of deodorization to attempt any trial of the plan here proposed. A fair trial, even on a small scale, would soon, not only demonstrate its practicability, but would also establish its *utility*; and any company taking the initiatory in the matter, would secure to itself a large gain, and would render the city as well as the country a most important service.

The writer would be most happy to confer with any company pledged to make an experiment; and would submit to its examination the models of two kinds of *portable sewage vessels*, which he thinks would be safe and convenient. When recommending this plan in

England, some ten years ago, he coined a tiny word of two letters, and wished to substitute that little word—the soft monosyllable "*Gu*" —for the meaningless compound "*night soil;*" and he hoped that his new little word "*gu,*" coming in the wake of its foreign friend "*guano,*" would not only sound well, but might be of service in a variety of combinations, such as gu-closets, gu-vessels, gu-cars, gu-depots, gu-trains, gu-companies, gu-traffic, gu-heaps, gu-dribbles, London-gu, New York-gu, house-gu, shamble-gu, sty-gu, &c.

It really is a heavy loss and a stupid folly to sweep the seas, and hunt around the rocks of distant islets for "guano," while "*gu*" of a higher value can be had at home, on the very margin of a railway station. The fearful and almost universal waste of the "gu" of our great cities *must* come to an end. A system involving such a heavy loss cannot be allowed to continue in this progressing age of untiring contrivance to turn every service to some good advantage. No country under the sun can long stand the ever-growing drain of such a loss. The way in which "*Father Thames*" has long been treated, is a deep scandal to the city of London. He has had, for centuries, to carry the sewage of that rich old city, out of the reach of the fields, to plague the fish of the German ocean; but through the mercy and wisdom of Providence, he is not doomed *for life* to a service so disgraceful and so pernicious. The day is at hand when his noble name, and kind heart, and fair bosom shall be cleared from so foul a burden; and when he, and all his kindred, shall be freed from such a "bondage of corruption," and from a drudgery so wasteful, so dishonest, so degrading, and so pestilential.

The gu-scheme here suggested has been in operation in China and Japan for hundreds of years, and is the most beneficial regulation of their whole domestic economy. It is really lamentable to reflect how a law of such vast importance has been overlooked by more civilized communities.

If the Agricultural Department at Washington, or the Royal Agricultural Society of England, or any other influential board of agriculture, or any improvement committee of a city were to originate an earnest movement for its adoption, it would render the world a service that would gain the approval, and excite the admiration, and secure the gratitude, not only of this age, but of all coming ages.

S. ROBERTS.

Huntsville, Scott Co., Tenn., April 12, '60.

[From the Scientific American]

A WOMAN PLEADS FOR NEW INVENTIONS.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Whatever lightens the labors and cares of the house helps to bring comfort and cheerfulness and elevated tastes to the heart of *home*. In a former letter, published on page 410, Vol. I. (new series) of the *Scientific American*, I suggested to practical artizans some improvements in the *kitchen stove*, and the kettles to be used thereon. I would further suggest that iron cooking kettles be lined with a material less easily oxydized. No dish of meat or vegetables can, with impunity, be allowed to cool in an iron vessel. Though iron is the most important of all metals in all the various uses to which it is applied—though it be a part of the soil, and a constituent of all plants, fruits and animals—though even the health of the blood depends on the quantity of iron which it contains, and this may yet be found to depend upon its magnetic properties, as one of the moving forces of that electro-magnetic machine, the human body—yet it does not follow that we should leave to ignorant or careless cooks the amount and quality of iron we are to consume, served up in unsavory dishes. Porcelain-lined kettles are all we could desire, but for their liability to crack off with dry heat. For instance, in cooking potatoes my way is either to peel or cut off a ring of peeling, and after boiling until the fork easily penetrates, but not till soft, drain off all the water, set the kettle back without the cover, to force the moisture in the potatoes to escape in the form of steam. My servant usually cooked the potatoes according to my instructions; but one day she unluckily used my porcelain fruit kettle for that purpose, and of course ruined it. If any kind of stone, or that peculiar clay used for vessels in glass manufactories, will stand dry heat, would be preferable to metal. If this is impracticable, could not a thin lining of silver or aluminum be brought within the reach of common use? If its influence upon health was properly considered, platinum itself would not be deemed too costly. A cooking kettle acts a most important part in the healthful and cleanly preparation of food. It is to be hoped that our new silver mines will help us to silver tea-kettles, or at least, to rid us of the copper bottoms.

In the letter above alluded to, while speaking of a machine for *washing dishes*, I neglected to specify that the drainer should be placed in a water-tight box, with cover and faucet, and some churning machinery placed within, to splash the water. And in connection with this, we need some simple little apparatus for wringing out a cloth without wetting the hands.

I wish to call the attention of artizans to the *working dress* of females. The present working dress is a shame to the age of invention in which we live. I am aware of the

conscientious efforts of many who have made martyrs of themselves, by trying to introduce a better style of dress for active life. Their experiments show a *want* in this direction. Women need a dress that will allow a full play of the chest, a free use of the arms, and the unconstrained action of all the blood vessels, nerves and muscles of the body. We want one of many pounds less weight, which shall not drag the body down or knock about the ankles at every step, and which will not "mop the house" from garret to cellar. The present working dress requires to be carried up stairs. No matter what else is to be carried, one hand is always monopolized by the dress. If any scrubbing or dirty work is to be done, the dress must be taken care of. Outside of the demands of health, buoyancy and cleanliness, *time* is too important to spend so much in taking care of the working dress, especially when servants' hire is such an item as it is in this country. Some sort of tunic and trowsers, made of warm material, forms a desideratum. Such a dress is also needed for out-door exercise, and for active life in general. Witness the calisthenic exercises of school-girls, and mark the painful contortions of those in close waists, with arms tied down, when compared with the ease and grace of those in loose tunics. Is there not inventive power enough in the country to get up some shape or fashion of working dress which will better answer the purpose than the one in present use?

As the onward march of machinery is removing the drudgery from the various departments of labor and active life, the constitutions, habits, food and medicine of the people are also undergoing a corresponding change. For instance, the coarser vegetables are yielding place to those less bulky and more nutritious. In this view, could not the *common chestnut*, being more palatable and nutritious, take the place of the potato? And could not the chestnut tree be dwarfed and brought forward in the same manner as the apple and pear?

I would ask practical chemists whether the *fermentation of wine and cider* can or cannot be stopped at an early period, and before the juice becomes sufficiently alcoholic to be intoxicating? Such stoppage would afford a very healthful and delicious drink for the table and for general use, in place of the various foreign and deleterious drinks which are now poisoning the people. The successful discoverer in this department would indeed be a benefactor to his kind.

MRS. M. L. VARNEY.

San Francisco, Cal., March 31, 1860.

☞ A couple of journeymen printers in N. Y., named Wilkins and Hughes, exchanged "leaded matter," from pistols, in French's Hotel, a few days since, in a quarrel. Hughes got a "quad" in his breast, and his "form" was taken to the hospital. Wilkins "distributed" himself as fast as possible. "A foul case."

MEDICAL FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

We are too much given to the use of morphine. The quantity consumed in town and country is enormous. It is a popular but fatal fallacy, that everybody can take and prescribe morphine with impunity. But deeply rooted as the habit is, it may be eradicated—and it is to this end that I recommend the substitution of chloroform, a far less injurious and equally effectual agent. It should be taken in a dose of from twenty to thirty drops in two or three table spoonsful of camphor mixture. This will quiet nervous excitement, especially nervous headache, and palpitation of the heart, and induce sleep.

Lozenges are for the most part colored with chemicals of a poisonous character, such as copper and lead, to say nothing of poisons being commonly used in their composition. If people will eat lozenges and candies, they should make them at home; and I might add, that if parents wish to dose their children with physic, this may be used with the lozenge, which is a very convenient way of administering medicine.

Diseases at this period of the year are apt to be of a masked character, that is, they do not clearly manifest themselves, but assume the appearance of other diseases. This is owing to the malarious influences of some of our marshes or of land broken late in the fall. With a little observation, however, the true disease may be detected. A profuse sweating during sleep, with dark discoloration under the eyes on the following morning, indicate, in spite of all other appearances, that the attack is owing to malarious influences, and that quinine is the proper and all powerful remedy.

Wounds.—In severe lacerations, accidents and injuries do not be too ready to submit to severe operations and amputations. When the parts are placed in proper position, give nature a chance; she is the easiest doctor of us all, and the longer a physician practices the more confidence *he* has in *her healing powers*.

Green tea is the common black tea painted with poisonous materials—Prussian blue, China ink and gypsum. The Chinese of course do not drink it. Forty-seven millions of pounds of tea go to Great Britain annually, of which thirty-seven millions are black tea and ten millions green; so that, as Sir John Bowring says, sensible people are in the ratio of four to one. To this country is sent twenty-

three millions of pounds of green tea, and only one and a quarter millions of black. Do not drink green tea, it is only one of the many forms of death in the pot.

DOCTOR JOE.

NOTE.—The foregoing article should have appeared in the May number, but will not now be out of season.

We hope that "Doctor Joe" will continue the subject, as we are satisfied that a thousand such facts can be told to the advantage of the public, and doubtless many will heed them.—EDS.

DEFECTS OF CALF-SKIN LEATHER.—We have heard of persons purchasing several pairs of boots at once, in order to lay some of them away for long keeping, under the impression that leather, when kept in a dry situation, improved in quality by age, like oil-cloth.

Upon inquiry, we find that such notions are very generally entertained, but why this should be so we cannot imagine, for they are the very reverse of all facts and experience in the case: and we call attention to this question for the first time, we believe, as "a word of warning." Calf-skin leather, instead of improving in quality with age, when made into boots, deteriorates rapidly. It is subject to a species of dry rot—eremacansis; and in the course of three years it becomes as tender as a piece of brown paper.

Dealers in boots and shoes experience a considerable loss from this cause when such articles are left on their hands for more than two years. The dry rot in calf-skin boots first appears at the edge near the soles in the form of a black glassy sweat, resembling varnish, and from thence it gradually proceeds until the whole leather becomes rotten. The application of grease rather accelerates than arrests the progress of this decay; such leather endures much longer when worn on the feet than when laid aside in a dry situation, but whether this decay is caused by the grease used by the curriers, or in some peculiarity in the skin, is not known at present.

Cow-skin and kip leather do not seem to be subject to this rapid deterioration, but all kinds of calf-skin, even the very best French, is just as subject to it as the poorest qualities.

This is a subject deserving of practical scientific investigation in order to discover some remedy for the evil. At present, the practical application of this information by purchasers of calf-skin boots and shoes is an easy matter—be careful not to buy aged articles.—*Scientific American.*

☞ An old soaker, down East, accounts for perpetual thirst by the fact that "he was weaned on salt fish."

[From the American Stock Journal.]

EFFECT OF THE WINTER UPON STOCK IN TEXAS.

MR. EDITOR:—The winter has thus far been a trying one for Texas stock growers. A severe storm commenced on the second of December and continued throughout that day and the following night, the wind all the time blowing at a furious rate from the north. On the night of the third the wind changed to the south, bringing with it a dense fog which lasted until about 11 oclock on the evening of the 5th. At this time the wind again veered to the north and "blew great guns" for about twenty hours, accompanied by a cutting sleet. From that time up to the 23d the ground continued frozen.

The mortality among the stock has been very great, and we now have another norther, combined with sleet, that will probably immolate other hecatombs of victims to appease the offended wrath of old boreas.

The cows are hurrying away to the woods for shelter; the hogs are running hither and thither, some with straws in their mouths are providently attemping to make themselves a bed; others are collecting themselves into close packed groups, which will soon become mounds of clay. Every animal seems fully conscious of the impending danger, and each and all are joining in a universal vocal accompaniment to the howling of the winds and dirge-like music of the driving sleet. The storm grows apace, and "hoary jack" mocks exultingly the pain he makes.

The number of cattle that have died in this county during the past month is at least two thousand, and it seems not improbable that as many more may die during the month that is ushered in by the present storm.

The number of hogs, as near as can be estimated, that have already died amount to near three thousand. The fattest seem to suffer most. Several men have lost their pork hogs which they had "up" and were fattening for market. One man told me lately that he had been feeding his hogs with the carcasses of dead oxen, in order to save his corn.

Thus far the mortality among sheep has been confined principally to newly imported Mexican and Missouri stock. The total loss in this county up to the first of January is about twenty-five hundred. One man lost five hundred out of a flock of seven hundred and fifty. Another out of a flock of five hundred lost three hundred. Both flocks were Merinos, and very poor. The loss will be greater during the present storm, for the sheep have become thinner and weaker, and are consequently less able to bear the cold. They are almost entirely without food.

It is sometimes said "out of evil comes good," and "a bad beginning makes a good ending." If so, the palmiest days of Texas are at hand, for a worse night than last never ushered in the New Year. The peal that

"rang the old year out and the new year in" will ring in my ears for a long time. The howling of the storm and the rattle of the driving sleet, mingled with the low wail of agony of many a poor victim to its fury, all combined to make a deep impression upon my mind, and to form a scene which I trust I may never again be called to witness.

F. Kellogg.

Wheelock, Texas, Jan. 1, 1860.

Note.—This article was marked for an earlier number, and though out of season, we are still inclined to publish it, for the information of a certain class who imagine Texas to be a constant paradise of summer.—Eds.

At What Season Should Timber be Cut to Become Most Durable?—*Eds. Wis. Farmer:*—I write you for the purpose of calling your attention, and also that of those scientific men who can explain the truth or falsity of a prevalent opinion in regard to the best time to cut timber in reference to the durability of the same. It is an almost universal opinion that timber, to last and retain its elasticity and strength, ought to be fallen during the winter months. Now, my experience would teach me that the months of July and August were the most suitable time, and for proof I will refer to one fact among many in support of this assertion, and that is that whenever you find a tree which has been blown down in these months, although it may lay in the forest for years after, it retains all its solidity free from rot even to the very sap, and I can produce now poplar rails which have been used in fence for the last ten years, that were cut and split in July, that are as sound to-day and free from rot as though cut within the last week.

If any useful suggestions can be brought forward from these remarks, please let us hear of them. Yours, respectfully,

G. B. Worth.

Brandon, Fond du Lac Co., April 6, 1860.

Note.—Who among the old and observant men can answer the foregoing questions? it is a matter on which we are not posted. Facts are what are wanted, not opinions or speculations.—Eds.

Tansy.—M. De Morogues announces that this plant—dried—is excellent sheep food, and that, when fresh, it makes capital litter for domestic animals. Its peculiar balsamic odor most effectually drives away fleas.

PLAIN TALK TO THE GIRLS.

Young ladies, young women, girls, whoever and wherever you are, allow me to give you a few hints, which, if you will heed, I guarantee you never will regret.

There are certain little articles which belong to every woman's toilet, and are just as indispensable to decency as the clothes you wear, and wherever you go to stay any length of time, you should take them with you just as surely as your shoes and stockings. These are a hair brush, coarse and fine comb, tooth brush, if you use one, needles, pins, thread, scissors and thimble. If you are visiting, you surely need these conveniences, for you would not be so rude as to expect or ask your friends to furnish them for you. Frequently young ladies have spent a few weeks with me, and I really was not sorry when they left, for they kept my work-basket in such confusion that I did not know where to find anything—my combs and brushes were never where I wanted them, making a great deal of trouble, and not a little vexation. I would just as soon you'd went to my drawers and took out my collars, pocket-kerchiefs, and clothes, and use and wear them, as to go to my work-basket, disarranging my needle-book, carrying off every pin, and snarling my thread. You take up any number of needles, never putting them back as you found them, on the leaves singly, but through all the leaves together, and when I want a certain sized needle, no matter what my haste, I have to sort them before I find what I need; or, if I go to my cushion in a hurry for a pin, not one can I find, and I must take time, that I cannot well spare just then, and replenish my pin-cushion; and so it goes, until I get very tired of it, and wonder what sort of a mother these girls had. It is not the cost of a few needles and pins, and a little thread, but the annoyance of having a disorderly person meddle with my things. If you never were taught better, you are excusable; but I am sure you will never need to be reminded again,—not if you reflect a little.

Only once since I kept house, have I had a girl come to do my kitchen work, who brought with her a single one of the articles I mention, and it annoys me beyond measure to see them go to my toilet, and work-basket, and help themselves as freely as I do myself. You would not think me very squeamish, if I would not like to eat with your fork, and from your plate, after you; yet I would just as soon do so as use my combs and brushes after you have them. You never leave them clean,—*such girls never do.* You do not know how rude and impolite it is to do so, and you have no right to ask me to buy you such conveniences, any more than buy you shoes and gloves. The first thing I have to do, when I have a new girl, is to furnish her with these articles, especially with a pair of scissors,—above all things, I dislike you meddling with those.

Never go anywhere again to work without your own tools; and, depend upon it, such a course will add very much to your respectability, to the good opinion you covet, and to your own self-respect.

Another thing I wish *could* be impressed on your minds, and that is—it is not the noisy girls that do the most work. When I hear my dishes whack and clatter together, and a constant rattle about the cook-stove, and see the dust fly in clouds after the broom, I assure you my spirits sink twenty degrees; for I dislike to change girls, and I have either to learn her, or, rather, unlearn her habits, submit to numerous vexations and losses, or dismiss her.

Now, do please to think of these things, and be teachable,—not offended, for I am your true friend, and a far better one than a mistress who will get rid of you without advice, or refrain from giving it, for fear of hurting your feelings, and you will think so when you get older and wiser, if ever you do.

A Farmer's Wife.

—*Rural New-Yorker.*

Cook's Flying Machine not Abandoned. —*Eds. Herald:*—Gents—My attention has been called to an editorial in your paper in which you speak of my having given up the construction of my air ship, "Queen of the Air." This is a mistake, and I am sorry you have been misinformed. I am now more certain of success than ever before, as I have developed a principle in electro-magnetism by which I secure as great a propelling power as man can ask. My machine is designed to bring this power into use, and the work of construction will go on just as rapidly as I can accumulate the funds to pay for it. It has been the great object of my thoughts for the past twelve years, but I have not been able to prosecute the work until turning my attention to the culture of sorghum, I fortunately discovered the law governing the crystalization of its juices, and was enabled to bring out my Sugar Evaporator just at the very moment its demand was felt to be imperative by sorghum growers. This invention has placed me upon the high road to success. It is my "sheet anchor," but the "Queen of the Air" is the "crown of my hopes."

Steam has its limits. "Thus far and no farther" is written in reference to its application; but to the new motive power, which I believe it has been my fortune to develop, there is no limit. No clumsy walking beams, groaning pistons, stupendous shafts or creaking cogs will disfigure the architecture of my beautiful "Queen of the Air." No unwieldly balloon is wanted to buoy it up above the earth carrying danger with it, yet at our bidding she will mount up and at any desired speed will bear us to the uttermost ends of the earth.

D. M. Cook.

—*Mansfield Morning Herald.*

Shouldn't wonder.—Eds. Far.

THE FARMERS' GRINDSTONE.

BY SOLON ROBINSON.

The grindstone is not such an unimportant subject as some persons, without reflection, may think. What could a farmer do without it? In fact, it is, instead of being unimportant, the most important implement ever brought upon a farm. Show me a farmer that does not own a grindstone, and I will prove to you by a thousand witnesses, if any other is needed, out of his own mouth, and upon his own farm, that he is a poor, shiftless, thriftless fellow. Pray tell me what more pitiable thing, what more derogatory to his character and ability to live like a man among men, could you say of one who claims the name farmer as the justly proud prefix to his own cognomen, than to say, "Poor fellow, he has got no grindstone." Some person has said that he could measure civilization by the quantity of soap used. I can measure it by a better test—it is the grindstone test. When I was an early settler—so early that I had no white neighbors, in the northwest county of Indiana, and no customers for merchandise but the wild Potawatamie Indians, who were a very dirty uncivilized tribe, the last, you would think, ever to wash themselves—I sold them a bar of soap, but never a grindstone.

At a later period I had a good many white customers, civilized ones, as was proved by the fact that while I was selling one box of soap I sold a whole wagon load of grindstones.—These were sharp customers; they bought the means to sharpen their axes, chopped their own wood, and burnt it upon their own hearthstones, and made their own soap. Soap may be an evidence of civilization; it is not a certain one, but the grindstone test never failed. If his grindstone is all right, so is everything else. If it is an old shackling affair, hung with a loose wooden shaft, and rotten crank, with a limb of an apple tree for a handle, upon a frame propped up, one corner on a dilapidated stone wall, without a trough to hold water, and with a wo-begone squeak and a groan when it is put upon duty, you need not look any further after that man's character. He will grind it out for you, if you will turn, upon that miserable excuse for a grindstone. Do you happen to know a fellow who is notoriously a poor, miserable, slack, slow and easy sort of a nobody, you may set it down as gospel truth that he don't own a grindstone—not even that miserable excuse for one, mounted upon the dilapidated frame that leans against the old stone wall; no, not even one that runs upon notches cut in two fence rails leaned against the back side of the house, or rested across the corner of the pig pen, the fac simile of which you can find in a thousand hills and vales throughout this land of civilization, Fourth of July patriotism and grindstones. Talk about your mowing and reaping ma-

chines, your sharp scythes and keen axes; not one of them could be made or kept in order without the grindstone. Tell the farmer about the advantage of sharp spades and hoes, but how is he to keep them sharp without this most indispensable of all implements of husbandry, the grindstone? Talk about the discomforts of a smoky house and a scolding wife! That is not the real cause of the scolding; it is a dull ax. You don't pitch into that hard seasoned old log that contains some of the best fuel in the world, but go to work like an unciv lized Potawatamie, and knock up some old rotten wood with your dull ax; and that instead of a fire makes a smoke, which sours the good wife's temper, which finally, if the wood does not, bursts into a flame, when she attempts, with a dull knife, to cut meat for the breakfast of a poor, thiftless, good-for-nothing fellow, who is trying to live in the world without a grindstone! You have all heard of that figure of speech—grinding the face of the poor. It ought to be made a reality upon every poor fellow who keeps such a grindstone as I have described upon his premises. I would grind him until his wits were sharpened sufficient to make him get a better grindstone. There is another old saw—holding his nose to the grindstone. I can almost feel the scab on mine now, from the early and cruel holding of it, when I was a boy, over one of those hard-hearted men, because they will stand an immense amount of burning without wearing away. It is no matter that they wear away the soul of the boy at the crank; he is a hired boy, and what business has a hired boy to have a soul? And if he has, it was hired to wear away, while the grindstone costs money. So does the time that is wasted, but the old fogy that owns the grindstone has not soul enough to appreciate that, and so year after year he wears away the precious jewel upon his miserable old hard-hearted grindstone. Will men ever learn what an abuse this is of a good thing? Will farmers allow me to press upon them to think that they never had, never can have upon the farm a piece of machinery of so much importance, one that pays so great a percentage upon its cost, as a first rate grindstone—a grindstone did I say? I might say a dozen, for there are many farms where it might be the height of economy to own a dozen, of various shapes and sizes, of various qualities, adapted to various purposes; some stationary, and portable; some driven by steam, water, horse or dog power; some turned by hand, and some rigged with a treadle so as to be turned by the foot; but no one, great or small, should ever be hung upon a wooden shaft, or ever give a squeak when turned. In fact, the grindstone should be kept as well tuned as the piano; and no piece of machinery should be made to run smoother, and none ever did run smoother than a stone well hung upon well oiled friction rollers—just such a one as every good farmer has already, or will have as soon as he reads this discussion upon the uses and abuses of the grindstone.

NOTE.—Whoever would have the very best stone that is going, should inquire for and buy none but the Lake Huron Stone; we have used one three years, and find it the finest thing imaginable, worth a shipload of Bereas. Try them, all of you, who would have a good thing.—EDS. FAR.

THE NEW GAME LAW OF WISCONSIN.

SECTION 1. No person or persons (except Indians not civilized) shall kill, destroy or take, or pursue with intent to kill, destroy or take by any gin, snare, trap, device, contrivance, or means whatever, any woodcock between the first day of December and the first Tuesday of July following; or any snipe, grouse, prairie hen or chicken between the first day of December and the twelfth day of August following; or any partridge, ruffed grouse or quail between the first day of December and the first Tuesday of September following, in each and every year; and no person or persons shall at any time take or catch, by means of any trap, snare, device or contrivance whatever, any quail, grouse, ruffed grouse, prairie-hen or chicken, except upon his own premises, and during the time prescribed for the taking or killing of the same.

SEC. 2. Any person or persons who shall trap, snare, kill, destroy, or take by any device, means or contrivance whatever; or sell or expose for sale, any woodcock, snipe, quail, partridge, ruffed grouse, grouse, prairie-hen or chicken, during the time when the taking or killing of the same is prohibited by the first section of this act, or shall have either or any of said birds in his, her or their possession or custody after the time ceases for killing or taking said birds, shall, upon conviction, suffer the fine or penalty of two dollars for each and every woodcock, snipe, quail, partridge, ruffed grouse, grouse, prairie-hen or chicken so trapped, snared, killed, destroyed, sold or exposed for sale, or had in his, her, their possession or custody.

SEC. 3. No person or persons (except Indians not civilized) shall kill or take by any device, means or contrivance whatever, or sell or expose for sale, any deer, buck, doe or fawn between the first day of January and the first day of August following, or have in his, her, or their possession or custody, any fresh venison, or fresh deer skin, between the first day of February and the first day of August following, in each and every year; and every person or persons violating the provisions of this section, shall, upon conviction, for each and every deer, buck, doe or fawn so killed, taken or exposed for sale, and for each and every fresh deer skin or fresh piece of venison found

in his, her, or their possession, suffer the penalty ot ten dollars.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of any Justice of the Peace, residing in the county in which any of the provisions of this act shall be violated, on the filing in his office a complaint of any person, in writing, stating the name of the person or persons violating any of the foregoing provisions of this act, and the time when, and the place where, of such violation, together with an affidavit setting forth the facts as alleged, to cause such person or persons to be arrested and brought before such Justice, or some other Justice of the county, and upon conviction shall fine such person or persons in such amount as is prescribed by sections two and three of this act, which fine, when collected, said Justice shall pay one-half to the person making the complaint, the ballance to be paid into the county treasury, as provided by law.

Sec. 5. All laws heretofore passed relating to the preservation of game are hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage.

BEES AND BEE-HIVES—LOOK OUT FOR THE MOTHS.

Messrs Editors:—May we not occasionally have something to stimulate Bee Culture through our *Wisconsin Farmer*?

We think very many of your readers are with us wishing to gain more knowledge of the life, habits, and profits of the Honey Bee.

What a vast quantity of honey is lost every honey harvest for want of laborers; and how many bees there are destroyed every year, for the want of a little more knowledge in regard to saving honey by keepers, and having hives adapted to the union of weak swarms.

Almost the entire West is capable of supporting, and profitably so, more than one hundred stocks to the square mile.

Our greatest pest is the bee-moth, and *now* is the time to keep a sharp look out for their larvæ, which may be found about the bottom board of every hive, unless very well cared for. Every hive should be arranged with decoy blocks, into which the worm will retire and spin its cocoon, when it may be destroyed—these should be examined every morning during the warm weather. One worm destroyed now, will save a multitude by and by.

We do not see why a hive combining all the improvements necessary to success, should be excluded from favorable notice because it is "patented." Truth is what we want, and when any thing is proven to be no humbug, then its light should shine. After using Langstroth's hive for more than two years, we would not be without it for $25.

In transfering five stocks of bees from hive to hive, cleaning out the moth worms, and the hives, we have not encountered the sting of a single bee, and this, too, while they were busy at their work.

Brother Bee-keepers, look out for the moth *now!*

Geo. J. Kellogg.

Belle Cottage, Janesville, May 16, 1860.

Note.—We certainly have no objections to publishing any desirable general information, in relation to bees and bee-hives, whether patented or otherwise. We have had occasion in the past to reject one or two communications on bees and hives, because they were so palpably intended as puffs and special advertisements, stolen in gratis. Such drives we always intend to avoid.

The Langstroth hive we have no doubt is a good one; but we think there are several others as good, or even better, among the later improvements.—Eds.

HOW TO GET WATER ON DRY FARMS.

Messrs Editors:—In traveling through the country, how many farms do we find destitute of water. Now step up and ask why they do not dig a well—some will say "we are too poor;" others, "we are afraid to dig! Mr. So-and-so dug and found no water! others in this neighborhood have dug and drilled, but their wells are very deep, and I would as lief haul water a mile above ground as from a mile below; besides, some of their wells cost as much as my farm is worth!" You can do better than either. Dig a cistern at your house, barn, or at the nearest ravine, or place where water will run in the spring, when the snow is melting. It is to this kind of a cistern I wish to call *special* attention, not a little egg of a thing, but a good large one, that will hold ten or fifteen cords of water.

Below I will give you my way of making a Ravine Cistern: First, determine upon the place: next, get all ready; then dig the size you want—(8x16 and 10 feet deep is the size of mine)—after digging the depth you want, you will see what your foundation is to rest on, and unless it is gravel, or rock, I would recommend digging the bottom out to a circle, and commence the wall in the center of the bot-

tom, and build an arch upside down, to rest your walls on, then build the hight you want your walls and arch over, if you have plenty of the right kind of stone, if not, plank it, cover over and let it settle and dry out before you plaster it, build a dam across the water run with the earth you dug out, so as to let the water settle some before you let it into the cistern; what little mud runs in will not injure the plaster any, and you can clean it out every time you get a chance.

A WISCONSIN FARMER.

THE WINNEBAGO CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY VS. THE HON. GEO. S. BARNUM.

EDS. WISCONSIN FARMER:—Having been one of the officers of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society for the past three years I consider that I have some right to make a few remarks upon the dastardly attack which Mr. G. S. Barnum made upon the Agricultural Societies of the State, and that of Winnebago County in particular. And in the first place I would personally, and also in the name of our Society, thank you for your spirited defence of the farming class generally, against such miserable calumniators; and I have yet to find the first man who says that you were any too severe in your remarks, save and except the Editor of the Oshkosh *Democrat*, and even he admits that Mr. Barnum made an ass of himself; but says that he is a gentleman and a fine man generally, and so I suppose he may do or say anything he pleases. Now I never understood before that being a jackass was any qualification for being a gentleman. If you had not made the matter public in the *Farmer* it would have been kept very quiet; for altho', the Oshkosh *Democrat* could very quickly defend Mr. Barnum against your well merited castigation, it treated the abominable charges made by Mr. B. in the Legislature, against a whole body of men, of being *dishonest, drunkards*, and unprincipled horse jockies, *from his own personal knowledge*, as a *a small matter*; a *slight mistake!* A mistake, truly! I here pronounce the whole charge false; at least so far as the Winnebago County Agricultural Society is concerned, since I have been conversant with its affairs, which I have intimately for the last three years; and I defy the *honorable gentleman* to bring forward his proofs.—If he cannot prove his charges, he will stand convicted either of making a false statement, or else he was ignorant of the truth of what he so publicly charged, which I think is the case; for, as far as I can learn, he has never been to any fair or meeting of the Society, except the first year it was organized, when, I understand, he paid fifty cents and became a member; but surely he does not think that entitles him to be a member for life, for I believe he intimated he was a member of the Society at the time he made the charge; the most charitable conclusion that people round here come to, is that the *hon. gent.* was pretty well *corned* when he made the statement; for they cannot believe that any man in his senses would do it.

The following resolution was passed at a meeting of the Omro Farmers' Club:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the charges made by Mr. G. S. Barnum, in his place in the Legislature, against the Winnebago County Agricultural Society and its officers, were entirely out of place, uncalled for, and without any foundation in fact.

S. C.

Omro, Winnebago Co., June 6, 1860.

REMARKS.—We publish the foregoing, not from any desire on our part to again refer to the subject, for all may rest assured that we took hold of it, even in the first instance, with reluctance, and because no other journal seemed disposed to; but in justice to the many good agricultural friends we have in Winnebago Co., we cannot deny them a hearing, even though rather late.

It turns out just as we supposed, that the Hon. Mr. B. was wholly ignorant of what he was talking, or entirely indifferent as to the truth; either is bad enough. Our extensive acquaintance with the prominent agricultural men of our own, and other Western States, enables us to *know* that they are, as a rule, the very cream of the population; and, withal, the class that are almost uniformly first and foremost in these agricultural organizations, so berated by Mr. B., hence the immense absurdity of his assumptions. But as we have said before, we are willing to leave this whole matter, after making a proper public denial of it, with the constituents of the gentlemen concerned, and to refer them to no other document but their own reported language in debate. We think it may prove a lesson, not only for the past, but for the future; not only for the parties immediately concerned, but for all such as may rashly talk hereafter of holy things, either in mischief or malice.

P.

STOCK REGISTER.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA, OR CATTLE DISEASE.

This alarming evil, to which we have before referred, and which we left with the Massachusetts Legislative Committee last month, instead of being effectually hedged in and overcome by them, as was hoped, appears to have been much wider spread and more formidable than was anticipated. After slaughtering nearly one thousand head of cattle, and expending twice the amount of their appropriation of $10,000, the Committee reported to the Governor the necessity of additional powers and further money, to go on with their labors. The Governor at once called an extra session of the Legislature, which has promptly met, and is discussing the policy to be pursued.

The disease appears upon investigation to have taken so wide a range, and to be so subtle in its workings, as to be alarming in the highest degree; and bids fair to baffle even the utmost endeavors of the State to fully suppress it. And what makes the matter still more alarming, just at this juncture, is the undoubted appearance of the disease in other States; seeming to justify the opinion entertained by many that it has not wholly originated from the Belmont case. Its appearance in New Jersey, in several localities, and coming from the markets of New York, does not promise very favorably for either circumscribing or eradicating it immediately; but, on the whole, more like a national spread of it, in spite of all efforts.

As might naturally be expected, most of the Eastern States are getting thoroughly alarmed, and are taking the preliminary steps for guarding against it. It is clear to us that every State ought to do the same. It will be seen that our own Agricultural Society is moving in the matter, by their published proceedings. It is all right in them to discourage the exhibition of foreign stock, no matter where it comes from; there is no safety in it until this threatened danger is better understood. It is a calamity of such magnitude that too much cannot well be done to counteract it, so that it is done in the right way. We shall await further developments with great solicitude, and publish the latest news upon the subject at the close of each number. P.

☞ Fifty-five yearling mule colts were sold at Paris, Ky., this spring, for $7,000.

CATTLE DISEASE IN CONNECTICUT.

The Pulmonary Murrain.—We announced last week, with sorrow, that this disease had surely made its way into our State. It seems a man in Stafford had a sick cow, and as the suspicions of Mr. E. H. Hyde, and others of the town were aroused, they sent for Dr. Dadd, who came. They bought the cow, had her killed, and the result was all that they feared—a perfectly definite case. Several other animals belonging to the same man, but kept in Willington, near the Union line, were examined, and pronounced probably diseased; but, though offered much more than the value of one of them, the owner refused to sell her, so nothing more could be done. Dr. Dadd addressed quite a concourse of people hastily gathered in the Town Hall, explaining the disease, and giving advice in the premises. Several gentlemen were deputed by this meeting to go to New Haven and urge immediate action in the Legislature.

There has been considerable excitement in Hartford arising from some true and some false reports in regard to cattle brought into this vicinity from Massachusetts. We have been enabled to trace out some of the reports and find the fears unfounded, though caution is certainly desirable. Other causes have a very suspicious look, though we apprehend no danger really exists. Our butchers, most unwisely we think, have, we believe, bought in Massachusetts, cattle sold at much less prices than they would have been worth had they come from unsuspected districts, and this fact becoming known, of course the appetite for beef is not sharpened, and they have to salt it. While we have no idea that diseased beef has been offered by any respectable butcher, still we rejoice at the timely check given to the trade between here and the region whence diseased beef may be brought to our market.—*The Homestead.*

Profits of Sheep Raising.—J. W. Winchester, of Pittsfield, Lorain county, Ohio, gives the following statement, showing how wool-growing pays those who manage it as it should be. "Last season I clipped 250 sheep, the wool sold for $552. I have sold within the year 74 sheep, which is equal to the number of lambs raised, for $814, making $1366. My sheep are of the Spanish Merino breed, and mostly ewes; a few bucks and weathers. I have kept sheep for the last twenty years, and consider it the most profitable business a farmer can engage in." Samuel Toms, of Elyria, Ohio, says, "I keep on my farm 80 sheep; my sale of wool amounting to $105; sold 10 fat sheep, $90; 15 ewes, 1 ram, $310; 3 ewe lambs, 1 ram, $105; premiums at National, State, and County Fairs, $410. I have now on hand 80 sheep—my sheep are of pure Southdown and Leicestershire breeds, mostly Southdowns."

WOOL OF WAUKESHA COUNTY.

The Waukesha *Freeman* says it is estimated that the wool crop of the present season in that county, will be worth $150,000; some of the farmers having as many as 2,000 sheep.

There are twenty other counties in the State that ought to grow as much wool as Waukesha; this would make an aggregate of $3,000,000 for a summer distribution. What a God-send it would be in times like these! It would be an investment that the cattle disease would not endanger, and an addition to our annual income that would largely enrich the State.—It is one of the things that we devoutly hope, and confidently expect within a reasonable time.

P.

STATE AGRICULTURAL ROOMS,
Madison, Wis., June 9, 1860.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, held in their rooms on the 8th inst., for the the consideration of matters of importance connected with the Tenth Annual Exhibition, and pending a discussion of the alarming disease which has occasioned the destruction of so many cattle in Massachusetts, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, That contagious and most destructive disease known as "pleuro-pneumonia," is now making fearful ravages among the cattle of New England; *and, Whereas*, there is great danger, unless every precaution shall be used to prevent its spread, that it may extend from State to State, until the whole country shall have been made to suffer its devastations; therefore,

Resolved, That it becomes the imperative duty of every State not yet invaded by said disease, and of all agricultural organizations therein, to discourage, and, by all lawful means, strive to prevent, the importation of every description of neat cattle, until satisfactory evidence shall have been furnished that it has been entirely extirpated from the country.

Resolved, That, in pursuance of this conviction, we feel called upon, as the authorized representatives of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, to carefully exclude all such cattle, brought from without the limits of this State, from competition at the annual fair to be held at Madison in September next, or from admission to the grounds to be occupied for the purposes of the exhibition.

Resolved, That we do hereby urge upon all farmers and dealers in cattle in Wisconsin, the policy of non importation, not only as the wisest measure of self-protection, but also as a patriotic duty to the welfare of the State.

Resolved, further, That we respectfully and earnestly recommend to all the Boards of Agriculture, and Agricultural Societies of other States, a similar policy of non-importation.

The Committee, I may add, feel confident that the possibility of loss to our country of the more than seven hundred millions of dollars this moment invested in cattle in the several States of the Union, will, of itself, prove a sufficient incentive to a cheerful and hearty co-operation in the use of all measures that may reasonably be expected to stay the progress of this fell disease.

J. W. HOYT, Sec'y.

THE CATTLE DISEASE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The spread of the cattle disease is terrible to think of, and is exciting to read about.—The farmers of Hillsboro, New Hampshire, have had it introduced amongst them in the simplest and most easy manner possible. A drover who had collected together two hundred head of cattle to drive into New Hampshire to be pastured, picked up two heifers in East Lexington, Mass., that had been exposed to the contagion and brought them up to be pastured as the others were. The cattle composing the heard of two hundred were divided off amongst farmers in several towns before anything was known of the matter. Intelligence of the fact that the two heifers had been exposed, however, was sent forward, by the Massachusetts authorities. The heifers were immediately examined by a physician who had made himself well acquainted with the disease, when it was found they were badly diseased. These were killed. Meanwhile they had infected, probably, the other two hundred head. And to show how easily it is spread, it is stated that a Mr. Jones had a calf that got out of his yard, and mingled with the herd while it was in the neighborhood. Sixteen days after it was found diseased, and slaughtered. This calf is supposed to have infected several other herds.

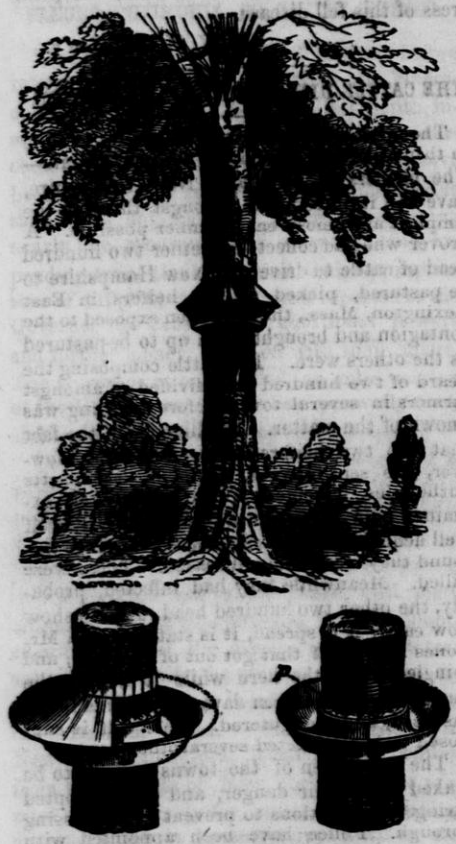
The select men of the towns appear to be waked up to their danger, and have adopted stringent regulations to prevent cattle passing through. Police have been appointed with authority to use force if necessary, and shoot down cattle coming from the infected district, if the drovers refuse to stop them. Most of the cattle in the border towns are to be sent into the interior, and horses only taken to pasture on the portions most exposed to contagion from cattle coming in accidentally from districts where the disease exists.—*Homestead.*

CURE FOR WARTS.—Take a small quantity of sulphur, melt it in an old spoon, or anything convenient, and after it cools break off a small particle, lay it upon the wart and apply a lighted match to the sulphur; bear it until the sulphur burns, if possible. This remedy is better than all the acids in creation, we know by experience, having destroyed some fifteen at one time on the hand with no bad consequences.

C. J. B.

SCRATCHES ON HORSES.—Wash their legs with warm soap-suds, and then with beef-brine; two appliactions will cure the worst case.

HORTICULTURAL.



FRUIT TREE PROTECTORS.

The above cuts illustrate an ingenious invention for protecting fruit trees from the myriads of crawling insects and vermin that infest them. The sectional cuts show more fully the dish in the one case with, and, in the other, without the cover. It is the invention of Wm. W. Taylor, of South Dartmouth, Mass. It has been considerably used in New England, and found highly efficacious and satisfactory; being so constructed as to be an impassable bar to everything that seeks to go up or dowr the body of the tree. It consists of a circular kind of dish, that shuts on to the body of the tree, and is kept filled with some liquid, usually a preparation of bitter or salt water, entirely offensive and destructive to insect life. The top part of the dish constitutes a projecting roof, to prevent flying up from the lower ledge, also to exclude rain-water.

They are usually made of cast iron, and of different sizes, to adapt them to different sized trees. There is a soft packing used to fill a considerable space between the collar of the dish and the body of the tree, so as not to interrupt growth or free circulation. All in all, they seem exceedingly well contrived for the purpose; and we notice that they are highly endorsed by such fruit men as Wilder, Downing, and Thomas.

Any of our fruit growers who would like further information in relation to them, can correspond directly with the patentee, who would like to introduce them into the West, and establish agencies for their sale.

SMALL FRUITS.

While we are in the midst of their enjoyment it is an appropriate time to remind the numerous readers of the *Farmer* of the duty they owe to themselves, to plant more of them. It is a fact that not one family in fifty, in the best settled portions of our State, have a supply of the most common in the list, (currants,) not to mention strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, &c.

Would that we could whisper a word of encouragement to every land owner in the State, be it a quarter section or a four-by-eight lot, till he resolved to furnish himself with an abundance of these little luxuries, ere another year rolled around. Such plants as are so cheap, increased by division of the roots, and easily kept in order, should, and may be purchased by all without hindrance. Any man with the facilities for growing a full supply of small fruits, and fails to do it, should be doomed to eat "sour-grapes," wild-strawberries, and crab-apples, as long as he lives.

We do not propose to give directions, in mid-summer for planting, but hope that this "mite," in the season of their fruit, may serve as a stimulant to all to look about them, and see for themselves, what varieties are best suited to their particular locality and soil, noting from their experience; and see if the wail of a "fruitless country" is not, to some extent, "dried up."

Though this class of fruit is termed *small*, there is, in reality, no excuse for their being so inferior in size that they are scarcely worth the gathering. Give them good cultivation, thoroughly working the ground with the spade and the hoe; then cover it over with half-rotted manure, chips are best, which will be a

mulch; at the same time promote a thrifty growth, not unfrequently three to five feet in a season. Try it, ye despondent ones, and see what miraculous things a little labor will bring forth.

Yours truly,
O. S. WILLEY.

Madison, June, 1860.

SUMMER MULCHING.

We copy an article on mulching from the *Horticulturist*, and would add our own testimony on the same subject:

We know, from personal experience, that it is of the utmost advantage in our dry, hot summer climate; and why everybody else has not found it out, after all that has been said about it, we cannot imagine. Still we often, when traveling through the country, see new planted trees in abundance, without a particle of mulch, and, perhaps, watered until the ground around them is as hard as a brick.—Now everybody ought to know, by this time, that if such trees live, it is almost a miracle. Still, plenty of people will go to great expense and trouble to obtain trees and planting them, yet omit this last essential, of little work and no expense; and, as the result, lose one half their trees, when with good and prompt mulching, seven-eighths, or nine-tenths, would live, and all would grow much better. These are facts, slack reader, and so you will find them, it is but a small job; then go and mulch your new planted trees without further delay, if you have not done so already; though late it is not too late. Old straw or litter of almost any sort, will answer the purpose; a circle of three or four feet around the tree, and three or four inches deep, is all that is wanted; that is the whole secret of mulching, nothing more or less; but its effects are wonderful. Read the following experience:

"Some nine years since, I planted twenty-five ten-year-old cherry trees; I well recollect being ridiculed for the attempt. No matter. I wanted cherries, and cheries I got. I superintended their lifting, yet, with all my care, they were sadly mutilated; fortunately it was a rainy time. They were carried a mile, and planted in holes previously prepared. "*I know how to plant a tree.*" All were mulched, and each tree was wrapped with a hay rope from the collar to the main branches; and even there, as far as possible. All lived; nay, they grew, and, although I paid a high price for them, they soon repaid me in fruit and pleasure many fold. Since then I have transplanted two hundred cherry trees five years old; seventy of them I mulched with *pea haulm*, and lost not one. The balance were not mulched, and I lost (or they are growing feebly) more than forty. They were all equally well planted in good loamy soil.

Last year I decided to remove a dozen beautiful dwarf pears into my lawn. The trees were carefully taken up, and as carefully planted. For a time all looked well; but soon, alas! feebleness was plainly visible; a portion of them shed their leaves entirely, and the knowing ones said they were "gone." Not so, however. I mulched the surface of the ground for a circumference of eight feet, and then mulched the trees. They were ten feet high. Stakes twelve feet long were placed around each tree; the branches were drawn together, and tied with listing, and then a cotton sheet was wound around the whole. Night and morning, with a syringe, the branches were moistened; no water to the roots. In three or four weeks the buds began to swell, and at midsummer they were in full foliage again. The sheet was gradually removed, and, during a rainy time, entirely so. Some of them made several inches of new wood, while others set some fruit, which, as a matter of course, was taken off.—Of the twelve, eleven have entirely recovered. The twelfth, during severe gales, had the sheet badly torn, and so left. It is feeble, and may not recover.

Some years since I made an experiment to test the utility of mulching *specifically*. I took up two dwarf pears, two years old, trimmed their roots and pruned their tops alike, and replanted within ten feet of each other. One I mulched three inches deep with tan-bark; the other was left without anything. In the fall I took up both trees for examination. The mulched tree showed innumerable new rootlets, while the other had no visible sign of any change, other than the granulation of the cut. The mulched tree made plenty of new wood; the unmulched very little—yet both seemed in good health.

Three years since a piece of land came into my possession, having at a prominent point a pear wilding, probably fifteen years old. At first I concluded to cut it down. But on reflection—a tree being easier cut down than built up—I determined to make an experiment with it. I had finished grafting some weeks before, and had thrown a small bundle of Bartlett scions in the wood-house. Upon the 12th of May I pricked up those dry scions, headed every branch of the tree, excepting one, to within five inches of their base—cleft grafted them eight in number—one in each branch, the branches being about an inch thick. Six of the scions I covered entirely with dissolved shellac. The other two were left as usual. The six grew finely, while the *two* died out! This season the tree bore some very fine specimens. Now, it may be said this case is irrelevant; but not so. The scions were *mulched*—that is, evaporation was checked so long as needed."

HOME CIRCLE.

EDITED BY MRS E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

WORK WITH A WILL.

Pull away cheerily, work with a will,
Labor itself is pleasure and health;
Man is a creature of infinite skill,
And contentment is seldom the handmaid of wealth.
Life is at best but a rugged ascent,
For ever, and ever, and ever, up hill;
Yet nothing is gained to a man by dissent,
Then pull away cheerily, work with a will!

Pull away cheerily, work with a will,
God is the master urging us on;
Idleness bringeth us trouble and ill,
Labor itself is happiness won!
Work with the heart, and work with the brain,
Work with the hands, and work with the will;
Step after step we conquer the plain,
Then pull away cheerily, work with a will!

Pull away cheerily, work with a will,
No one can tell the length of his stay;
Already the sun is climbing the hill!
Up and be doing while it is day!
Never despair, though much must be done;
A river at birth is nought but a rill;
Another may finish what you have begun,
Then pull away cheerily, work with a will!

Pull away cheerily, work with a will,
Let not a drone-bee live in the hive;
The world driveth on like a busy old mill,
And each with our web we busily strive.
Our Father, who scanneth the ocean and land,
This beautiful world of valley and hill,
Seeth naught but a six days' work with his hand—
Then pull away cheerily, work with a will!

—*Mrs. Curtis' Home Ballads.*

COOKING.

Cooking is both a science and an art. Now don't stand aghast at this remark. I do not mean to say that it requires a Solomon of science, or Raphael of art. But I do mean to say that there may be science and art in the kitchen, without any body's thinking of it.—To know how to cook economically is an art. Making money is an art. Now, is there not more money made and lost in the kitchen than almost anywhere else? Does not many a hard working have his substance wasted in the kitchen? Does not many a shiftless man have his substance saved in the kitchen? A careless cook can waste as much as one man can earn, which might as well be saved. It is not what we earn, so much as what we save, that makes us well off. Saving is a more difficult art than earning. Some people put dimes into pies and puddings where others only put in cents; the cent dishes are best and healthiest. Many a stupid woman can cook a relishable meal of victuals, if she has an abundance of good things with which to do it. But to cook well out of a little, and well from a scant larder is a real art. This is a great accomplishment; for, while it will save money, it will save health; and while it will save both money and health, it will save both patience and love.—Many a husband loses his love with his money. Love often runs out at the same place where money does. Some women wear out their husband's love on their backs and heads; others cook it out in the kitchen; others travel it out. It goes some way very often with the waste of money. While, therefore, I plead for economy in the culinary art for the health and prosperity of the household, I do it also for domestic love. Oh, all ye matrons, young and old, rich and poor, learn to practice the art of cooking much with a little; so will you study the interests of your household, and save much to feed the fires of conjugal love.—*The Valley Farmer.*

Co-operation of the Wife.—No man ever prospered in the world without the co-operation of his wife. If she unites in mutual endeavors, or rewards his labor with an endearing smile, with what confidence will he resort to his merchandise or his farm, fly over lands and sail upon seas, meet difficulty and encounter danger, if he knows that he is not spending his strength in vain, but that his labor will be rewarded by the sweets of home! Solitude and disappointment enter the history of every man's life; and he is but half provided for his voyage who finds not an associate for his happy hours, while for his months of darkness and distress no sympathizing partner is prepared.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Preservation of Milk and Cream.—Put the milk into bottles, then place them in a saucepan with cold water, and gradually raise it to the boiling point; take it from the fire and instantly cork the bottles, then raise the milk once more to the boiling point for half a minute. Finally, let the bottles cool in the water in which they were boiled. Milk thus treated will remain perfectly good for six months. Emigrants, especially those having children, will find the above hint add much to their comfort while on their voyage.

To Clean China and Glass.—The best material for cleaning either porcelain or glassware, is fuller's earth, but it must be beaten into a fine powder and carefully cleared from all rough or hard particles, which might endanger the polish of the brilliant surface.

☞ If your flat irons are rough, rub them with fine salt.

☞ If you are buying a carpet for durability choose small figures.

☞ A hot shovel held over varnished furniture will take out white spots.

☞ A small piece of glue dissolved in skim milk and water will restore old crape.

☞ Ribbons should be washed in cold suds and not rinsed.

☞ Scotch snuff put in holes where crickets come out will destroy them.

☞ Half a cranberry bound on a corn will soon kill it.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

FABLE OF THE FLY.

BY MRS. HOYT.

The day was fine, the sky so blue,
The air so soft and sweet;
Sir Fly, to see what he could do,
Went out to try his feet.

"Oh, ho!" said he, "but I can walk,
Just like this boy and girl;
Go in and out, and off his nose,
Then up and down her curl."

Well pleased was Fly, and loud he buzzed,
To find that he could walk;
And "buz-a-buz," he thought at last
That he could laugh and talk.

How long Sir Fly was out to walk,
Not you or I can tell,
When on a Bee, so grand and gay,
His eye-lids rose and fell.

"What! how is this! how *fast* he goes!
All out of sight at once;
Now, on my life, *I'll* learn the way,
Nor stand here like a dunce."

So out, and up he spread *his* wings,
To see how *they* would go;
"Oh, oh!" said Fly, "I'll walk no more
On feet so small and slow.

"I'll live out doors, or in the house,
In tea-cups, or on trees;
I'll eat and drink just what I like,
And do just as I please."

Then up, and down, and round he went,
And thought it all so fine,
To be a Fly, and have two wings
With green and gold to shine.

The feet with which he learned to walk,
When he was small and green,
He tried to hide them out of sight—
Not fit, now, to be seen.

Once, when he stopped a bit, to rest
On the clean bed-room wall,
He looked in fear, who might be there
To see him walk and crawl.

Nor would he go to bed at night,
Till all the lights were out;
Not though his feet and legs were tired,
As though he had the gout.

His new-found wings, so fleet and gay,
Were all the good he knew;
He scarce would stop to eat a crumb,
Or sip a drop of dew.

Not on a bug, or worm, or ant,
Sir Fly would deign to look;
Nor cared to know the way to school,
Or what was in a book.

He thought the world was made for him;
The world, all wings and eyes;
He thought he was the king and queen
Of all this world of flies.

So gay he grew, and grew so fast,
He knew not what to do,
The best to see and show his wings,
As round and round he flew.

Once, when his head was well nigh turned,
So long and well he danced,
A big, round pan of snow-white milk,
On shelf close by there chanced.

"Now, half" said he, "to quench my thirst,"
And half my wings to try,
I'll drink my fill, then swim that sea,
Or I am not Sir Fly."

He thought not once—of course not twice—
If milk his weight would bear;
Nor did he know, if he had thought,
The odds of milk and air.

How could he, when he did not care
Aught wise or good to learn?—
Just be a fly, though all the world
This way, or that, should turn.

But while we talk he made the plunge;
Went in, of course head first;
The legs came next, and then the feet,
First bad, then worse, and worst.

The day was fine, the sky so blue,
The milk so warm and sweet,
Yet Fly had given—what had he *not?*
Just *then*, to find his feet!

To save his soul he could not tell
Which were his wings or legs;
While loud for help from one, or both,
To swim that sea, he begs.

But vain he called on wings, to fly;
In vain on feet, to walk;
The feet he hid, the wings he spread,
Both seemed at him to mock.

The legs that once were stout and firm,
Now hung like shreds of rags;
The wings so light the air to sail,
Flapped down like sea-drenched bags.

"My wings! my wings! where are ye gone?
Help! help! or down we go!
How soft and bright ye were just now—
Oh, dear! oh, oh! oh, oh!"

'Twas all in vain. From out that flood
No wings had power to rise;
His cheek grew pale, his voice grew faint,
And dim, in death, his eyes.

The big round world is full of tongues
That speak to great and small;
The oak tree and the rose hath voice,
The fly, so poor and small.

And thus we all may learn the way,—
The child, the bird, the ant;
Some things there are that we can do,
And some things that we can't.

☞ Children, life was given you for a noble purpose. Prove yourselves worthy of the precious gift by strong, unceasing efforts to become wise and good men and women.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EGYPT DEFENDED.

EDITORS WISCONSIN FARMER:—Will you allow me to state a few facts in reply to "Egypt vs. Wisconsin."

In sparsely settled districts the vipers hiss, dont they? rattlesnakes hiss in the marshy districts of Wisconsin; on the bottoms the mosquitoes are as troublesome in Southern Illinois as they are in the Pineries of Northern Wisconsin. Every State has its own peculiar diseases. Were correct mortuary statistics taken, I think the elevated lands of Egypt would compare favorably with any part of the United States; on the highlands we have no mosquitoes. Union county has no milk-sickness; in districts where it prevails, where the land has been cultivated for three years, if it is then seeded with tame grasses, there is no more milk-sickness. But few people die of native diseases; and I think there is as much sickness in the Northern States as here, judging from the number of doctors, drug-shops, medical advertisements, etc.; believing a person of correct habits may enjoy average health anywhere. Rich gravies and fat meats are for the North; here we have vegetables and luscious fruits. Some men here get tipsy on peach brandy—it is the curse of Egypt. In Wisconsin some men become boozy by drinking lager beer. 'Tis true, weeds grow faster here than the cultivator will keep down; but what is pleasanter work than with a nice steel polished plow, and steady mule to keep plowing them under; enriching the growing corn with a green coat of manure? Our country is broad and diversified in soil, climate and productions; and equally diversified are the tastes and habits of the people, then let every person live in that section where he can enjoy the most happiness.

At this place tomatoes are ripe; cherries and mulberries about over; wheat ready for the harvester; the season has been dry; there is an abundant apple and peach crop; the climate here is soft, balmy, and luxurious; the weather generally delightful, I have never seen the day that a person was not very comfortable under the shade of a tree.

I feel like doing all I can to develop friendly trade with the North, and have made several shipments of our fine products there. I shall also try and open a trade with the South.

Yours truly, J. A. CARPENTER.

South Pass, Union Co., Ill., June 6, 1860.

COOK'S EVAPORATOR—TESTIMONY OF A MAN WHO HAS TRIED IT IN WISCONSIN!

Knowing that Mr. Clark, of Albion, in this county, had bought and used one of the above evaporators last year, although a stranger to us, we dropped him a line to learn his opinion of it; presuming that the experience of a well known and good Wisconsin farmer would be more satisfactory to many who are enquiring of us in relation to it, than anything we could say on the subject. His reply is as follows:

D. J. POWERS, ESQ., *Dear Sir:*—It is with pleasure that I express my opinion of Cook's Evaporator from my limited experience. The one that I used last season worked far beyond my expectations, and if I could not get another I would not take double what it cost me, judging from what I know about it, and I consider that I know but a small part of its real worth. When I started my machine all that I knew about using it was, that I must pour in the juice at one end, and the syrup would run out at the other—being destitute of proper directions. But I soon found it to be a fact, and that juice *would* run in, and syrup out, at the same time, and that, too, at a smart rate, providing you kept the fire agoing. I could boil four gallons an hour without any trouble. I did not make any sugar, from the fact that I was unacquainted with the nature of the cane, and relied upon the judgment of others, which was, that freezing did not hurt it. I had one acre of cane of my own which I intended to try to make into sugar, as it had arrived nearly to maturity before the frost injured it, and was an extra crop for the season. But with the impression already stated, I let it freeze, but found that by so doing it lost its granulating properties, and made inferior syrup.

I think that from well matured cane, sugar can be made of an extra quality. The syrup I made of cane before it froze is as white as any honey I ever saw, and cake made of it resembles that made of refined sugar in appearance and its flavor is full as pleasant, according to my taste. What I made of good cane before it froze, was not boiled thick enough to granulate. I made a little less than 700 gallons, and could have made double the amount in the same time, If I had had a suitable machine for squeezing the cane. The one I had to depend upon was a wooden one of my own construction. I obtained an iron one manufactured at Whitewater; it would grind fast enough, but it would not squeeze out the juice—I threw it one side. I intend to get a good crusher this season, and then see what I can do.

These hasty and broken sentences express my candid opinion; and any information that I can hereafter favor you with, I shall give with great pleasure. Yours truly,

J. J. CLARK.

Albion, Dane Co., Wis., June 17, 1860.

The Cattle Disease.

This subject still continues to alarm the entire East; the Massachusetts Legislature held a short special session, enlarged their committee having the matter in charge, from three to five, and also materially enlarged their powers.

If we credit all the rumors on the subject, the disease is already in a dozen or twenty localities in New England, New York, and New Jersey; probably some of the rumors are erroneous; we certainly hope so. Connecticut through fear of it has concluded to hold no Fair, and other Eastern States are considering the propriety of doing the same thing.

It will be seen that our Agricultural Board has taken prompt action in the matter; it is all right. We hope to have a more encouraging report to make next month.

Wool.

From our numerous exchanges we learn that the prices of last year are hardly sustained.—Buyers in Ohio and Michigan insist on a reduction of from 5 to 8 cents per lb.—sellers hold back for old prices; whether they will get them remains to be seen. We believe that wool-dealers are doing what they can to depress the prices, and that they will get better instead of worse. Old stock on hand, and large importations of manufactured goods, and even fine wools, are urged as the cause of the depression. We would not advise farmers to hold on too long, but merely not to give so ready credence to wool buyers' stories.

Patent Office Reports.

Senator Dolittle has our thanks for copies of the last Patent Office Reports—Mechanical for 1858, and Agricultural for 1859. We will duly refer to them in coming numbers.

Wiard's Ice Boat at the State Fair,

Mr. N. A. Wiard, the ingenius inventor of this novel mode of traveling, exhibited a working model of his boat in our office a few evenings since. It was a very neat and ingenious thing, and, excited the admiration and strengthened the faith of all who saw it. Mr. W. has a large working boat at Prairie du Chien, ready for trial next winter. He offers to exhibit it at the State Fair at Madison, if suitable inducements are held out to him. We hope he will be able to do so, and, also, to finally make it work to the extent of his sanguine anticipations. We expect to publish an illustration of it in our next number, in which case we will describe it generally at least.

The Scientific American

Commences a new volume with July; it is, perhaps, needless for us to repeat what all are saying, and that is, that it is the finest mechanical journal of this country, or, probably, of the world. All who would be well posted in the rapid mechanical development of the times should take it of course. Subscription $2 per year, or $1 for six months; or ten copies one year for $15—six months $8.

Address MUNN & Co., New York.

To the Press of the State

We would return warm thanks for the many kindly notices we are constantly receiving: and will do our best to deserve them. Perhaps we appreciate them the more highly because they are all the pay we get for our labors.

[Thus much of the "Editor's Table" appears in this unusual place for want of room at the close.]

CHINCH BUGS IN CORN AND WHEAT.

An Illinois correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* writes as follows:

These little pests almost destroyed the entire crop in this locality last season. I noticed that when a stalk of corn came up among the grain—and this is often the case when sown on corn land—immediately about the stalk the grain matured perfectly—was not injured by the bugs.

My theory is this: When grain commences to ripen, the sap leaves the bottom of the stem first and ascends. The bugs do not like to follow it, for when they get up too high on the stem it becomes too hot for them. They therefore leave the wheat and attack the corn, leaving a sufficient supply of sap in the wheat stalk to mature the grain perfectly. I have also noticed that when wheat was sown along side of a field of corn, there was a strip not injured in the least.

Now for a remedy for a chinch-bug in wheat: Prepare the ground in the fall and sow in the spring, as soon as the ground will permit.—About the first of June, take a small bull-tongue plow and run furrows through the wheat, ten or fifteen feet apart. Drill in corn. When the wheat begins to ripen, the bugs will leave it and go on the young corn, where they can get a better supply of food.

To keep them from corn, when planted alongside of wheat, prepare and sow thick with corn a small piece of land between the wheat and the planted corn—of sufficient size to supply the whole army with a comfortable living, after they leave the ripening wheat, which they will do if there is corn for them to feed upon.

Then kill them. They will all gather on this strip of corn. Haul straw—dry straw—throw it among the corn and fire it. They can all be destroyed in this manner.

RUST IN WHEAT—ITS CAUSE.

The cause of rust in wheat has generally been attributed to wet, warm, lowery weather, at a certain stage of its growth—that is, when the berry is in its milk. A member of the Winnebago (Ill.) Farmers' Club gives his theory thus:

"We generally find that the rust makes its appearance about such a time, and that it is in this extreme hot weather which we have in the forepart of July. Now, sir, let it rain one hour, either fast or slow, then let the sun shine out as hot as it generally does at that season of the year, and so it may continue to do for a half dozen times a day, alternately, and at night what is the result? Why, the rain has all run off the stalk down into the roots, to send forth nourishment to the stalk. No rain adheres to the stalk; but let the night be warm and close, there will be a heavy dew, and this dew is called a honey dew; it sticks to the stalk, or leaf, wherever it falls, and a hot sun the following morning dries it on the stalk, or leaf, which proves a deadly poison to wheat or oats. Now, let it rain the following morning, after the dew, and there will be no rust to hurt the wheat. I would say to all farmers who may chance to read this article, to examine for themselves. I have never known this kind of dew to fall, except in the extreme hot weather in the month of July, and I have known wheat entirely destroyed by rust, when there had been no rain to cause the rust on the grain when it has been very showery."

LIFE INSURANCE.—A Convention of officers of life insurance companies was held in New York this week, at which some interesting facts were brought out. We copy the following from a report of the proceedings:

Among the numerous facts presented were these: The funds now held in trust by the Life Insurance Companies amount to $22,000,000; the sums insured are about $180,000,000, and the number of lives near 160,000. Over $2,000,000 are paid out every year by the falling in of claims, mostly to widows and orphans. And yet, as was remarked by Mr. Barnes and others, "Life Insurance in this country is only in its infancy."

Elizur Wright, Esq., Insurance Commissioner of Massachusetts, presented a paper exhibiting the mortuary experience of companies which had been reported to his State for the past year. This experience of 14 companies was equal to about 50,000 years of life, and it proved that life in this country, at the ages between 30 and 35 was not subject to as high a rate of mortality as similar returns proved it to be in Great Britian and Germany.

We notice that Mr. KELLOGG, the energetic Secretary of our Wisconsin Company, was present at the Convention, and duly represented Wisconsin.

OFFICERS' FEES IN OREGON.

NEWSON'S MILLS, OREGON, April 17.

EDITOR FARMER:—It would be well with us that we turn our attention to the exorbitant rates of fees allowed by law in Oregon to various officers whose emoluments come direct from the people's pockets. The ruinous system of high prices enters largely into the "fee bills" of all officers of the law amongst us. Let any man compare those fee bills with similar ones in the States, and he will see that they are from three to six times as much as the others. And, as a general thing, those rates or costs are wrung from the *poor man* here. The larger officers are paid from the State Treasury, which is supplied from the pockets of the taxpayers. Let a poor man be sued for ten dollars, and the costs at once amount to ten more! Constables' fees are exorbitant here; Justices' fees the same. But there is a class of costs here which comes direct from the *peoples' pockets*, that are beyond all precedent elsewhere. I mean lawyers' fees. The law-makers here have not attempted to set limits to the fees or charges of lawyers in our country.

They are a rapacious set of idlers, who fasten upon the vitals of the people and never loosen their hold, while any vitality (cash) remains to be had. Their fees are from five to fifteen times those of lawyers in the Western States. And the laws are so framed here, *by them, and for them*, that even a petty case cannot be brought *successfully* before a county Justice of the Peace, without the aid of an "Attorney."

And the rates of Clerks' fees here are exorbitant; and in fact, without *particularizing*, all know that all fees here, by law, are ruinous to the masses of the people. While times were flush and money plenty here, and Uncle Sam footed the most of our expenses, things went on pretty well. But a change has come over us.

REMARKS:—We copy the foregoing from the *Oregon Farmer*, because we deem it equally applicable to our own latitude; we are well satisfied that fees and compensation to public (servants) officers, as a rule, are much too high in our own State. What is alleged in the Oregon complaint about court and legal fees, may be made with equal justice in our own case; especially in all the higher courts. It is a well established fact that it often costs as much to collect a debt of a hundred dollars when resisted in a court of record, as the original sum amounted to. A lawyer must have from $10 to $25, and sometimes as high as $50, (if he thinks it will do to charge it,) for conducting the suit; and the other fees usually amount to as much more. But it is usually answered that the costs come out of the debtor. Well,

suppose they do; does that make the matter any better? Is it to be taken for granted that debtors are dishonest in all cases, and ought to be thus punished? By no means; debtors are more usually poor and unfortunate than dishonest; and that fact brings us right to the point that we are trying to make: that most of these exorbitant charges and fees fall upon the poor and unfortunate, and thus, not unfrequently, double their burthens.

Now this thing is all wrong in itself, besides being doubly wrong in thus legally robbing the unfortunate. If any one takes issue with us, and alleges that we are complaining without cause, we are ready to present the facts, taken from the Revised Statutes, in support of what we say; and to urge them upon the attention of the great masses of the people until they heed them, despite of their dullness upon such subjects.

We would like to see this whole matter brought thoroughly before the people during the next election canvas, and to see a legislature elected upon such an issue. Not a set of sharp and starved lawyers to come here and make matters worse to the extent of their ability, in order to sustain five times as many of their fraternity as are needed; nor, on the other hand, a set of basswood farmers, who were never away from home before, and come here to be led and fooled for two or three months of a tomfool session, by a few political tricksters, of whom, we are sorry to say, there is a plenty in both parties, who are only laboring to secure some prospective office or employment, or to create some new office for themselves or friends. Under this head we could particularize somewhat, if necessary; and refer to not a few mere empty offices and commissions that have few or no important duties performed under them, except the drawing of handsome salaries regularly every quarter. Send sound, capable, and high-minded business men whether farmers or lawyers to make laws. But enough for now; more may be said upon the subject hereafter, if it is thought that it will be appreciated and prove of any practical benefit. We have no desire for mere gossip upon the subject, without point or purpose. There are other causes besides poor crops for why our farmers and working people are poor, and likely, in too many cases, to be poorer; a big and constantly recurring tax in addition to the other oppressions referred to, fall like sledge-hammer strokes upon any struggling community.

THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

One in rambling through the long halls and multitudinous departments of the General Post office, at Washington, may chance, as we did, to stumble upon the Dead Letter office, and if so, they will feel interested to look in for a few moments, to witness the wholesale slaughter of letters that are constantly gathering there from unknown owners.

At long ranges of tables sit from a dozen to twenty clerks, each with a bushel or two of letters before him in a promiscuous heap, which he is hastily tearing open, carefully and quickly examining, to see if they contain any money or valuables, and if none, they are cast beneath his feet like husks of corn. No time is taken to read them, or a word of them; but simply with a glance of the eye, to detect money or drafts, in which case they are thrown into another heap, to be returned to their owners. While the mere letters and envelopes are gathered up from the floor in large baskets, and sent away to the burning furnace, an institution made on purpose, and in which all *dead* letters mingle in one common volume of fire and smoke, no matter whether their contents be of joy or sorrow, business or love, the fire consumes them just as readily, and only a small pile of ashes remain; typical perhaps of the sorting, saving a few, and burning the many, of all humanity, at the great day we read of. Who knows?

While contemplating this rapid sort of corn shucking among the letters, one of the clerks standing near handed us a big handful of valentines, which he had thrown to one side, instead of into the common pile for burning, saying, "Give them to your children, they will amuse them." Thus we became possessed of ample stores of love, and folly, to move to mirth or melancholy.

We do not believe that this system of dead letter slaughter will last always; it strikes us that there might be some better way of returning uncalled for letters to those who write them. Time will tell.

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE.—We occasionally receive letters containing valuable information, but which the writer forgot to sign or affixed a fictitious signature. Correspondents should recollect that all such documents are thrown aside. We *never* publish communications unless the name of the author is known to us.

THE PATENT OFFICE.

This is an institution of which doubtless our readers have heard more or less, but one which all of them may not have seen. Having spent considerable time in and about it during our recent visit to Washington, we propose to detail a few of its items that may prove interesting.

The Patent Office Building is a vast and elegant structure of white marble, covering an entire block, with some slight exceptions in the way of out grounds; it is three stories high, and almost wholly devoted to patent purposes. The two lower stories are occupied by the various officers connected therewith in the way of Examiners. There are over twenty—each of whom has some particular class of subjects assigned to him and his department, and has more or less assistants to aid him, as circumstances may require; thus constituting separate and independent tribunals, each for his department. Thus systematized, after years of experience, they do or ought to become very skillful in examining new models, and determining upon their originality, usefulness, and patentable merits. The examiners are generally elderly men, and are not often changed with changing administrations; they are regarded, as in truth they are, as Courts Mechanical, where things, instead of persons are tried and adjudged.

In the same neighborhood are the record rooms, where every patent issued is recorded, and where all assignments and sales of them are also recorded, the same as lands are in counties. These record books are free to the inspection of all, without price. Adjoining is the drafting room, where all the drafts of everything patented are kept, each class or kind in portfolios; and any particular one you enquire for will be furnished you for examination. A throng are often in these rooms, examining the patent records and drafts. No one is allowed to copy them but the regular clerks, who will do so to any extent desired for proper fees.

But by far the most interesting portion of the office is yet to be referred to, and that is the third, or upper story, where the models are arranged and kept. It is one, or, rather three vast halls, connected in the front and the two wings, and in these halls are arranged a multitude of tall cases with glass doors, and enclosing all around them, so as to admit of everything being seen within them. In these cases all of the models are arranged and labeled, with the name of the machine, the patentee and the date of the patent. For instance, one contains the models of all the reapers and their improvements, on which patents have been granted, (and their name is legion.) The next contains the plow family, not less numerous, and so-forth, and-so-on, without end. Such a wilderness of models as no one can imagine without seeing them—and as no one can understand without years of examination and study. It seems incredible that so much *whittling* could have been done by the restless Yankee in the few years since they have been collecting.

The rural genius who often thinks he is inventing something new, because different from what he has seen, might, in not a few instances, save his labor and his money in trying for a patent, if he could but examine the labors of those who have gone before him in the same department of invention.

In the west wing of the hall are the models of applications which have been rejected, and these, too, are really numerous; this whole vast collection of models is, perhaps, the greatest display of both ingenuity and folly combined, that exists under any one roof under the sun; it is the great demonstrative school of American ingenuity, and should, as far as possible, be studied by all who would be first class inventive mechanics.

Persons wishing to examine any model or class of models, are, on application to the superintendent of the hall, furnished with an attendant, who takes them to the particular case, unlocks it and stands by them until their examination is completed, without words, money, or price, whether the time consumed is long or short; thus no one is permitted to touch a model, except under the eye of an attendant. All proper, of course.

All in all the Patent Office is a great institution; and, so far as we could see, generally well systematized and managed. That it is doing more than any other institution in the way of working out American character and progress, we have no doubt. Not but what we are aware that it is developing a great deal of chaff, but among it there is a great deal of wheat, of quality that cannot be estimated at too a high a value. Blot out the inventions and improvements upon the steam engine, the reaper, the printing press, telegraph, and the

sewing machine, and countless other almost equally important matters, for the last twenty years, and where should we be? No where, in our own estimation, for a while at least.—Few of the rushing multitudes of this fast age stop to realize how much they owe to mechanical invention and ingenuity, or how much of this is attributable to the encouragement and protection of the Patent Office.

We think its vast business has rather outgrown its original plan and organization, and that parts important modifications and improvements are called for in some of its practice and operations, and if so, they will not long escape the remodeling and progressive spirit of the times.

THE MANNY PREMIUM REAPER—WALWORTH COUNTY CROPS, &c.

D. J. Powers & Co., Editors *Wisconsin Farmer:*—Gentlemen: In the *Farmer* of June 1st, you publish a notice from J. W. Hoyt, Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, that the Examining Committee of the Society have awarded the Reaper, offered in 1859, by Manny, Blinn & Co., of Rockford, Ill-, for the best crop of spring wheat, of 20 acres or more, grown within this State in 1859, to James P. Carr, of Dane county, he having grown about 28¼ bushels to the acre, in a field of about 23 acres. In the same notice he says that the Committee were aware of considerable larger crops grown by other parties; but, unfortunately, the successful cultivators had not properly entered them, and were not entitled to compete for the prize. Now, as fairness and impartiality are the life and basis of the success of any Agricultural Society, he might have done me the justice to state who it was that had a larger crop, and where it was raised; for personal success in this matter is so blended with the agricultural reputation of any particular locality where the merit exists, that the two cannot be separated; and I write this more out of regard to the reputation of my county, than for any personal benefit I may hope to receive, as the award has already been made, though, *I* think, unjustly. As it is now, Dane county gets *all* the glory!

Now let me give you the facts of the case: Mr. Carr and myself were the only persons on the list who competed for the prize, and I think I am correct in this, as I had my entry on the books of the Society in the latter part of September, just previous to the Fair, and he was, *then*, my only competitor. My product was 32 bushels to the acre, from a field of 41 acres and 4 rods of land.

Now take a look at Mr. Carr's 28¼ bushels to the acre, from a field of about 23 acres, and my 32 bushels to the acre, from a field of about 41 acres, and I am willing to let a discriminating public judge as to the fairness of the award.

He says: "unfortunately the successful cultivators had not properly entered them, and were not, therefore entitled to compete for the prize." Now I consider this a mere subterfuge to cover personal favor and partiality.—This excuse smacks too much of the technicalities peculiar to the lawyers; and if it is expected that the farmers will be as technically prompt and correct in entering the lists "at the drop of a hat," to get their rights of the Society, as this would seem to indicate, we, as a class, had better stay at home and mind our own business, and let the Society *go down*.—The *object* of a State or County Agricultural Society *should* be, protection and encouragement to the Farmer, with a reward to true and the most successful merit, *honorably distributed*. 'Tis true there should be *rules* governing all such societies; but they should not be so stringently enforced as to exclude *merit* properly presented, or curtail, in any degree, that generous encouragement held out to the farmer as an incentive to exertion and a manly striving for the prize. I hope that you will have the kindness to publish this article, and let old Walworth county come in for a share of popular favor, to which she is justly entitled, from the superior richness of the soil, as well as the thrift, industry, and intelligence of her agricultural population.

I have the honor to remain,
Respectfully, your ob't serv't,
Henry Hunt.

Delavan, June 11, 1860.

Remarks.—We publish the foregoing with pleasure, but must be permitted to comment thereon, as the circumstances of the case and the spirit of the communication seem to require.

That a farmer of Walworth should feel a local pride in the fertile soil and enterprising agriculture which characterize that noble and productive county, is both natural and commendable. Would that more of the farmers in all the counties of our State were animated by a genuine sentiment of this sort. Nor is it surprising that one who gallantly strove to achieve a triumph for his particular locality should be somewhat nettled by an *unnecessary* failure to win the award of superior merit. It is a source of regret, however, that any individual whose claims to a sense of propriety, to manly candor, and professional zeal, are as valid as friend Hunt's have been represented to be, should so far shut his eyes to the facts in the case in hand, as to fail entirely to recognize his own culpable neglect, as the true cause of that failure which he would now fain charge

upon the dishonesty of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society.

The folly of the first insinuation, that the Committe were influenced by local prejudices, will be made apparent by the fact that the members of said Committee belong in different counties of the State, and yet were *unanimous* in making the award as published. So far as we are ourself concerned, there is nothing of which we are more thoroughly conscious than of the absolute want of any narrow partiality for the county of Dane, simply because it happens to be the place of our more usual abode. We have no business now, nor have we had since our residence in Wisconsin, but to labor for the agricultural interests of the *entire* State. We claim all the counties of the State for our field, and feel an equal interest in the prosperity and good name of each. As to Walworth, in particular, we are willing to leave our oft-repeated encomiums upon its lands and people to answer the unjust and utterly baseless charge made by our correspondent.

The charge of personal favor is equally groundless. The Committee were acquainted with neither of the parties referred to, and knew nothing about them except that they were reported to be gentlemen of good standing in their communities, respectively. But inasmuch as the premium offered was not for the best moral character, but rather for the *best crop* grown in the State, and *entered in competition, in accordance with certain rules of the Society*, the crop and compliance with the rules were alone to be considered.

As to quantity—and perhaps quality—of grain, the crop of Mr. Hunt took precedence; this we cheerfully admit. But that he complied with the published rules of the Society, one of which requires competitors to "*file their entry with the Secretary of the Society by the first day of June*," we positively deny; and the only evidence that he *attempted* to comply, of which the Committee had knowledge, was his own statement, that sometime during the month of May, he mailed a letter of entry with fee enclosed—evidence sufficient, perhaps, if this were the only case that could ever arise, but, as every reasonable man must see, altogether insufficient in view of the unsafe precedent which would thereby be established for the embarassment of the Society in the future. The Committee were willing to concede the veracity of Mr. Hunt, but did not deem it wise to make such a decision, simply for the sake of relieving him of the consequences of his own neglect, as would constitute a standing premium on fraud for all time to come. H.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The Sugar Cane Crop and the Tools to Work it with.

All who have planted sugar cane, so far as we have heard, are encouraged with its prospects; it has come up well, and in all reasonable probability will prove a good crop; at any rate, we deem it just as safe as corn, after the seed is up.

COOK'S EVAPORATOR.

We are constantly receiving enquiries in relation to Cook's Evaporator—whether they really are a good thing, as represented, and if they can be depended upon, &c., &c. To all such we would again reply, as hitherto, that we have no doubt about them at all, but that they are not only a good thing, but the *best thing*, ever made for the purpose, or likely to be very soon, except upon the same principle. In fact we do not believe either sugar or good syrup can be made with any other materially different apparatus. We do not know of but three of them that have ever been used in the State, and two of those by perfect strangers to us.—We have written them for their opinions of it, for publication, and shall insert them in this number, if received in season. The third one was used by Mr. Plumb, of the '76 Nurseries; he is perfectly enthusiastic about them, and would take nothing else that he has seen for the purpose as a gift, an extract from a communication of his on the subject, in the last Agricultural Report will be published in the August number.

One good thing in its favor is, that it takes the least possible amount of wood to perform the work, and the whole is as convenient to move from place to place as a wheelbarrow.

ABOUT SUGAR MILLS,

We do not know so well how to answer the many enquiries propounded to us. We have hardly seen two among all that are made, that are strong enough. Mechanics do not seem to realize how strong cast iron ought to be to withstand the strain of one or two stout horses, jerking upon a fourteen or sixteen foot lever; as a rule they are all too light to stand the shock for any length of time; of this rest assured both manufacturers and buyers. We shall recommend to no one to buy a *cheap* mill; they can do so, if at all, upon their own judgment, and they may get one that will stand, and then again they *mayn't*. We would sooner make a good wooden mill than to buy one

that cost less than seventy-five dols, or weighed less than 700 to 800 pounds. We are aware that weight is not always a guaranty of strength —still it is pretty apt to be. We repeat that the cheap, light mills made at Cincinnati, and elsewhere, are a perfect nuisance. The Mendota Foundry, of this city, expect to make from twenty to thirty of their No. 1 mills; part of them being already ordered. As we have said before, they are the most compact and substantial mill we know of, all things considered; weigh about 1000 lbs., and what is better than all, are made with the patent safe guard levers to hold the crushing rollers together, by means of which you can weigh on just as much pressure as you please, and no more; and if, perchance, any hard substance gets between the rollers, instead of breaking anything, as in screw-adjusted mills, the levers at once admit of a yield, which obviates the danger. This simple contrivance alone, when properly adapted, doubles the value of any mill. We understand that two or three other manufacturers of the State are using these safe guards, and no one ought to buy a mill, large or small, without them.

There are negotiations on foot for manufacturing some of these Mendota mills in Milwaukee, and perhaps at Fond du Lac, which, if done, will render it were more convenient for such as want them in those sections.

There was a curious and rather neat mill from Louisville, Ky., exhibited at the State Fair last fall, that did good and fast work, and seemed very strong and durable—price $70, if I remember; we learn from the manufacturers that they are getting out quantities of them, and are anxious to sell. We shall probably have an advertisement for them next month.

The wooden mills waste too much on jobs of any magnitude to make them profitable; but for quite small jobs they will do very well, (we know, for we have tried them.)

We find by conference with the foundries, that they are not planning to make many mills unless they arr ordered; the times are so hard, they are so expensive, and their sale so uncertain, that they will dip into them very lightly, except on order.

Thus Evaporators and Mills will be difficult of obtainment, unless applied for early. The Evaporators are only made at one establishment, so far as we know, in the United States, and as they are advertised and in great popularity through the whole Western and Middle-States, it may be calculated that they will have something to do; and perhaps twice as much as they can do late in the season.

No pay will be required from responsible parties until they are delivered, and that may be as late in the season as parties choose; the main thing being to have them ordered in season, so that they can plan to make them and have them ready when wanted.

To such as wish to embark in soliciting orders for them we will cheerfully supply with orders, and allow them the commission we get for selling, as we have no particular desire to make anything out of the business ourselves, but only to circulate a good thing in the community, that will enable them to succeed in our favorite hobby of raising their own sweets.

Those wishing to engage as agents can address us by letter, with proper references, if strangers to us, and we will forward them the necessary papers and instructions. July is none to soon to commence. We should like to have five hundred of them put to work the present season in this State.

The Editorial Convention.

The fourth annual Convention of the Editorial Association of Wisconsin was held at Green Bay, on the 13th, 14th, and 15th days of June. The attendance was not so large as last year, but the sessions are believed to have been as pleasant and profitable as any hitherto held. In addition to the discussions of important questions, involving the interests and usefulness of the profession, there were public exercises of much interest. These were a valuable paper on the Early History of the Press of Wisconsin, by Harrison Reed, of the *State Journal;* creditable eulogies on the lives and services of Van B. Smead, late of the Fond du Lac *Democratic Press,* and E. Mallo, late of the Columbus *Journal,* by Messrs. D. W. Ballou, of Watertown, and A. Holly, of Kilbourn City, respectively; an able address by C. L. Sholes, of the *Free Democrat,* and a poem by J. W. Hoyt, of the *Wisconsin Farmer.*

The following is the list of officers for the ensuing year:

President—J. W. HOYT, Madison,

Vice Presidents—A. C. ROBINSON, Green Bay; EDWIN PICKARD, Shullsburgh.

Corresponding Secretary—D. W. BALLOU, of Watertown.

Recording Secretary—C. W. FITCH, Manitowoc.

Treasurer—R. B. WENTWORTH, Portage City.

Business Committee—J. W. HOYT, GEO. HYER, and J. WALWORTH.

The next Convention will be held at Water-

town, on the third Wednesday of June, 1861

The people of the beautiful city of Green Bay are eminently entitled to the grateful acknowledgments of the fraternity in attendance, but time and space fail us, in this connection, to do justice to their unrivaled spirit and the princeliness of their hospitality. Suffice it to say, that three more delightful days were never in succession crowded into the calendar of our happiest years.

Tall Rye.

S. W. Thompson, of the town of Burke in this County, brought into our office some stalks of tall rye, (June 16,) over seven feet high.—He alleged that they would have been considerable taller if the early season had not been so dry. He will need a two-story reaper to cut it as it is.

The Season and Crops.

In the North-west, thus far, the season has been one of quite extraordinary character; for weeks, through all the early portion of it, it was dry to an extreme; but after the rains commenced, early in May, it was quite as much on the other extreme, and came in deluges from day to day, and week to week; and worse still, not unfrequently accompanied with hurricanes and tornadoes that could hardly be surpassed in the tropics. Such numbers of them and attended with such wide-spread destruction of life and property, cannot be remembered by the oldest inhabitants.

The abundant rains have produced a growth of vegetation of a most extraordinary kind; wheat and sowed crops generally cover the ground in all directions, a perfect mat. Great fears are entertained by many and not without good reason, that the overgrowth, especially of wheat, will, if not materially checked by different weather hereafter, be apt to both mildew and lodge badly; it hardly can escape it especially upon the prairies.

Every kind of crop, as far as we know, is promising luxuriantly; grass especially, both tame and wild, must be heavy and often immense in quantity. To all appearance the labor of the husbandman is going to be largely return. May all turn out as well as it promises, and be carefully and properly secured for market, and use. Such a result will help materially to lighten up the shadows around us.

Officers of County Agricultural Societies for 1860.

WAUPACA COUNTY.—The following are the officers of the Waupaca County Agricultural Society for the ensuing year:

President—Tyler Caldwell, of Lind.

Vice Presidents—Thomas Pipe, of Farmington; David Robinson, Weyauwega.

Secretary—L. B. Brainard, Waupaca.

Treasurer—L. L. Post, Weyauwega.

Executive Committee—W. B. Hibbard, Jno. M. Vaughan, Waupaca; I. K. Dunham, Farmington.

MANITOWOC COUNTY.—At the second annual meeting of the Manitowoc County Agricultural Society, held on Wednesday, May 16, the following were elected officers for the year ensuing:

President—Charles Esslinger.

Vice Presidents—(One from each town.)

Secretary—Wm. Bach.

Corresponding Secretaries—N. Woodin and Harvey Hubbard.

Treasurer—John Nolant.

The Little Pilgrim

Edited by Grace Greenwood, Philadelphia, is perhaps the best children's paper in the country; it is neatly illustrated and sparkling with interesting features all through each number. Thousands of copies of it ought to be taken in every State.

Subscription price 50 cents per year. Address Leander K. Lippincott, 66 South-Third street, Philadelphia. Specimen copies will be sent free on application. Send for it, ye parents who had rather invest 50 cents in this way for your children, than in taking them to a circus.

THE ELEMENTS OF CHEMISTRY AS APPLIED TO AGRICULTURE. By C. B. Chapman, A. M., M. D., Professor of Chemistry. Winthrop B. Smith & Co., Cincinnati. Price 50 cents.

This little volume of 112 pages, duodecimo, through the courtesy of its author, found a place on our table some time since, but for want of time to examine it has not received the attention it evidently deserves.

The intention of the author was to provide an elementary work for the use of Schools, and for enterprising young farmers, ambitious to acquaint themselves with the principles which lie at the foundation of the Agricultural art. And from the hasty examination made of it, we feel quite safe in endorsing it as a work well calculated to subserve the intended use. A familiarity with the truths it contains would insure a great improvement in the Agriculture of our State, and we would be glad to know that a copy had been placed in every library in the country.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE

Wis. Fruit Growers Association,

In pamphlet form, are now ready, containing the discussions of the leading Fruit Men in the State, upon Varieties, Culture of Fruit Trees, Evergreens, &c.; also Communications and Essays from the most successful Fruit Growers, in this and neighboring States. Will be sent, post paid, to all enclosing a five cent stamp.

Address, O. S. WILLEY,
Sec'y W. F. G. A.
Madison, Wis.

List of State and District Fairs.

Wheeling Island, Va.,	Sept.	11-13
Muskingum Valley, Zanesville,	"	——
Vermont, Burlington,	"	11-14
Illinois, Jacksonville,	"	11-14
Kentucky, Bowling Green,	"	18-22
St. Louis,	"	24-27
Wisconsin, Madison,	"	24-27
Pennsylvania, Wyoming,	"	24-27
Ohio, Dayton,	"	25-28
Iowa, Iowa City,	Oct.	2- 5
New York, Elmira,	"	2- 5
Indiana, Indianapolis,	"	15-20
Georgia, Atlanta,	"	23-26

County Fairs for 1860.

St. Croix, Hudson,	Sept.	18-19
Waupaca, Weyauwega,	"	13-14
Winnebago, Oshkosh,	"	19-20

☞ Secretaries of County Agricultural Societies will do us a favor to inform us of the time of holding their Fairs.

JOHN P. ROE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN PURE BRED Durham Cattle and Southdown Sheep, offers for sale, at prices to suit the times, a few superior young Bulls and Rams of the above breeds, from animals of my own importations. P. O. address, Union Church, Racine Co. Muskego, Waukesha Co., Wis. [12 9 3

For Sale.

FOUR SUGAR MILLS at 35 each, to close out a lot. A. MENGES,
Madison, June 22. [12 9 2] No. 2 U. S. Block.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE DIRECTORS OF THE DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmer's) INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *large, prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra hazardous risks. Its character as a well-conducted, reliable and prompt paying institution has become well established *shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmer's* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY, Director. GEO. B. BLY, President,
LOGAN GRAVES, do E. BARKER, Vice Pres't
MATTHEW L. COE, do EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER, do JOHN WARE, Treasurer.
L. B. HILLS, Acting Director, E. BARKER, Gen'l Ag't.
12 8 12*]

THE SPRING TERM OF THE EVANSVILLE ACADEMY,

Will commence on **Wednesday, March 21st, 1860,** at 9 o'clock, A. M.

IN ADDITION TO WHAT IS REQUIRED TO PREpare young men for College, provision has been made to furnish instruction in the FRENCH and GERMAN LANGUAGES, PRACTICAL SURGEYING and CIVIL ENGINEERING.

☞ Special attention will be given to Students in the NORMAL DEPARTMENT.

BOARD, including rooms, fuel and lights, can be procured in good families at $1 75 per week. A large number of students boarded in clubs during the last term at an average expense of less than $1 00 per week.

TUITION ranges from $4 00 to $7 00 per term of eleven weeks.

For further information inquire of
D. Y. KILGORE, *Principal.*
Evansville, Rock Co., Wis., Feb. 28, 1860.

☞ N. B.—School District Officers are informed that a few of the members of our Normal Class, who design to teach the coming summer, have not yet engaged schools, and any communication giving full particulars of wants, compensation, etc., directed to the principal, will receive prompt attention. [12 6 4] D. Y. K.

THE Mutual Life Insurance Company OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

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MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wis. and Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT THAT A Policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provisions for one's family," and since his day, EXPERIENCE has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generally practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms. It is a HOME Company. Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly sacred character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies.

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

TRUSTEES:

S. S. Daggett,	Dr. E. B. Wolcott,	H. L. Palmer,
Lester Sexton,	Sam'l Marshall,	M. Steever,
Geo. B. Miner,	A. H. Scoville,	H. L. Dousman,
J. A. Barber,	Bara Miller,	J. A. Dutcher,
C. P. Ilsley,	A. C. Wilmans,	D. B. Whitacre,
J. C. Johnson,	James Neil,	Andrew Proudfit,
J. B. Martin,	A. Eldred,	J. Bonnell,
D. Newhall,	H. A. Nichols,	M. S. Scott,
D. Nash,	S. C. Hall,	J. Hackett,
J. H. Rountree,	B. F. Pixley,	A. Graham,
O. Alexander,	M. C. Darling,	Carl Shurz,
L. G. Fisher,	J. H. Earnest,	S. O. Spaulding.

S. S. DAGGETT, *President.*
A. W. KELLOGG, *Sec'y.* E. B. WOLCOTT, *Vice Pres't.*
C. D. NASH, *Treas'r.* S. G. BENEDICT, *Agent,*
12 1 24] Madison, Wis.

J. A. Carpenter & Co.,

FINE STOCK BREEDERS.

HAVE for Sale Devon Cattle, South Down Sheep, Essex and Suffolk Hogs, Dorkin Fowls, &c., &c. South Pass, Union Co., Ill. [11 1.

KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER!

From the Toledo (Ohio) Blade.

The following tribute to Kirby's American Harvester, from the Springfield *Republican* is just in every respect. The testimony of all who have used it gives evidence that it fully comes up to the recommendation. The Buffalo Agricultural Works commenced its manufacture three years ago, and by their energy and perseverance in bringing its merits before the public, have made it "one of the institutions of the land," known, appreciated, and sought for from Maine to Minnesota:

KIRBY'S COMBINED REAPER and MOWER has become one the institutions of the land. Its rapid advance into general favor and use is unprecedented in the history of harvesters. In 1856. the year of its birth, there were seven machines manufactured; in 1857, two hundred; in 1858, one thousand; in 1859, three thousand, and for the harvest of 1860 there will be four thousand Kirby Machines manufactured. Nor have the honors heaped upon this machine at trials and Fairs been less significant and flattering. Commencing with the award of the silver medal at the famous Syracuse trial in 1857, it has since received the first premium at *every State Trial that has occurred*, and at nearly every State Fair at which it has been exhibited, besides innumerable premiums at County Fairs and trials.

In 1859 the following State premiums were awarded to the Kirby machine, viz: First premium as combined machine at the Michigan State Fair; first premium as a combined machine at the Tennessee State trial; first premium as a combined machine at the Tennessee State Fair; and the first and only premium at the New York State Fair.

At this last fair, held in Albany, in October 1859, there was the largest and best exhibition of harvesters that has ever been gathered in this country, there being some forty different kinds of machines upon the ground, and out of this forty, the Kirby was the only one to which any premium was awarded. And the premium awarded was the highest encomium ever passed upon any harvester in this country, for the judges awarded a silver medal and diploma to the Kirby machine, as "the most valuable machine or implement for the farmer, either newly invented or an improvement on any one in use." Thus not only placing it above all other harvesters, but above all other machines of any kind, as a labor saving benefactor to the farmer. The judges add: "The exceeding simplicity and great strength of the machine must commend it to the farming community." A hint, which all who are looking for a good mower or reaper, would do well to consider.

☞ The Harvesters are sold by the following Agents in Wisconsin:—

H. O. GREEN,	Milwaukee.
JOHN GRAHAM,	Delafield.
JESSE MILLS,	Janesville.
CONRICK & TOPPING,	Delavan.
F. E. SHANDREW,	Watertown.
JAMES ACKERMAN,	Ripon.
TAGGART & BROS.	Beaver Dam.
ELIAB PERKINS,	Fond du Lac.
S. BARTLETT,	Oshkosh.
W. S. NEWTON,	SPARTA.
N. F. CONE,	La Crosse.
FRENCH & CO.,	Eau Claire.
D. C. GASKILL,	Kenosha.
MOORE SPEARS,	Black Earth.

P. L. CARMAN, Agent, Madison.

L. J. BUSH, General Agent, Milwaukee.

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapter 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations,..... $39,080 95

ASSETS.

Premium Notes of policy holders,...	$35,462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,..	2,986 02	
Amount due, secured by mortgage and in judgment,.....	332 47	
Office furniture and fixtures,.....	300 00	
		$39,080 95

Whole number of Policies issued,.....	4,807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$2,009,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,....	None.
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,.	None.
Number of policies issued in 1859,.....	1,187
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$1,140,076 00
Amount of premium notes receiv'd thereon	17,109 82
Amount of cash premiums receiv'd thereon	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid, (12 in number,)....	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents,.....	3,317 70
Amount of expenses paid, including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,.....	3,317 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madisom Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President,
D. J. POWERS, Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do
WM. DUDLEY, do
JAMES MORRISON, do

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860.
T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

February 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	$10 00
February 28—Loss of J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland County,.....	10 00
April 22—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau County,.....	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane County,.....	15 50
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson County,.....	690 38
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co.	650 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	68 00
Nov. 25—Loss of Jas. K. Main, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	403 57
Nov. 25—Loss of Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha County,.....	27 00
December 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison, Dane County,.....	20 00
December 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth County,.....	400 00
December 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha County,.....	100 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $2,986 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance in a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in this Report.

The Officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS:

N. W. Dean,	D. J. Powers,
B. F. Hopkins,	Geo. F. Hastings,
James Morrison,	William Dudley,
C. C. Washburn,	G. F. Taylor,
J. W. Boyd,	H. H. Giles,
S. H. Vandercook,	David Atwood.

L. W. Hoyt.

OFFICERS:

N. W. DEAN,.....President,
D. J. POWERS,.....Vice President,
DAVID ATWOOD,.....Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS,.....General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin Institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and the State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expenses; while stock companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refund to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1 50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged, not exceeding the amount insured.

10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary,
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

Madison, January 7, 1860. [12 2

☞ OFFICE IN PORTER'S BLOCK, MADISON. ☜

Spalding's Prepared Glue!

"A Stitch in Time saves Nine."

ECONOMY!

Dispatch!

Save the Pieces!

AS ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN IN WELL REGULATED families, it is very desirable to have some cheap and convenient way for repairing Furniture, Crockery, Toys, etc.

SPALDINGS PREPARED GLUE

meets all such emergencies, and no household can afford to be without it. It is always ready and up to the sticking point. There is no longer a necessity for limping chairs, splintered veneers, headless dolls, and broken cradles. It is just the article for cone, shell, and other ornamental work, so popular with ladies of refinement and taste.

This admirable preparation is used cold, being chemically held in solution, and possessing all the valuable qualities of the best cabinet maker's glue. It may be used in the place of ordinary mucilage, being vastly more adhesive.

"USEFUL IN EVERY HOUSE."

N. B. A brush accompanies each bottle.

Price 25 Cents.

Wholesale Depot, No. 48 Cedar st., New York.

Address HENRY C. SPALDING & CO., *Box 3,600 New York.*

Put up for dealers in cases containing four, eight and twelve dozen, a beautiful lithograph show card accompanying each package.

☞ *A single bottle of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE will save ten times its cost annually to every household.* ☜

Sold by all the prominent Stationers, Druggists, Hardware and Furniture Dealers, Grocers and Fancy Stores.

Country Merchants should make a note of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE, when making up their list. It will stand any climate. [12 1

Patterns and Castings,

AT

NO. 2 Spring St., opposite the Chamber of Commerce, Milwaukee, Wis.

I will make to order PATTERNS and MODELS for every variety of Machinery and Architecture. I will also furnish IRON and BRASS CASTINGS in large or small quantitities.

Light Machinery, New Inventions, and all Designs in Wood and Iron, will receive particular attention.

11 11] A. STONER.

HERRING'S PATENT

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,

WITH HALL'S PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS, HAVE NEVER FAILED in more than three hundred disastrous Fires.

THE SAFEST AND BEST SAFE IN USE.

Delivered at any Railroad Station in the United States or Canada, at the very lowest rates, by

JAMES G. DUDLEY, Sole Agent,

12 3] at 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

LEWIS BLAKE,

JOBBER AND RETAILER OF

MILLINERY & FANCY GOODS,

EMBROIDERIES, LACES,

ALEXANDERS' KID GLOVES,

Dress Trimmings, Straw & Silk Hats,

&c., &c., &c.

NO. 23, WISCONSIN STREET,

MILWAUKEE, - - - - - WISCONSIN.

Childs' Engraving Rooms.

117½ Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

DIES FOR MEDALS; POLICE, MILITARY, and Firemen's Badges; Metallic Letters; Notarial and other Seals and Presses; Stencil Marking Plates; Binders Stamps; Door Plates; Baggage Checks; Views of Buildings and Machinery; Wedding and Calling Cards; Drawings for the Patent Office. Address,

xii-8-12 CHILDS' & CO., P. O. Box 83.

UNDERGROUND

OR

MOLE DRAINER.

For Reclaiming Swamp, Low, or Clay Lands.

For Underdraining Orchards, or Producing Stock Water.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS PREPARED TO DISPOSE of Territory in Farm or Town rights, and to furnish machines or fill orders for jobs of ditching on short notice. For information, address

E. W. SKINNER,

Ag't of the Wis. Land Draining Company.

12 MADISON, WIS.

HOWE'S IMPROVED

Hay or Cattle Scales.

THE BEST IN USE.

FIRST PREMIUM OVER FAIRBANKS AT Vermont State Fair, 1857, and 1858.

First Premium and no competition in 1859.

First Premium at 13 different State Fairs.

Silver and Bronze Medals at the American Institute Fair, New York, 1859.

Howe's Scales for all use, hbve great simplicity, wonderful accuracy.

REQUIRE NO PITT; may be set on top of the ground or on a barn floor, and easily removed.

No Check Rod; no friction on Knife edges; all friction received on ball. Weigh truly if not level.

Delivered at any Railroad station in the Union or in Canada, set up and warranted to give entire satisfaction or taken back.

Send for Circulars and Price Lists, with account of trial of scales between Howe and Fairbanks, at Vermont State Fairs, to JAMES G. DUDLEY,

General Western Agent, 93 Main street,

12 3] Buffalo, N. Y.

RECOMMENDATION

To Farmers in Selecting the best Mower and Reaper.

THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL IMPLEments of the last New York State Fair, held at Albany, say to farmers:

"We think the improvements put upon this machine (KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER)

since the last State Fair, justly entitle it to this award: ("THE MOST VALUABLE MACHINE OR IMPLEMENT FOR THE FARMER, EITHER NEWLY INVENTED OR AN IMPROVEMENT ON ANY NOW IN USE,")

and the *exceeding strength and great durability* of the machine must commend it to the Farming Community.

[12 7 3]

THRESHING MACHINES.

JOHN A. PITTS' IMPROVED PREMIUM SEPARATOR
—AND—
DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWER.

MANUFACTURED AT BUFFALO, N. Y., BY JOHN A. PITTS, THE ORIGINAL INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

THESE MACHINES STAND UNRIVALED FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN, AND ARE acknowledged to be SUPERIOR to any other Thresher in the World, in its *operation, finish and mechanical construction.*

The Shoe is hung so as to shake alike at both ends. Other *improvements in the Machines* for 1860, make it far superior to any heretofore made.

THRESHERS of different Sizes are Manufactured, from Two to Ten Horse Power; also, PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES, from Three to Twenty Horse Power.

These Machines are sold here at from $25 to $75 less than other Treshing Machines. Call and examine our machines before purchasing elsewhere. ☞ Terms made easy. ☜

P. L. CARMAN & CO., Agents for John A. Pitts.

Office and Warehouse near M. & M. R. R. Depot, Madison, Wis. xii-9

FARMERS! ARE YOU INSURED?

B. G. RIPLEY, President.
T. A. ALEXANDER, Vice Pres't.
THO'S K. BEACH, Jr. Secretary.
J. B. BENNETT,
General Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

INCORPORATED
1819.
Charter Perpetual.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - - - - **$1,500,000!**
Capital and Surplus, - - - - - - - - **$2,194,100.02.**

THIS old established Company gives especial attention to the insurance of

Farm Buildings, Barns and Out Buildings, Furniture, Grain, Stock, &c.,

for terms of 1 to 5 years. For this class of property, a scale of rates has been fixed low enough to enable every farmer to insure his property. Dwellings, stores, warehouses, taverns, manufactories, &c., insured as low as is consistent with solvency and fair profits

LOSSES EQUITABLY ADJUSTED AND PROMPTLY PAID.

UPWARDS OF $12,000,000 of Losses have been paid by the Ætna Insurance Co., in the past forty years.

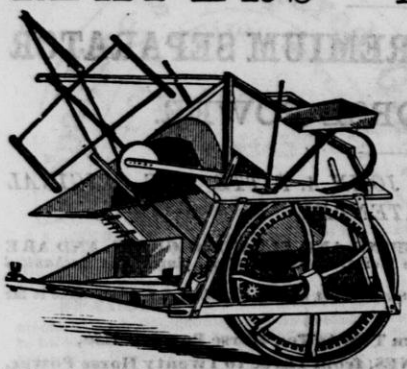
Agencies in all the principal cities and towns throughout the State. Policies issued without delay, by any of the following duly authorized Agents of the Company. Apply to the nearest local agent.

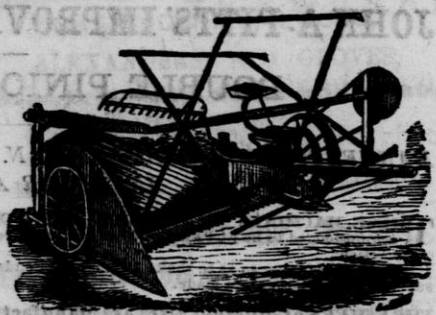
W. H. WYMAN, State Agent, Madison.

Appleton.....JOHN ELLIOTT.	Hudson.....S. CURTIS SIMONDS.	Platteville.....J. H. ROUNTREE.
Baraboo.....H. H. POTTER.	Janesville.....H. W. COLLINS.	Portage.....D. VANDERCOOK.
Brodhead.....E. A. McNAIR.	Jefferson.....D. OSTRANDER.	Prescott.....P. V. WISE.
Beloit.....T. L. WRIGHT.	Kilbourn.....G. J. HANSSEN	Potosi.....J. W. SEATON.
Berlin.....J. R. TURNER.	Kenosha.....L. G. MERRILL.	Prairie du Chien.IRA B. BRUNSON.
Beaver Dam.....G. E. REDFIELD.	Lancaster.....R. H HYDE.	Racine.....DURAND & SEYMOUR.
Cassville.....W. P. DEWEY.	La Crosse.....THEO. RODOLF.	Ripon.....H. L. EGGLESTON.
Chippewa Falls..JAMES A. TAYLOR.	Mauston.....JOHN TURNER.	Richland Centre.PRIEST & MINER.
Columbus.....E. W. CHADBOURN.	Menasha.....F. W. PERRY.	Reedsburg.....WM. HASKELL.
Delavan.....N. M. HARRINGTON.	Madison.....W. H. WYMAN.	Sheboygan.....EUGENE CARY.
Darlington.....W. H. ALLYN.	Milwaukee ..... W. H. HOLLAND.	Shullsburg.....M. HOLLISTER.
East Troy.....J. R STONE.	Mineral Point....R. L. READ.	Stevens Point.....WILLIAM McNAIR.
Edgerton.....R. S. PASCHTT.	Manitowoc.....S. A. WOOD.	Stoughton.....S. T. BUCKMAN.
Elkhorn.....L. A. PERRY.	Monroe.....E. A. WEST.	Sparta.....E. S. WHITAKER.
Eau Claire.....H. C. PUTNAM.	Mazomanie.....S. E. WATERHOUSE.	Superior.....WM. R. PERRY.
Fox Lake.....G. W. BURCHARD.	Kilbourn .....G. VANSTEENWYCK	Sauk City.....G. B. BURROWS.
Fond du Lac.....W. T. GIBSON.	Neenah .....C. C. TOWNSEND.	Viroqua.....W. F. TERHUNE.
Fort Atkinson...N. F. HOPKINS.	New Lisbon.....M. McQUIEN.	Watertown.....J. A. HALL.
Geneva.....S. D. RICHARDSON.	Oconto.....J. F. WOODBURY.	Waukesha.....WM. SOPER.
Grand Rapids...POWERS & LANG.	Oshkosh.....C. H. BRUSH.	Waupaca.....WINFIELD SCOTT.
Green Bay.....H. S. BAIRD.	Ozaukee.....S. A. WHITE.	Weyauwega.....JNO. FORDYCE.
Horicon.....W. H BUTTERFIELD	Pepin.....HENRY D. BARRON.	Waupun.....W. H. TAYLOR.
Hazle Green....CHANDLER & YORK.		Whitewater.....O. MONTAGUE.

SEYMOUR & MORGAN'S IMPROVED NEW YORK

REAPERS AND MOWERS.





HAND AND SELF-RAKERS.

THE NEW YORK REAPERS, both Hand and Self-Rakers, are now built as combined machines, and for both mowing and reaping are not excelled by any machines now built. At the great State trial of Kentucky, held at Louisville last harvest, these machines were awarded the two first premiums, as a reaper and as a combined machine, over some of the best harvesters now in use. In all kinds of grass or grain they quite equal in good workmanship the best single reapers or single mowers.

TWO HORSE REAPERS.

Farmers, take notice, we do not offer you a four horse machine as a two horse reaper, and then take your order in such a way that if you are dissatisfied with the machine as a two horse reaper to compel you to keep it at all events. We offer two horse machines of about five feet cut, both hand and self-rakers, which we *guarantee one team to manage with ease*, and although many of our six feet machines are used with single teams, we would not insult the common sense of any farmer by telling him that a six foot reaper weighing over half a ton is of easy draft for two horses on soft prairie.

SELF-RAKERS.—While we claim that our Self Raker will leave the bundles in as good shape as the best of hands can do on a hand raker, and equal to if not superior to any other Self-Raker, we do not claim that it will necessarily "work any better in heavy, lodged, and tangled grass" than a hand-raker, but we are ready to warrant either of our machines as capable of satisfying the farmer in the worst of grain or grass.

HAND-RAKER.—As all farmers do not yet consider that hand-rakers are annihilated, to such we offer a combined machine, which for simplicity, durability, and ease of workmanship, both for man and beast, is unequalled, to all who want a machine of this character we will say, see one of our machines before purchasing elsewhere, and buy the best.

COMBINED MACHINES.—As all our Reapers are combined machines, they are more readily changed from reapers to mowers than those having mowing attachments.

TWO MOTIONS TO SEYMOUR & MORGAN'S REAPERS.

Seymour & Morgan have a patent for using two pinions of different sizes, thus giving a higher motion for mowing than is necessary for reaping, thereby preventing clogging in heavy grass.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR 1860.

While our reapers for 1859 worked admirably and gave good satisfaction, the improvement for 1860 is greater than that made in any previous year. The machine is perfected in all its details, and without impairing its durability or strength, the weight has been diminished some two hundred pounds, making it now the easiest draft as well as the best working reaper in use.

WARRANTY.

We not only warrant our machine to be well made, of good materials, and durable, and to work as represented, but we guarantee the principle of its construction to be perfect, and should it fail to work or should it break in consequence of such imperfection, we will make the machine good free, and remunerate the farmer for his loss of time occasioned thereby. We also not only warrant every part of our reaper, including the rake in self-rakers, but we also warrant the mower, and should the machine fail either as reaper or mower, we are willing to refund all moneys, and return all notes received for such machine.

AGENTS.

HALVER HALVERSON, Leeds, Columbia Co.
H. C. SNOW, Avoca Depot.
JOHN MCKENZIE, West Blue Mounds.
WM. P. STRONG, Lowville,
ANDREW HANSEN, Burke.
JACOB JACKSON, Cambria.
CLARENDON ROYES, Hampden.
A. G. DARWIN, Delivering Agent, at M. & M. R. R. depot, Madison.
DONALD MCDONALD, Verona.
DICKINSON & WILLARD, Bridgeport Depot.
J. B. STICKNEY, Mazomanie Depot.
S. P. ELWELL, Salem, La Crosse Co.
WALTER, BROWN & Co., LaCrosse.

TERMS.

Four Horse combined Self-Raking Reaper and Mowers, in Milwaukee,	$175
Two Horse " " " "	170
Four Horse " *Hand-Raking* " "	155
Two Horse " " " "	145
Single Reaper,	120

TEN DOLLARS DEDUCTION FOR CASH.

N.B.—The above prices include more extras than go with any other Reaper, besides a complete set of whiffletrees, adapted expressly for use on the Reapers.

The subscriber can also supply those desiring the new PALMER & SEYMOUR CRANK REAPER.

Those wishing testimonials or any information respecting Seymour & Morgan's Reapers willplease address

XH VII

S. L. SHELDON, Madison, General Agent for Wisconsin.

JOHN NAZRO & Co.,

Nos. 121, 123, and 125 East-Water street, Milwaukee,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE

AND

House Trimmings.

—:o:—

Cultivator Teeth,
Straw Cutters,
And all kinds of
Farming Tools!

—:o:—

All kinds of
TIN PLATE
SHEET IRON,
COPPER, &c., &c.

—:o:—

PLATED FORKS,
Cutlery, Spoons,

R. HOE & CO.'s
Saws!
Wire and Rope

—:o:—

Axes, Hoes, Shovels,
Guns and Pistols.
Also all kinds of
Iron and Steel!

—:o:—

Blacksmith's, Cooper's, Carpenter's and Cabinet Maker's
TOOLS,
Of all kinds

—:o:—

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS,
Belting & Bells.

$25,000 WORTH OF
SPRING AND SUMMER
DRY GOODS:

AT THE NEW FIRM OF

MENGES & BARTELS,
No. 2, United States Block,

MADISON, WISCONSIN.

Our MR BARTELS has just returned from NEW YORK and BOSTON, where he has purchased the best assorted Stock of

STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS!

EVER SEEN IN THIS CITY.

As their DOMESTIC GOODS have been bought for CASH exclusively, they are able to compete in prices with MILWAUKEE and CHICAGO, and they invite

COUNTRY MERCHANTS & FARMERS

To call on them, before purchasing elsewhere.

We also keep on hand a Good Assortment of

Yankee Notions!

A. MENGES,
Formerly Deputy Bank Comptroller.

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June 22, 1860. [12 9 3]

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THIS Establishment is almost new, and in complete running order throughout, with a considerable amount of stock on hand for the Foundry.

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Madison, January, 1860. xii 1 tf

Chicago and Northwestern Railway.

COMPLETED THROUGH TO OSHKOSH, Wisconsin, for Oshkosh, Green Bay, Fond du Lac, Horicon, Ripon, Berlin, Sparta, La Crosse, St. Paul, Prairie du Chien, Watertown, Madison, Janesville, Beloit, Freeport, Galena, Dunleith, Dubuque, &c., &c., &c.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, APRIL 9TH.

TRAINS LEAVE GOING NORTH.

Chicago,	9.45 a. m.	4.00 p. m.	9.30 p. m.
Janesville,	6.45 a. m.	1.50 p. m.	.....
Arrive at Oshkosh	7.00 a. m.	7.90 p. m.	.....

TRAINS LEAVE GOING SOUTH.

Oshkosh,	9.30 a. m.	6.00 p. m.	.....
Janesville,	12.30 a. m.	7.15 a. m.	2.45 p. m.

Arrive at Chicago, making close connections with Trains for the East. xii-8 GEO. L. DUNLAP, Supt.

NOTICE!

To Machinists, Foundrymen, AND BOILER MAKERS!!

THE SUBSCRIBERS, wishing to change their business, will sell all the Tools and Machinery of the GLOBE IRON WORKS, in the City of Milwaukee, Wis., consisting of Lathes, Iron Planers, Drills, Screw Cutting Machine, with Taps and Dies, Wood Turning Lathe, Circular and Scroll Saws, Shafting, Pulleys, Hangers and Belting, Vices, Work Benches and Hand Tools, Blacksmith's Tools, full and complete sets of Boiler Maker's Tools, such as Punches and Shears, Rollers, Flange Blocks, Drill and Hand Tools. The Foundry has everything for large and extensive works, such as Cupola and Blower, Blacking Mill, Cranes, Crowbars, Core Carriage, Clamps, Shovels, Core Plates, Patterns and Flasks. Also, the Steam Engine and Boiler, complete, used for the motive power of the Works. The Tools, &c., were all purchased new from the best manufacturing establishments East, and were selected with a great deal of care, and are not excelled for strength, trueness and convenience in any shop in the West, and having been in use but a short time, are all in complete working order and nearly as good as new. They will be sold cheap, separately or together. Part of the purchase money must be paid down, the balance time will be given on good approved paper. We will also sell or lease on reasonable terms, for five or ten years, the Real Estate, which consists of four Lots, with main building seventy by thirty feet, three stories high, with two wings, one sixty by thirty feet, the other being one hundred and thirty by forty feet, forming an L, together with engine room, all brick buildings, erected on a substantial piled foundation, in a central business part of the city, and convenient to the river and the railroad, and would be a good point for a Flouring Mill, or for any other manufacturing Works.

☞ We also have a few of "Danford's Reaper & Mowers," left over from last season, that we will sell at a reduced price, below first cost.

☞ Any notes or accounts against us, either due or maturing, will be received in payment for any of the above property.

☞ We would state to our customers and patrons, that we have made arrangements in this city for manufacturing and repairing any Machinery, Reapers and Mowers, Feed Mills and Sugar Mills, that have been made by us, and all orders will be promptly filled. L. L. LEE & SON,

xii 4] Proprietors of the Globe Iron Works.

100 Good Agents Wanted.

ONE GOOD MAN in every principal locality and good farming district, to distribute CANE SEED for planting the present Spring, and to solicit orders for

COOK'S FAMOUS SUGAR EVAPORATING PANS, during the Summer and Fall.

Good Business Men, who can bestow some degree of attention upon this subject, can make it a great benefit to their respective communities, as well as highly profitable to themselves.

All proper parties wishing Agencies, will secure appointments on application in person, or by letter to the undersigned, care of the Wisconsin Farmer office, accompanied with proper references.

Seeds, Circulars, &c., will be furnished to all Agents on application as above.

Letters of inquiry should enclose a postage stamp; and all orders for seeds be accompanied by the cash to pay cost on seed. No profit on it will be charged to agents, as the object is to introduce it into the State as extensively as possible, for the purpose of making sale of the before mentioned celebrated Evaporators, to such as grow good crops.

Address all communications, as before stated, to Crawford Spears, Madison, care of Wis. Farmer.

CRAWFORD SPEARS.

Madison, March 20, 1860. [xii vi]

E. M. Williamson,

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AT THE

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WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, AUGUST 1, 1860. NO. 10.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

HOW NOT TO DO IT.--Resumed from the June No.

What seems more simple and easy, especially to the young, than to embark in good business enterprises and to build them up to success, profit, and honor; or to adventure in professional walks and reap greatness and glory from them. But how different a task it usually proves, when the experiment is fairly tried. The merchant sells ten, twenty, and possibly an hundred thousand dollars worth of goods, at what seems to be good and, nominally, great profits; but when the losses, expenses, delays, and damage are all deducted—when the final product is resolved into money, and applied to the payment of all liabilities, how small is apt to be the balance at last remaining, as the residuary and final wealth of, perhaps, a life-long toil and effort. Few of all who embark in such schemes for the attainment of wealth, ever realize their hopes, while the many file off with the host who labor and demonstrate "how not to do it."

So to with the professional aspirants, few of all who travel over their thorny pathway come through winners at the end of the journey; but a few of all the many can attain to high office or pre-eminent professional distinction, while the great majority must fall in the rear and necessarily be disappointed. Then again, of the few who attain wealth and fame, how many know how to enjoy them? Echo answers, how many! Not one in an hundred truly and well. Some effectual way of how not to do it, almost always seems to intrude upon their pathway.

The farmer who would get rapidly rich, usually undertakes to do so by buying too much land, too much stock, or too much of something; thus involving himself in too much trouble in the outset, and probably in loss in stead of profit. On the other hand the careful man only takes what he can use seasonably and well, and thus gets pleasantly and cheerfully along—demonstrating thereby precisely how to do it, and still more fully establishing the great fact that the way not to do anything is to go foolhardy, or fast, into it, without sufficient knowledge or discretion.

Everything that need to be, or ought to be done, can be, if properly gone about, and steadily persevered in. Thus the young man who would become a good merchant, if of ordinary capacity, can become so, if he will begin right, and labor on through the various gradations, not only of learning the art, but of accumulating the requisite capital. The young apple boy in the streets is not unfrequently the incipient merchant, who will one day freight his ships, and count his warehouses. While the little dandy in curls, the pride of some fond mother, dosed with candies and luxuries, and, may be, indulged in follies, not unfrequently becomes prematurely ripe, and like a wormy apple, falls before its time, to soon mingle with the dust of its origin. Fond mothers and doting parents, often thus labor hard and successfully in defeating their own ends, and demonstrate that the way not to make useful men and women of their dear children, is to rear them in delicate and listless idleness. Give us the boy for a clerk or a partner, or the girl for a house keeper or a wife, who has not slept on too soft feathers, nor known too much wealth or luxury until they earned it. More than likely the majority of our future Presidents, Governors and great men, for the next generation, are at present the inmates of humble cabins, and are of lowly fortunes. Then spurn not the ragged boy you pass by the way side, but turn his steps to the school house, and his hands to industry; these instrumentalities will graduate him for manhood, and when he finally steps upon the stage of active

life, he will have a firm foot to tread its boards, and a vigorous hand to guide and shift its scenes. Motherly tenderness is pleasant to take, but, alas! how many it kills.

But to the young man who would do it, beyond all peradventure, let us suggest that the farm, if congenial to his taste and strength, is the natural home of man; the place and the business where a life, though long or short, can be spent not only pleasantly but profitably; especially if profit consists in comfort, quiet, peace, good health and happiness. But even this natural paradise of man presents plenty of ways how not to do it, and ways that are too often taken. Let those, then, just starting upon its pathway, remember a few fundamental suggestions, and practice them, if possible; first, don't get a wife for a co-farmer with you, who feels above your business, nor one who thinks a few dollars, more or less, expended in this or that manner, makes no difference. Such notions, whether entertained by man or woman, will often open a passage sufficient to let through a small farm, in no great while, by imperceptible degrees. Delicate girls that look like potatoe sprouts grown in the cellar, will be found to be poor material to get up at five in the morning, not to eat breakfast, but to get it—to go to the yard, if need be, at eight at night, to assist in milking the cows, with perhaps a child upon each apron string, crying with sore toes. These, with ten thousand other prose scenes in common life, require nerve and substantial qualifications to take them through. (But what is to become of the delicate girls? asks the economist. Why, let them marry the fancy village clerks and dandies, they will balance each other even, and seldom perpetuate their kind.) But to resume: with the wife that can help you, enter upon the little farm that you mean shall be well tilled; and do not enter upon it in debt, if it can be avoided; and when you are entered thereupon clear of debt, keep so if possible. If we were to write a book of advice to young men just starting in the world, we would make the title to it of these simple words—"*Keep out of Debt*;" then we would put it as a heading over every page, and then would make up all the reading matter of a mere repetition of the same words, *keep out of debt*. It should be the text and the sermon, the title and the finis, of the volume; and every one who read and heeded it, until middle age, would have it finally bound and embossed in gold, and placed by the side of the Book of books. It would prove a panacea that would heal almost all the pecuniary ills of life, and seldom withhold a blessing. Those who thus keep out of debt may not at all times go ahead as fast as those who risk others' property to *spread upon*, but will always make sure work of what they do.

If your means are small, begin small; in fact it is often times the best way, even if your means are ample; and for the reason that all business must be learned before is can be well done. Inexperienced farmers who begin large almost invariably end small; while those who begin small, if they have the elements of success in them, will as surely come out with eminent success. Those who would get a farm quick, or get rich quick out of it, will usually find it the way not to do it, and the effort a failure. On the other hand the sensible and the patient, who realize the fact that it is the labor of a life to make a good farm, with its orchards and fixtures all complete, and that to do it, one must "labor and wait." Such a man will win, in the end, not only the comfort or wealth he seeks, but his own and others' approbation; and whilst moving along with a sure but steady hand, he sees thousands failing around him, in every kind of novel project, he will fully realize the fact that there is always a way to do, as well as a how not to do a thing.

To Encourage the Growth of the Hair and Prevent its Turning Gray.—A young lady friend of mine was recommended by a *coiffeur* to use sage-water. She was obliged to discontinue its daily use, as it made her hair too thick. Pour boiling water on the sage leaves, and let them remain sometime in the oven or near the stove; then strain and apply to the roots of the hair daily. If any pomade is needed, an equal mixture of cocoa-nut and olive oils, with a little perfume is very efficacious.—*London Field.*

Won't sage be in demand now?

Oiling Leather.—The *Scientific American* says that the oils should not be applied to dry leather, as they would invariably injure it. If you wish to oil a harness wet it over night, cover it with a blanket, and in the morning it will be dry and supple; then apply neat's foot oil in small quantities, and with so much elbow grease as will insure its disseminating throughout the leather. A soft, pliant harness is easy to handle, and lasts longer than a neglected one. Never use vegetable oils on leather; and among animal oils, neat's foot is the best.

[From the U. S. Agricultural Reports for 1859.]

CONSTRUCTION OF LIGHTNING RODS.

BY PROF. JOSEPH HENRY, SMITHSONIAN INST.

The rod should be of sufficient size to transmit freely the largest discharge which experience has shown to fall on a building. A rod of three-fourths of an inch of round iron is generally considered sufficient for this purpose, since a conductor of this capacity has in no case been found to have been fused by a discharge from the clouds. There is no objection on the score of electrical action to using a larger bar, or to the same weight of metal in the form of a hollow cylinder; indeed every increase of diameter lessens the resistance to conduction, and the tendency to give off lateral sparks.

Lightning-conductors are frequently constructed in this country with points projecting at intervals of two or three feet through their whole length; this plan has been adopted from some erroneous idea in regard to the action of the conductor, and of the proper application of points. The essential office of the conductor is to receive the discharge from the cloud, and to transmit it with the least possible resistance, silently and innoxiously to the great body of the earth below, and anything which militates against these requisites must be prejudicial. Now, in the passage of the electricity through a conductor, it retains its repulsive energy, and hence each point along the rod in succession becomes highly charged, and tends to give off a spark to bodies in the neighborhood. Besides this, the irregularity in the motion of the electricity which is thus produced, must on mechanical principles interfere with its free transmission. The points along the course of the rod should therefore, be omitted, since they can do no possible good and may produce injury.

We may conclude what we have said in regard to lightning rods by the following summary of directions for constructing and erecting them:

1st. The rod should consist of round iron, of not less than three-fourths of an inch in diameter. A larger size is preferable to a smaller one. Iron is preferred because it can be readily procured, is cheap, a sufficiently good conductor, and when of the size mentioned cannot be melted by a discharge from the clouds.

2d. It should be, through its whole length, in perfect metallic continuity; as many pieces should be joined together by welding, as practicable, and when other joinings are unavoidable, they should be made by screwing the parts firmly together by a coupling ferule, care being taken to make the upper connection of the latter with the rod water-tight, by cement or paint.

3d. To secure it from rust, the rod should be covered with a coating of black paint.

4th. It should be terminated above, with a single point, the cone of which should not be too acute, and to preserve it from the weather as well as to prevent melting, it should be encased with platinum, formed by soldering a plate of this metal, not less than a twentieth of an inch in thickness, into the form of a hollow cone. Usually the cone of platinum, for convenience, is first attached to a brass socket which is secured on the top of the rod, and to this plan there is no objection. The platinum casing, however, is frequently made so thin, and the cone so slender, in order to save metal, that the point is melted by a powerful discharge.

5th. The shorter and more direct the rod is in its course to the earth the better. Acute angles made by bending in the rod and projecting points from it along its course should be avoided.

6th. It should be fastened to the house by iron eyes, and may be insulated by cylinders of glass. We do not think the latter, however, of much importance, since they soon become wet by water, and in case of a heavy discharge are burst asunder.

7th. The rod should be connected with the earth in the most perfect manner possible, and in cities nothing is better for this purpose than to unite it in good metallic contact with the gas mains or large water pipes in the streets; and such a connection is absolutely necessary if the gas or water pipes are in use within the house. This connection can be made by soldering to the end of the rod a strip of copper, which, after being wrapped several times around the pipe, is permanently attached to it. Where a connection with the ground cannot be formed in this way, the rod should terminate, if possible, in a well always containing water, and where this arrangement is not practicable, it should terminate in a plate of iron or some other metal buried in the moist ground. It should, before it descends to the earth, be bent so as to pass off nearly perpendicular to the side of the house, and be buried in a trench surrounded with powdered charcoal.

8th. The rod should be placed, in preference, on the west side of the house, in this latitude, and especially on the chimney, from which a current of heated air ascends during the summer season.

9th. In case of a small house, a single rod may suffice, provided its point be sufficiently high above the roof, the rule being observed, that its elevation should be at least half of the distance to which its protection is expected to extend. It is safer, however, particularly in modern houses, in which a large amount of iron enters into the construction, to make the distance between the two rods less than this rule would indicate, rather than more. Indeed we see no objection to an indefinite multiplication of rods to a house, provided they are all properly connected with the ground and with each other. A building entirely enclosed, as it were, in a case of iron rods so connected with

the earth, would be safe from the direct action of the lightning.

10th. When a house is covered by a metallic roof, the latter should be united in good metallic connection, with the lightning rods: and in this case the perpendicular pipes conveying the water from the gutters at the eaves may be made to act the part of rods by soldering strips of copper to the metal roof and pipes above, and connecting them with the earth by plates of metal united by similar strips of copper to their lower ends, or better with the gas or water-pipes of the city. In this case, however, the chimneys would be unprotected, and copper lightning rods soldered to the roof, and rising a few feet above the chimneys, would suffice to receive the discharge. We say soldered to the roof, because if the contact was not very perfect, a greater intensity of action would take place at this point, and the metal might be burnt through by the discharge, particularly if it were thin.

11th. As a general rule, large masses of metal within the building, particularly those which have a perpendicular elevation, ought to be connected with the rod. The main portion of the great building erected for the world's exhibition at Paris, is entirely surrounded by a rod of iron, from which rises at intervals a series of lightning conductors, the whole system being connected with the earth by means of four wells, one at each corner of the edifice.

The foregoing rules may serve as general guides for the erection of lightning rods on ordinary buildings, but for the protection of a large complex structure, consisting of several parts, a special survey should be made, and the best form of protection devised which the peculiar circumstances of the case will admit.

Various patents have been obtained in this country for improved lightning conductors, but as a general rule such improvements are of minor importance.

An improvement in the lightning rod which was recommended by the French Academy in 1823, would presuppose some important discoveries in electricity having a bearing on the subject; but after the lapse of thirty years, the same Academy being called upon to consider the protection of the new additions to the Louvre, finds nothing material to change in the principles of the instructions at first given.

Remarks.—It will be seen, by a careful perusal of the foregoing, from one of the soundest of our scientific men, First, that lightning rods are still recognized as highly important protectors, when properly constructed and put up, against lightning. Secondly, that the manner in which they are usually put up by the itinerant lightning rod peddlers is, to say the least, exceedingly faulty, and not unfrequently probably less safe than a building would be if left wholly without them. The radical error in these peddled rods is their size, which is usually from three-eighths to one-half inch, instead of three-fourths, which experience seems to have demonstrated as the smallest safe size. But, says the lightning rod man, the difference between the smaller and larger sizes is not much.

Careful measurement and weight, however, show that the three-eighths rod is less than one-fourth as heavy as the three-fourths rod, and the half inch rod is somewhat less than one-half that of the three-fourths. Important differences, indeed, when understood and fully considered.

Why, then, do dealers put up these small rods? Not because they consider them best, but because they *can make the most money out of them.* Unfortunately most men consider a lightning rod one and the same thing, whether large or small; and the main question asked of a dealer in them, when he presents himself is, what do you ask for putting them up? and not unfrequently, *how long will you wait for your pay?* These are the test questions; not how safe are your rods when put up?

Now lightning rod dealers are like most other *traveling benefactors* of the present age, their object is to make money, and they find it nearly or quite as easy to get a shilling per foot for a three-eighths, or seven-sixteenths, rod as for a three-fourths; how naturally they incline to use the former, which costs from one and a half to two cents a foot, instead of five or six cents for the latter; thus one hundred feet of the small rod costs $1 75, perhaps, while the larger one would cost $6 00, besides being more expensive in all other respects to put up. The latter, when put up, costing as a rule, three times as much as the former; and upon all sound principles of reasoning, worth an hundred times as much; inasmuch as the small one probably ofentimes increases the risk and danger, instead of diminishing it; while the larger one is an almost sure protection. Such seems to be the difference, in this case, between a good for nothing, and a good for something article. We have gone thus far into this matter for the purpose of opening the eyes of those who wish to avoid being humbugged in this every-day manner.

To produce a change in this lightning rod speculation now prevailing, we would recommend that those who would have good rods put up should buy them *by the pound instead of the*

foot; that will soon work a salutary change, depend upon it. In that case you would soon see the lightning rod men recommend rods two inches in diameter.

A number of small rods put up with a proper relation to each other, may be nearly equivalent, or, perhaps, in some cases, better than one large one; but in that case it is recommended that they all be connected by horizontal leaders upon the roofs; and, further, that they have as ample terminations in the earth as they have points presented to the clouds. A coarse wire net-work over a building, furnished with the requisite points to extract the electricity from the passing clouds, would undoubtedly protect it, and would usually pass off the electricity in such imperceptible amounts that its effects would not be seen. Still, for all ordinary uses, the plain substantial rod, well put up, is undoubtedly the best, and beyond question a good thing.

We have known two houses to be struck near this city during the present summer, both of which had lightning rods upon them; and in both cases they were melted off. What safety or durability is there in such rods? In each case those houses were luckily insured, in the Madison Mutual, against, not only fire, but lightning, so that the pecuniary damage was promptly made up to them. But those relying upon lightning rods for protection should learn an important lesson from it, and especially not to put their trust in small rods even though they are cheap.

Finally, when you have rods put up, watch the operation carefully yourself, and not allow the job to be bungled and hurried, perchance, by some ignoramus who, perhaps, works for ten dollars a month, and knows, nor cares, nothing beyond getting along fast and pleasing his employer. Than to have rods put up in the too common way you had better put your trust in Providence, until you can have it done right.

GREAT EXHIBITION IN LONDON, IN 1862.—At a meeting of the Society of Arts in London, February 23d, the guaranty deed for raising £250,000 for the Exhibition in 1862, was approved; and Earl Granville, K. G., London, President of the Council, Marquis of Chandos, Mr. Thomas Baring, M. P., Mr. Wentworth Dilke, who were Commissioners in the Exhibition of 1851; and Mr. Thomas Fairbairn of Manchester, were appointed Trustees of the fund—and the matter is settled that the Exhibition will be held.

INSURE AGAINST LIGHTNING AS WELL AS AGAINST FIRE.

The present stormy season, especially in the way of thunder and lightning, is somewhat instructive upon the above head. We have heard of a greater number of buildings struck during the present season than in any preceding one.

One gentleman in a neighboring county was urged to insure his fine house, which he had just finished; but replied that he had made it entirely safe, both from fire and lightning, and that it would not pay him to insure. The next thunder gust that passed discharged its fury upon it, despite its lightning rod, and left it a shivered ruin. The lack of the precaution of $5 00 invested in insurance, left him to repair a damage of $500 00, without aid or sympathy.

Barns newly filled, or stacks of grain, are in great danger while giving off their steam of moist vapor—this being a better conductor than the dry air through which it rises, not unfrequently arrests and guides the bolt from the passing clouds to its work of destruction. No prudent man should leave such property uninsured for a day against lightning, if he can avoid it. The chances of extinguishing fire in barns and stacks is but small, when it arises from lightning, hence the utmost safeguards in the way of good lightning rods and careful insurance is indispensible.

Insuring against lightning is rather a new feature, and not yet generally adopted by insurance companies. The Madison Mutual incorporated it into their system some two years ago, and find that it works highly satisfactory; it should be adopted by all companies insuring in this level Western country, where the grain stack of the prairie is often the highest object to attract the passing cloud. We throw out these suggestions for the benefit of whom it may concern, and would close by saying, as we have often said before, that we always keep insured on all our insurable property of any value, and find the tax so light on all farm property that we hardly feel it.

☞ The North Western Agricultural Society, Chicago, are carefully preparing their grounds, which comprise about fifty acres, and expect to have them ready in time to hold an exhibition the present season.

☞ The St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association offer $20,000 in premiums. A premium of $1,500 for the best stallion.

CONCRETE HOUSES.

These houses, as our readers well know, are built of a mortar made of lime, gravel and small stone or pebbles, laid up in one mass between moulds of board so as to form one solid mass of concreted mortar when dried.

When a good foundation, unmovable by frost or undisturbed by water, can be found, these houses are very cheaply built, and in some sections are becoming quite abundant. We like, however, a new method of using this concrete for houses, patented not long ago by Samuel T. Fowler, of Brooklyn, N. Y. It is a combination of the wooden frame and concrete.—The frame may be a light one; it is erected, and then imbedded in the concrete by plastering it up on all sides. We find an account of this mode of building in the last number of *Fowler's Life Illustrated*, from which we abridge the following:

This improvement consists in the introduction of a framework for holding the green mortar to its place, and to afford convenient and reliable hold for screws, with which to fasten the molding planks securely and exactly in their places, plumb and level. This is done by erecting a row of timbers, (common joist would do) of appropriate size and form in such manner as to secure them in their places, and by fastening a rib to the same on each side, at the top of each layer of mortar, for the purpose of tying the wall together that an opening may be made therein by setting a short board or plank near the center, between the timbers, and about one inch from the inner rib, and one or more inches from the outer ones, reaching to within two inches of the upright, and raising the same at each laying of the mortar.

The advantages of this plan are stated to be the following: The openings and timber in the wall answer as a cut-off to exclude the passage through the wall of heat, cold and moisture, thereby securing the comfort of dry rooms cool in summer, and warm in winter, without the expense of furring, lathing, and plastering; the openings also give ample facilities for ventilation and the distribution of heat. This plan also renders the walls fire-proof by perfectly encasing the wood in the mortar, and by extending the same principle to the over-head walls and roof (as he proposes to do,) they may also be rendered fire-proof.

The following additional particulars are given by the writer:

The combination of the framework with the concrete body gives great strength, because the frame becomes to the concrete body a universal tie, and the concrete a universal brace to the frame.

The framework also facilitates the work, and gives security to the wall, by sustaining not only the weight of the wall while soft, but all other weights necessary in the prosecution of the work; and the concrete protects the wood by excluding it from the atmosphere.

As this plan does away with the necessity of furring, lathing, and plastering to obtain the comforts of a dry house, cool in summer, and warm in winter, and as it also furnishes the facilities for securely fastening the molding planks or plates in any desired position, the walls may be cast with any desired finish, outside and in, including the ceiling, simply by the use of appropriate molding plates, and the proper management of the mortar.

Thus a much harder and handsomer surface may be obtained without the use of the trowel than with it, and that of any devised form you choose to make the molding plates; and to this may be added never-fading colors, as taste may dictate, by using a proper mineral base with suitable metalic or mineral pigment.

The comparative cheapness of this plan is very evident, as one half the mortar required by the ordinary mode will in this way make a wall twice as strong, while all the labor of lathing and plastering is avoided; the cost of ornamentation is but a trifle in comparison with the mode heretofore used, for with suitable molding-plates and frescoe painting, the most beautiful effects can be produced.—*Maine Farmer.*

REMARKS.—We have no faith in the foregoing patent or plan of working concrete; our own experience having taught us a much cheaper and better method. Instead of this Dutch framework that Mr. Fowler proposes to imbed in the wall, we put up similar standards, both outside and in, of our intended wall, (usually using the joist and scantling intended for subsequent finishing,) and far enough apart to admit the curbing boards inside of them, and at the right distance apart for the thickness of the walls; thus we obtain a much better support for our curbing boards than when we have to screw or nail them on to studs inside of them. Our mold-boards are simply slipped up and down inside of these standards, which of course must be set by a line, both straight and plumb. Thus when our walls are up we take these studs, or standards, away, and use them for rafters, or ordinary partition studs, &c., &c., and the mold-boards for sheeting the roof, and in that way lose no lumber in the operation. Mr. Fowler's on the other hand, however light his frame may be, will be found to require considerable material, and that costs money in the prairie country.

Then, the next advantage claimed in the way of a hollow wall, the saving of inside lath and plastering, outside finish, &c., is, according to our experience, all erroneous. If such a wall is made hollow it must have a good deal of

additional thickness to give it the requisite strength; and without which strength it is very apt to crack and shatter to pieces. The idea of laying it up smooth enough inside for a finish for a good house, is just about as practicable as to saw the lumber in a saw mill smooth and good enough for window and door casings, without plaining and jointing—sheer absurdity of course. The same with the outside also; it can be made neither smooth enough to look well, nor solid enough to turn water perfectly without being troweled down at least; and to make either a good job, or a good looking one even, it should be hard-finished and blocked off like stone; and better still, to be a right good job, it should be painted outside, although this last, if well hard-finished, may be omitted. The idea of molding it into fresco, without great outlay in preparing molds is also impracticable, as every experienced builder knows. It is a pretty fancy and that is all.

The inside furring and lathing for plastering is a very small expense, and much the best way for a hollow wall. The less wood in the wall the better, as it weakens it where it divides it; and, besides, it is apt to shrink, and swell, and cause cracks.

We fill our concrete walls as we put them up, as full as possible with rough, flat stones, such as abound in a shell state in many of the prairie knobs. These stones we imbed in very thin mortar so close that they touch each other, if possible. We built a concrete and stone house in this way last season, of pretty good size, and it has stood perfectly well, not a crack in it that we know of. We laid the walls up from the cellar bottom in the same way, and to keep them from absorbing moisture where they came against the banks, we gave them two good coats of coal tar, up to the water table, before filling the earth in around them. The result is a perfectly water-proof wall and dry cellar. Such a coat all over a hard-finished building would render it decidedly impervious to moisture, but its black color would not be comely in appearance.

Our concrete house walls cost us only about one half the price of brick, and about one-third the price of rubble-dressed stone work; thus being a decided economy in first cost. But comparatively they are not so good as good brick or stone. Still, if they are well put up they are very good. But they are the last kind of a wall that a bungler should attempt—ten to one he will make both a fright and a failure of it. We see a great many silly things said about this kind of building, in our exchanges; usually by those who, obviously, know little or nothing about them. We seldom notice them, but thought we would not let this one pass in silence.

ST. CROIX COUNTY FARMERS WIDE-AWAKE TO THEIR INTERESTS—GOING INTO SHEEP KEEPING.

EDITOR WIS. FARMER—*Dear Sir:*—At last our new but thriving town has organized a farmer's club, and made choice of ——— for President; B. G. Peabody, Vice President; James Thayer, Treasurer; and George Spaulding, Secretary. Our By-Laws require us to visit the farms of the members of the club, and get what information we can of the manner of farming, and profit thereby. Every member is required to fetch his lady, that they too may meet in another apartment and consult as to the best method for the improvement of their household affairs and the government of their children.

The subject of wool-growing was taken up and, after some consultation, a handsome purse was made up, and our worthy Vice President is already on his way to visit the sheep country, and, if possible, purchase four hundred to distribute among the farmers of Hammond, out of which he will probably take a good share himself.

Yours, &c., E. P. SCRIBNER.

Hammondville, St. Croix Co., June 18, '60.

NOTE.—We hope, from time to time, to hear from this new club in the new country. It is an indication of the right kind of enterprise, to push along the sterling interests of that section in all that ennobles or enriches the farmer.

We propose, in coming numbers to urgently advocate the extensive formation of these club in every intelligent neighborhood in the State. They are, comparatively, the common schools for grown up scholars, in which to learn a thousand things needful to know—the feeders to the larger agricultural societies, as well as the promoters of a higher degree of sociality and refinement. Roll on the ball, all ye lovers of progress.

☞ A lady advertising for a servant says: "Hoops and a want of cleanliness are disqualifications."

HAY CAPS.

Experience is an excellent teacher and if she goes hand in hand with sense and science we make grand progress in every thing. When hay caps first came about, or rather when they were first used, it was recommended to take heavy or stout sheeting at least six feet square and soak them in alum or some other preparation to make them tight, and sew stones in the corners; then exprience suggested pins and loops instead of stones; next she found that the hay heated if it was long covered, as during a long storm, and besides, that it was quite a burden to carry such large caps and spread them, etc. Reason hinted that if the rain was carried off from the top of the cocks it would shed off itself well enough, so the size was reduced; and it was found, moreover, that the trouble and expense of making the caps waterproof was not necessary, because the little water that penetrates the cloth will most or all of it follow the fiber down to the edge, at which point it will be shed down the steep sides of the cock with that which falls on the outside.

Four feet or four and a half is considered ample size; compactly woven, good though light sheeting much better than heavy, and a simple ring-loop of cord sewed in at each corner but left so as to slip, finished the matter. Four pine or chestnut pins, fourteen to sixteen inches long, fasten the caps on the stack.

All the necessary care to give to hay caps is not to pack them away or let them lie in a heap heap wet or damp. Often enough a season will pass and they will be of no use or next to none, but any time they may pay the whole expense in protecting the hay through a single storm.—*Homestead.*

MANURING GRASS LANDS.

A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* writes on this subject as follows:

In the year 1852 I stacked twenty acres of wheat and five acres of oats near the center of ten acres of clover and timothy meadow.—When I threshed this grain I hauled away my straw, made in stacks as it came from the machine, as large as two yoke of oxen could draw with a pole and chains, and left it equally distributed over the ten acres—all in perfect stacks, chaff and straw together. In the winter I turned my stock to the stacks and they ate and wallowed in it until it was level with the ground. In the spring the thickest parts of the stack bottoms were spread over the grass, so as to cover the whole ten acres. Some of it was spread in June, when the grass was from six to ten inches high. It came up through the straw and grew very rank, and yielded one-third more grass to the acre than the same meadow did where I did not put any straw. I raked the hay with a horse rake, and had no trouble in gathering the hay without disturbing the mulch. The second and third year the crop was double that on any other part of the field, containing forty acres. since the above experiment I have reserved all of my coarse manures and old stack beds, corn stalks, &c., for my grass lands, and applied it there, and find it richly repays the labor. I recommend every farmer to save every forkfull of litter to spread on his grass lands; or if he has no grass lands save it, put it on corn ground, and plow it under; the result will be twenty-five per cent clear profit.

FLAT CULTURE.

For a number of years there has been a diversity of opinion in regard to two strongly contrasted modes of culture, the one termed *flat culture*, and the other *hilling*, the distinguishing feature of the first consisting in leaving the surface of the soil level, that of the latter consisting in drawing masses of earth up to the plants in the form of hillocks or ridges, according to the mode of planting adopted.—As usual, something may be said on both sides of the question. Judge Buel, we believe, was among the first to give a special direction to the flat culture, and since his day it has made considerable progress among a large class of intelligent cultivators. The subject may be thought to pertain more generally to the farmer, and somewhat out of place here; but we are far from regarding it in that light; it concerns all who have a kitchen garden, however small. The kitchen garden, in our estimation is no mean thing, to be put aside in a corner, and spoken of contemptuously; it contributes essentially to the pleasures and necessities of all, and deserves a more prominent place than it has heretofore occupied. In the garden, moreover, have been initiated most of the improved modes of culture that have added so much to the productive industry of the land. The garden is the school in which our best lessons are learned; and the principles there demonstrated, when judiciously and intelligently applied to the broad surface of the farm, give us our best results.

Culture, then, be it flat or otherwise, concerns the gardener even more than the farmer. When our attention, many years ago, was first called to the subject of flat culture, we determined to give it a fair trial by the side of the common system, noting carefully time, labor, and general results. We began with corn, then beans, next potatoes, etc., and with results so satisfactory, that we at last adopted the principle of drawing earth up to no plants, except for the purpose of blanching. After considerable experience, we do not heritate to give flat culture a distinct approval. It is the system for our dry atmosphere, warm sun and frequent droughts, as the hilling system may be the best for the moist climate and wet soils of England, especially where those soils are undrained.—Both systems have their advocates, those of the hilling system preponderating; but the

other is making its way slowly, but surely and we have no doubt it will, at no distant day, meet with a hearty approval throughout the country. The advocates for hilling principally claim that it "retains moisture," "decreases the evaporation," and "strengthens" the plant, but how they do not explain; but we question the truth of these points. It is manifest to us, and it accords with observation, that a plat of ground with a level surface kept well pulverized, will retain a more uniform degree of moisture than one broken into hills.—It is precisely in a time of drought, when we are dependent upon the small amount of moisture contained in the atmosphere, that the advantages of flat culture make themselves manifest. The leaves of plants condense the moisture of the atmosphere, and in different modes shed it on the ground, but principally by means of the stalk. Now if we take corn, for example, which has been hilled, this moisture, so much needed is thrown off from the plant, and very little is absorbed; in fact these hills and ridges make good water sheds, and becoming baked during the dry weather, lose the power of absorption. Where flat culture prevails the soil can always be kept open and porous, and its absorbent powers more fully retained. In regard to "decreasing the evaporation" by hilling, it is so transparent that evaporation is increased by the operation, that we leave that point without further comment for the present. It is well understood that hilling and ridging were introduced to get rid of surplus moisture. Hilling, also, it is said, "strengthens" the plant, the word being generally used in a mechanical sense; for example, it is contended that corn, when hilled, is less liable to be blown down. We know, however, that such is not the fact; and, so far as maintaining an erect position is concerned, facts are all in favor of flat culture. Paradoxical as it may seem to some, corn that has been hilled will blow down sooner than that which has not; and when both are down, that which has been grown by flat culture will soonest and most fully recover itself, because it has less resistance to overcome.

But we must now be content with what we conceive to be the advantages of flat culture, as compared with hilling, leaving details for another occasion; These advantages are principally the following: It demands less labor for a given amount of results; it admits of a more thorough cultivation of the soil; it lessens the evils of drought; it admits of the continued use of the best improved implements of culture; and, not among the least of its claims, it pre-supposes a thorough preparation of the soil, such as drainage where needed, deep-plowing, thorough stirring of the soil, etc.—Hilling undoubtedly has its place and its advantages, and these are chiefly found in a moist climate and a wet, heavy, undrained soil. Flat culture, we think, will prove the system for our climate, and improved modes of culture. Let it be more commonly tried, and adopted as its advantages may seem to warrant. We should be glad to see it in our gardens, for those ever recurring hills and ridges are nothing but an offence to good taste and neatness. If any shall find it not to possess the advantages claimed for it, they can fall back on the old system again. If, however, it has advantages, it is due to the progress of the age that they should be generally known.—*Horticulturist.*

What have our observant Western farmers to say upon this subject? It is one of enough importance to be worthy of being well understood. Our own observation inclines us favorably to the flat or level practice, on all rolling or well drained soils. Flat surfaces are kept clean with much the least labor, as well as being much the most agreeable to plow after the crop is off; and if the soil is well plowed and light, we do not see why air action should not be sufficient, even with level culture.—EDS. FARMER.

USES OF ICE.

We copy the following very valuable suggestions (says the *Repository*) from *Hall's Journal of Health.* They should be remembered and followed. We insert them for the benefit of our readers. Ice is too often the cause of serious and, sometimes, fatal injury—and at the same time, if properly applied, a valuable and efficacious remedy:

In health, no one ought to drink ice water; it has occasioned fatal inflammations of the stomach and bowels, and, sometimes, sudden death. The temptation to drink it is very great in summer; to use it at all with any safety the person should take but a single swallow at a time, take the glass from the lips for half a minute, and then another swallow, and so on. It will be found that in this way it becomes disagreeable after a few mouthfuls.

On the other hand, ice itself may be taken as freely as possible, not only without injury, with the most striking advantage in dangerous forms of disease. If broken in sizes of a pea or bean and swallowed as freely as practicable without much chewing or crushing between the teeth, it will often be efficient in checking various kinds of diarrhœa, and has cured violent cases of Asiatic cholera.

A kind of cushion of powdered ice, kept to the entire scalp, has allayed violent inflammation of the brain, and arrested fearful convulsions induced by too much blood there.

For Croup.—Water as cold as ice, applied freely to the throat, neck and chest, with a sponge or cloth, often affords an almost miraculous relief; and if this be followed by drinking copiously of the same ice cold element, the wetted parts wiped dry, and the child be wrap-

ped up well in bed clothes, it falls into a delightful and life-giving slumber.

All inflammations, internal and external, are promptly subdued by the application of ice or ice water, because it is converted into steam, and rapidly conveys away the extra heat, and also diminishes the quantity of blood in the vessels of the part.

A piece of ice laid on the wrist will often arrest violent bleeding at the nose.

To drink any ice cold liquid at meals retards digestion, chills the body, and has been known to induce the most dangerous internal congestions.

MEASURING HAY.

A correspondet of the *Ohio Valley Farmer* gives the following as his experience in measuring hay:

"I will premise that I have been engaged for the past twenty years in producing and preparing hay for the market, and during that time have pressed several thousand tons.

The conclusion which I have arrived at is simply this: That there is *no reliable rule* for determining the quantity of hay in a mow, or stack, but to weigh it, for the reason that different qualities of hay, and different modes of putting it up, will require different rules of measurement.

Stacks or mows will contain a greater or less quantity, in proportion to their dimensions, as they may be larger or smaller; as it is obvious that a large mow will settle more compactly than a small one. There will also be considerable difference as to the manner in which it is mowed away; that which has been carefully mowed will contain more than that which has been tumbled in in large *forkfuls* and not well *tramped*.

Fine hay will weigh more in proportion to the bulk, than coarse, and hay that has been cut when the grass had matured just sufficiently for the seed to grow, but not enough for it to scatter and waste, will weigh better than that cut earlier or later.

I pressed for one of my neighbors, during the past winter, a mow of hay, part of which was cut last season and part the season before, and the bales made from the last year's crop weighed about 25 per cent more than the other; the old hay having been very ripe when cut, while the new had been cut in due season. The old hay had the advantage, also, of having been in the bottom of the mow, which, in hay of the same quality, will make bales weigh from twenty-five to fifty pounds more than the top.

There is, also, a difference in the manner of curing hay; that which is gotten into the barn with the least exposure to the hot sun weighing the best.

With the experience of twenty years, I have no hesitation in giving as my opinion, that the best time to cut grass is when the seed has matured sufficiently to grow, but is not ripe enough to scatter, and that the sooner it can be put up after it is cut, the better and heavier it will be, provided it is sufficiently cured to prevent molding or mow-burning.

I do not think that any mow, large or small, be the hay green or ripe, fine or coarse, will weigh out a ton for ten cubic yards, unless it be the *bottom only* of a large mow; but that it will require from four to six hundred feet to make a ton, according to the circumstances adverted to above."

CAUTION TO BEE-KEEPERS—I find many patent hive venders are making very free with my name, attaching to it recommendations of hives that I never heard of, as an inducement to buy their worthless trash. This has been done in many quarters, till my reputation for consistency is in great need of repairs. Take a sample of one of the boldest, emanating from some point in Michigan, where it was supposed no doubt, that it might escape my notice:

"This is the only patent hive ever used by QUINBY, the greatest bee raiser in the United States, who, before it was patented, offered $120 for his individual right, now sold for $5."

And to make it still more like truth, he gives my name among others for reference.—I wish it distinctly understood, that *I never offered a dollar for a patent hive yet. That I never recommended any of them, but those with the moveable combs.* And to prevent being accused of interested motives, even here, I would say that I have no interest in *any* of them beyond an individual right to use. Of these rights I have any number presented me.

I would like to have this rascality exposed; it would save some of the readers of the *Farmer* the trouble of writing, and of my answering numerous letters asking to be further assured of my opinion of this or that hive.

St. Johnsville, N. Y., 1860. M. QUINBY.

CULTIVATION OF WHITE PINES.—About 18 years since I assisted in setting nearly 3000 white pines upon a lot of sandy land nearly worn out, and of little value. We procured the trees from a piece of land about to be plowed near a lot of young pines. A large proportion of the trees were from six to twelve inches in height, but thinking we would have some very good ones, we took pains to get a few that were very thrifty, from three to five feet in height; more than one-half the large ones died, while the small ones nearly all lived, and are now from six to twelve inches in diameter, and the land is worth three times as much as it was eighteen years ago. We plowed furrows about six feet apart, and placed the trees four feet apart in the furrows. The trees were set about the first of April and with very little expense. ALLEN DAVIS.

West Stafford, March, 1860.

SUGAR AND SYRUP MANUFACTURE.

[Report of the Committee at the Wisconsin State Fair of 1859.]

The committee upon the Manufacture of "Sugar and Syrup upon the Fair grounds," found upon their book two entries for competition, for the "best Manufacturing Apparatus, complete, upon the Fair Grounds, for, Sugar and Sprup making, comprising Grinding and Boiling Fixtures"—the one by Messrs. Spears & Plumb, of Madison, and the other by L. L. Lee & Son, of Milwaukee.

Owing to the imperfect fitting up of the apparatus, the parties were not prepared to work before the committee until the afternoon of Thursday. At that time we weighed out to each of the parties 77 1-2 pounds of Imphee canes for grinding.

The mills were operated by one horse each. Messrs. Spears & Plumb, ground out their quantity in 28 1-2 revolutions of the horse; and Lee in 30 1-2 revolutions. The time of each was the same, 6 1-4 minutes.

Spears & Plumb extracted 38 1-4 pounds of juice, and Mr. Lee 46 3-4 pounds. The first lost considerable by fast feeding and an overflow of juice from the channel of the mill.

The whole of the juice was delivered to Spears & Plumb for evaporation upon "Cook's Portable Sugar Evaporator." They had at least three gallons of boiling water upon the Evaporator when the juice was put upon it.—In fifty-five minutes began to draw finished Syrup from the Evaporator, and in sixty-four minutes the whole of the juice delivered, and fifty pounds in addition was reduced to a golden syrup, and the Evaporator left full of water, which had been introduced to drive the Sprup from the Evaporator. There was no burnt matter on the Evaporator.

On Friday morning the Committee weighed to the competitors 79 pounds of very unripe Sorghum canes. Messrs. Spears & Plumb ground out their quantity in 45 1-2 revolutions of the horse, occupying 10 1-2 minutes time; and Lee & Son in 30 revolutions of the horse, occupying 7 1-2 minutes time.

The draft of Messrs. Spears & Plumb's mill was, both trials, to the draft of Mr. Lee's as 2 is to 3, at least.

Messrs. Spears & Plumb extracted 41 1-2 pounds of juice, and Mr. Lee 48 pounds. The first labored under the same difficulty as on yesterday, of the expressed juice overflowing from the channel of the Mill and wasting.

The juice was delivered to Mr. Lee for evaporation upon Hedge's Evaporating Pans, and raised to a boiling point upon a pan over the fire, and immediately burnt and spoiled, when the operators abandoned it.

From the same kind of canes, about a hundred pounds of juice was extracted, partly by Messrs. Lee, and partly by Messrs. Spears & Plumb, and boiled upon their (Cook's) Evaporator, and a very fine article of Syrup made from it. There was no burning in the pan, nor unpleasant flavor to the Syrup, though it was darker than the Syrup made on Thursday, by the same parties. The Committee are unanimous in the opinion, that Cook's Evaporator is the best article which has ever been presented to the farmer for the evaporation of sugar.

The Committee have awarded the First Premium to Messrs. Spears & Plumb for the best complete apparatus.

The Committee are well aware that good work has been done with Hedge's Boiling Pans, though this time the persons operating it have failed; but by reason of the efficiency of their Mill, we have concluded to award to them the Society's Second Premium.

All of which is respectfully submitted, &c.,

J. G. KNAPP, Ch'n.

SUGAR CANE MANUFACTURE.

[Extract from J. C. Plumb's communication on Sugar Cane Culture and Manufacture, in Agricultural Transactions of 1859.]

This manufacture is necessarily a process requiring good *machinery, much energy*, and *constant care*, for a failure in any one of the different operations will defeat the object in view.

In regard to the mill for expressing the juice we will only say, that it should be *immensely strong*, with the least possible gearing, and always with a graduated, self-regulating pressure upon one of the rollers, and with sufficient power to *remove all the juice;* it should also be free from the constant leakage and the liability to clog, which characterizes some now in use.

I think that mills of greater strength than those now in common use, will be demanded as soon as the business becomes more settled, especially for working cane partly frozen.

The juice should pass immediately from the mill to the evaporator, and be filtered in the passage.

We have used a coarse woolen bag, of about two pail capacity, attached to the receiving tank, with an alternate to take its place while shaking out the deposit, which will clog it every hour. Some recommend a gravel filter, which we have never tried, but something is necessary; even the receiving tub filled with straw, will do temporarily.

The juice should not be exposed more than twenty minutes before heating to the boiling point; and now comes the climax of all the process, the reduction to syrup, and without that simple combination of furnace, boiler and cleanser, in the adjustable rocking machine called "Cook's Evaporator," or some equivalent we could not have patience to engage in the business at all. But this is so *simple*,

economical, *portable*, and *effective*, that it is a pleasure to run it, and instead of its being the burning, sooty, dripping daubing operation of the old way, the operation is cleanly, pleasantly and quickly performed, as your committee do report.

We have operated this evaporator in different portions of the State, and it has given surprising satisfaction where exhibited. Its construction is upon a new principle, which secures a constant flow of the juice, from the time it enters until it passes off syrup. It also retains the scum and feculent matter at the end of the several channels, from which it can be removed every half hour, and performs the cleansing process better than by introducing alkalies and other foreign ingredients.—Our limit will not admit of a minute statement of our experience and observation on this new branch of productive industry.

HORACE GREELEY'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS—HOW GOVERNMENT CLOGS ITS WHEELS INSTEAD OF AIDING IT

There are at present some fifty or sixty periodicals published in our country devoted to Farming—as many, I presume, as in all the world beside. They have been built up at great expense of talent, labor, and money; for when Col. Skinner started the first of them at Baltimore, some forty or fifty years ago, the idea of teaching farmers anything in that way was hooted by them as ridiculous, and he found it hardly possible to give his early numbers away. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent on these publications; and they are this day, in my judgment, doing more to promote the true growth of the country and the substantial, and enduring welfare of our people than Congress, the Army and the Navy, for the support of which they are taxed some forty millions per annum. Their publishers are asking nothing of the Government, wishing nothing but the common rights of American citizens. Yet Congress pays annually for gathering and compiling the material for a publication necessarily rival to theirs, of which the House has just ordered 300,000 copies, and the Senate, I believe, 50,000—all to be printed, bound, enveloped, and conveyed to the recipients in every part of the country at public cost—that is, at *their* cost and mine—and thus distributed in most unfair competition with the Agricultural journals, and to enable penurious and easy-going farmers to say, "Oh, *I* don't want to take one of these—I get a Patent-Office Report from our member of Congress every year, and that will do for my boys to chew upon till another comes around!" Thus Congress is doing its worst to undermine and destroy the Agricultural Press, by a policy which you heartily support—which, I grieve to say, has been practically supported by a majority of the Republicans in both Houses throughout the late Session, while opposed by a majority of the Democrats. I am very glad of any chance to do honor to my political opponents; and I must say that, on this question of abolishing the Franking Privilege, they appear to great advantage in contrast with most of the Republicans.—*Greeley to Senator Wilson.*

Remarks.—We publish the foregoing endorsement of the agricultural press, by Horace Greeley, not because it comes with within the line of our calling, but because we believe it. It has been a well settled conviction of our minds for a long time, that the agricultural press of the country, with its weekly and monthly issues, teeming with all that is suggestive, instructive, or useful, opening as it does a ready channel of inquiry between all the *reading* farmers of the State or nation, becomes a more direct and efficient agent of thought, action, and progress than any other one or a dozen instrumentalities that can be mentioned.

Still we are aware that it is an opinion not generally entertained. We have often heard governors in their messages, and lawyers in their agricultural addresses, talk learnedly of other great agencies, in the way of agricultural schools, &c., &c, that were advancing the agricultural world, and at the same time wholly ignore the great agricultural press of the country, as entirely as if it did not exist at all. All very natural, to be sure, as such men seldom read anything but political papers, still they are employed as expounders in agriculture, not because they know anything about it, but merely because they can talk, (so can a parrot, if some one will put the words into its mouth.)

The agricultural journals as a whole, are but poorly sustained. We do not believe that one third of them pay their publishers one penny for their labors. True a few, at a favorable location, with good luck, or great talents, pictorial illustrations, or clap-trap, get up a large circulation, and, possibly, make something out of it; but the great mass, whistle as they may to keep up their courage, are making but a small fortune for old age. The legal advertising, often so profitable for political papers, they know nothing about. True some very generous county agricultural society will occasionally put them on sparingly as premiums, provided they can get them at cost or a little less, but thick-headed, penurious farmers, (and there are lots of them,) who *have* to take them instead of some ragged dollar bill, not unfrequently deem themselves very badly used.

Agricultural journals that are worthy of their high mission, should be sustained to a much greater extent than they are by the agricultural societies, and in the way of premiums, it would operate as a double benefit; first, by putting such reading in the hands of many men and their families as would not have the liberality to subscribe for it. Secondly, such patronage upon an ordinarily liberal plan, would in some measure sustain and warrant the publication of good and useful journals. The *School Journal* of our State has a subscription list of five thousand, or thereabouts, from the treasury, which sustains it; but, alas! for too many of our agricultural papers, what its tardy subscribers do not pay, must be lost by the publisher or cheated out of his printer. Will those who believe with Horace Greeley in the usefulness and high mission of agricultural journals, think of these things, and do what they can in their day and generation, for a worthy but a suffering cause.

THE WISCONSIN AGRICTLTURAL AND MECHANICAL ASSOCIATION.—This newly organized institution is to hold its annual fairs at the place known as the Cold Springs, two miles west of Milwaukee. It is based upon the same plan as that which has been so successful at St. Louis. Its objects, as defined in the charters, are to promote improvements in all the various departments of agriculture, including not only the great staples of industry and trade, but also fruits, vegetables and ornamental gardening; the promotion of the mechanic arts in all their various branches; the improvement of the race of all useful animals; the general advancement of rural economy and household manufactures, and the dissemination of useful knowledge upon those subjects.

For the accomplishment of these objects, various means will be adopted, besides the annual fairs. The grounds are to be highly ornamented, so as to become a favorite place of resort; a museum in which to display all articles of use; and a library to contain books appropriate to the subjects indicated; and courses of lectures will be instituted. From the spirit with which our business men take hold of the matter (seven thousand dollars being already subscribed by seventeen persons,) we have no doubt the project will be successful.

The officers are Dr. E. B. Wolcott, President; I. A. Lapham, Secretary; Harrison Ludington, Treasurer. To Hon. Walter D. McIndoe is due the chief credit of initiating this important movement.—*Milwaukee Sentinel.*

☞ The State Agricultural Fair of California opens on Wednesday, the 19th, and closes on the 26th of September.

STOCK REGISTER.

TWO CONCLUSIVE REASONS WHY FARMERS OUGHT TO KEEP SHEEP.

First, our farmers ought to keep sheep in reasonable proportion with other stock, because it is decidedly a profitable business, almost, without exception, when well managed. Sheep breed fast and mature early; they grow a valuable crop of wool the first year, and both wool and lambs the second year. Thus they double and treble, and often quadruple in numbers and value, besides their yearly fleece, while an ox or a horse is coming to maturity. But their rapidly accumulating profits under proper circumstances, are so well understood that we shall not multiply arguments to prove it; but allow us to cite a single case in point:

SHEEP PAYING FOR THEMSELVES IN A SINGLE YEAR.

Mr. O. W. Park, a snug farmer of Mazomanie, in this county, recently gave us the following figures, as the result of his experience in sheep:

Bought last fall 51 good medium sheep at $1 62 per head, delivered at his farm,.....	$82 62
Thirty, three-fourths to full blood Spanish Merinos at $3 00 per head.....	90 00
Amounting altogether to.....	$172 62

Had two killed by dogs soon after getting them, but none since the dog-law was enacted, (the dogs knowing better.) Deduct the two killed which leaves 79; then he calculated they cost him $1 per head to feed, take care of, shear, &c., in fact he claimed that it had not cost him so much as this, as hay was very plenty and cheap in that vicinity, and pasturing still cheaper on the unenclosed lands about him; he fed no grain except to about half-a-dozen; but add $79 to the $172 62, making $251 62, as total cost to date. Against which offset product as follows:

322 pounds of wool sold at 42 cents per pound,	$135 24
62 lambs raised, large and extra, at $2 00 per head,.....	124 00
Making a total of.....	$259 24

as the year's product from a capital of $172 62 cents invested, and $79 expended. Who will say this does not pay? Mr. P. says that one of his neighbors, having a corresponding flock to his, they having bought together and divided, has done even a little better than he did, having raised a few more lambs.

Doubtless it will be replied to these instances, by such as doubt, that they are extraordinary. We admit it, but, at the same time, do

not believe that they need to be. Well selected sheep and good care, in neigborhoods where feed and fodder is cheap, will produce not unfrequently equally favorable results.

We perceive that in this case nothing is allowed for use of buck, and possibly some of the other estimates are pretty favorable, still it is approximately correct, beyond a doubt to us, not only because it looks reasonable, but for the further reason that we know Mr. Park to be a candid and reliable man.

To be profitable, in the aggregate, sheep should thus be kept in convenient sized flocks upon every farm that is suitable for them; not to the exclusion of other stock, but in connection with it. In this way they are not felt as a burthen, neither are they liable to the sickness and difficulties incident to larger flocks.—Suppose that one half of our fifty or sixty thousand good farmers had such flocks of sheep as Mr. Park's; let us see what the aggregate amount would be in numbers and produce per annum. Say 25,000 farms with 80 sheep each, would count up to two millions, and, if of good quality, their fleeces would be worth $4,000,000 per annum, and their increase half as much more. To which may be added a further consideration of an annual general increase of from twenty to twenty-five per cent in both sheep and wool.

This we claim is one of the rapid and sure ways of enriching the State, in direct annual income; and, in our opinion, by far the most important one as yet undeveloped. Continue the dog-law in force, and swell the flocks of sheep on all hands, and the increase of wealth thereby, will soon be sensibly felt and realized in every department of business and progress. Who doubts it? Let those who do, say so, and give their reasons based on facts and figures, for publication.

To save our farms from exhaustion, constitutes the second great reason why all good farmers should keep sheep, thus not only enriching the State with annual cash, but the soil with a return to it of the elements subtracted therefrom by the growing crops. It is admitted on all hands that no other kinds of stock return so large or valuable a per cent to the soil as sheep. Stocking down our large fields to clover and the grasses and pasturing them with sheep, is perhaps the only way that we can ever expect to manure them successfully. If left to the manure of cattle and horses, they will never be gone over with a thorough and uniform dressing of it, especially when the fields are large.

Sheep, then are the only reliable means for thoroughly sustaining our Western soils, and the sooner this fact is understood the better.—The rapidly passing years are doing their work upon many of our at present fine soils, and ere we are aware of it, if the present 'no manure' system is persevered in, we shall find ourselves where many of our Eastern farmers already are, delving upon a worn out soil.

Thus, for the two foregoing reasons, do we urge that our farmers should, as rapidly as possible, embark carefully and judiciously in sheep and wool growing.

What breeds of sheep to keep, we shall not advise in this article, already too long.—Most well informed farmers can judge best for themselves, being governed somewhat by circumstances and location.

Our own bias is in favor of good qualities of Spanish sheep, uncrossed either by coarse or French wools. Well bred and well kept Spanish sheep will shear five pounds of clean wool per head, which is usually worth from $2 00 to $2 50 per fleece, and is much more marketable, as a general thing, than coarser qualities. For mutton purposes other breeds are undoubtedly preferable; but the demand in that direction is, and always must be, limited compared with the fine wool market.

Sheep peddlers and $500 bucks, shun as you would any other swindle; and instead thereof go to the best sheep men of your acquaintance, and select for yourself at first cost. Sheep peddlers that do not double and treble on their sheep do not long continue in the business. Pass them by as you would most other peddlers. But in buying, always buy good sheep of their kind if you can, they pay much better than poor ones.

In conclusion upon this subject, we would say that we mean to continue to talk sheep, not for the purpose of getting up a sheep fever, but to do what we can to induce a just appreciation of this highly important interest, not merely to capitalists and large farmers, but to all the farmers of the State, both large and small. We should like to hear from any who differ with us upon this subject, if such there be they shall be heard.

☞ When is a plant like a hog? When it begins to root.

THE DOG LAW IN GRANT CO.

We are asked by a Melville correspondent, for an opinion on the dog law. A question propounded is, whether a constable is at liberty under the law, to kill a dog away from home with his master? The law is published in the *Herald* of the 14th of April, and the reader can better satisfy himself by reading it than by taking any opinion of ours. Section 3d of the law, makes it the duty of constables to destroy all dogs running at large not licensed and collared. The above question would turn on the words, "*at large*," in this section of the law. If a dog running with his master, and controlled by him is considered as "running at large," the constable would have the undoubted right to kill him. And although we do not think these words would be so construed, we still do not think a constable or any other person would render himself liable for an estimate placed upon the dog if killed off the owner's premises, unmuzzled, and subject only to the owner's commands. The dog law gives dog owners a security in such property which they never before had. The Law has not heretofore regarded these animals as property and they might be destroyed anywhere out of confinement, the same as a wild, ferocious, ungovernable animal, without making the destroyer responsible. But this law will, we think, have the effect to give owners to, and hence make property of, dogs properly collared and registered, and those complying with the law may probably, after the law is fully perfected, if not now, be enabled to receive a legal compensation for the destruction of a valuable dog, whereas they never could before. The law is new, not fully understood, and will not suffer much but will be improved by resistance. It is that kind of innovation which will be commended and will be an example to other States. Like many others the law will be useless in some localities, in others beneficial beyond estimate. Already wool producers are becoming encouraged, and are preparing to greatly increase their business in a State which cannot be excelled for raising sheep if they can but be made secure.

We had not heard the rumor mentioned by our correspondent that an unfavorable decision had been made upon the law at Boscobel and at Lancaster. We know of no case under the law, which has yet been brought to litigation in the county, nor of any material opposition to it in the State, except that a meeting of citzens of Columbia county declared the law unconstitutional, and that officers failing to perform the requirements of the law should not be prosecuted.—*Grant Co. Herald.*

COARSE vs. FINE WOOL SHEEP.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In your issue of April 5th, I find a statement in relation to the profits of fine and coarse wooled sheep. Your correspondent says that his neighbor's long-wooled sheep sheared three pounds of wool apiece, and that his Spanish Merinoes sheared four and a quarter pounds apiece. He says the long-wooled lambs were sold for $2 per head, and estimates his fine-wools also worth $2. He makes his 42 sheep produce $124 97 and his neighbor's (who I extremely pity) 20 sheep, but $54 50, and strikes a balance in favor of his fine-wools of the pretty sum of $40, and considers it quite an item, and so do I, unless we long-wooled men can do better than that.

Now as we are all looking after the dollars and cents, and as I am a little interested in long-wools, I propose to try my figures along side of Mr. Davis.

I have sheared this year from my sheep at home, 22 in number, 152 lbs. clean washed and perfectly dry wool. Of the 22, 15 were breeding ewes from which I had 10 lambs—five were wethers and five yearling ewes. The five wethers sheared 41¼ lbs.—twelve ewes, 71 lbs.—five lambs, 41¼ lbs, making the 152 lbs., which is within two pounds of seven pounds apiece. Last year my wool brought me 32 cents per pound, which is probably about what it will bring this year, which will make 152 lbs., 32 cents per pound, $48 64—about $2 21 per head for the wool. Now in relation to the value of lambs, he sets down his fine-wool at $2, which is probably about right. I have not lately sold any lambs to the butcher, but have disposed of most of them for breeding, and if any males were left over I made wethers of them, and before they were two years old made them weigh from 200 to 230 lbs., when they could be sold to the butcher for from $16 to $20 per head, which I consider better than to sell them when lambs. I had a ewe this year that weighed, before she was two years ald, 227. When I first commenced breeding sheep I used to sell some lambs to the butcher, but had no trouble to get from $3 50 to $5 per head for them, and could get that now; but I can do better with them.

And now for the test, and to do this honorably and fairly I propose to put the ewes and lambs in competition, and call their wool as my friend has done, an average of the flock, although Mr. Davis has the advantage in having but two lambs less on 27 ewes, when I have two less on 12.

Mr. Davis' 27 ewes, 4½ lbs. wool per head, 42 cts. per lb	$48.20
Mr. Davis' 25 lambs, $2 per head	50.00
Average wool and lambs, $3.64 per head	$98.20
My 12 ewes, 7 lbs. wool per head, 83 lbs., 32 cents per lb	$26.88
My 10 lambs, $4 per head	40.00
	$66.88
Average wool and lambs	$5.57
	3.64
Balance in favor of Long-Wools, per head,	$1.93
Difference on 42 sheep, in favor of Long-Wools, would be $81.06.	

Bethlehem, N. Y. JULIAN WINNE.

We publish the foregoing from the *Country Gentleman*, for the purpose of calling the attention of many of our farmers about embarking in sheep keeping to the matter of determining what kind of sheep they can most profitably keep. We do not consider this exhibit conclusive by any means, but suggestive of reflection.

WHITEWATER WOOL MARKET.

So far as we can learn, there have been bro't into our market the present season, something over 60,000 pounds of wool, most of it Spanish Merino, of fine quality, and commanding a good price. The prices have ranged from 35 to 48 cents—but averaging about 44 cents, which would give $26,400 as the amount that has gone directly into the pockets of our wool growers. This does not include several thousand pounds brought here from distant towns, but the wool, only, raised in this immediate vicinity, by men whose business point is Whitewater.

Below we give the names of a few of the largest wool growers, with the weight of their respective clips in round numbers:

John M. Clarke,	3,600	J. F. Goodhue,	1,250
Cobb & Edgerton,	925	N. P. Parsons,	750
J. M. Case,	800	Lewis Vincent,	300
S. E. Cobb,	650	A. F. Richmond,	400
F. L. Pratt,	700	J. Payne,	350
J. K. Pike,	650	L. Westcott,	250
H. Hemenway,	550	S. Burrows,	250
Delorma Pratt,	800	A. Gunnison,	250
Jason Beach,	575	O. Cook,	300
E. Sherman,	500	L. Kinney,	250
Asaph Pratt,	500	J. Bliss,	300
Orville Cravath,	500	M. Pratt,	275
Miles Cravath,	650	C. Doubleday,	250
B. B. Freeman,	500	C. Smith,	200
E. M. Rice,	700	A. Whiting,	225
A. D. Coburn,	600	— Simonds,	300
Harvey Baker,	350	C. Beach;	200
E. W. Starin,	450	A. Kinney,	250

Besides the above there are numerous other clips, many of them quite as large as those above, of which we could not obtain the figures. If farmers would take the trouble, when they bring in their wool, to leave a memorandum at this office, of the weight of their clip, price, &c., they would us and themselves a favor. As it is, we are almost wholly indebted for the above statement to R. O. Connor, who has taken much pains to enable us to give such facts concerning our wool trade as we are enabled to present.

From a hasty calculation, we judge the price per fleece of clean, washed wool, for many of the best clips, ranges from $2 25 to $3 50, not including heavy bucks' fleeces which were taken only at a discount of one-third.—*Whitewater Register.*

Wool Items.—A. S. Edgerton brought into this market about as fine a lot of wool as was offered for sale. He sheared from 50 yearling sheep, 347 pounds 9 ounces of clean, washed wool, an average per head of 6 pounds 15 ounces. From 31 two-year-olds, he took 227 pounds 12 ounces, an average of 7 pounds 5 ounces. He also sheared two bucks, the fleeces weighing, respectively, 16 pounds 8 ounces, and 13 pounds 12 ounces. M. Edgerton's entire clip—146 fleeces, not including those of the two bucks—weighed 931 pounds—an average of 6 pounds and 5 ounces. His wool sold for 47½ cents per pound, amounting in the aggregate to the snug sum of $433,38½. These sheep were all sired by Mr. Hemenway's buck, Matchless.

—Mr. E. W. Starin sheared 7 sheep—from from 18 of them, ewes and wethers, he sheared an average of 8 pounds per head. His whole clip was 437½ pounds—an average for his whole flock of 6¼ pounds. He had one yearling ewe that sheared 9 peunds of clean washed wool. Mr. Starin also raised 42 handsome lambs this Spring, which for a flock of 70 sheep is doing well.—*Whitewater Register.*

Eleven Valuable Ewes Killed by Dogs.—No doubt you know that this neighborhood is infested with many worthless dogs; they have repeatedly made depredations among the sheep in Avon. Last Friday, the 8th inst., I had destroyed eleven good, unshorn Leicester ewes, some of them suckling lambs; I am sorry I could not trace the curs, but I intend to kill any dog I may find around my farm. I hope you will notice this in the *Farmer*, and thus remind our brother farmers that it is best to carry out the power we have in our present dog law.—R. Baker, Avon, O., June 13, 1860.

WHAT BREEDS OF SHEEP ARE THE MOST PROFITABLE?

Editor Farmer—Much has been said and written about the merits of different breeds of sheep. I am well satisfied where mutton is so much of an object as it is here, either the full blood Southdowns, or a cross between them and the Spanish Merino, are the most profitable sheep we can raise. I have just sheared my Southdown buck and fifteen yearlings of his get, from three-quarter blood Spanish ewes, and the result, in washed wool, is as follows:

	lb	oz
Buck's fleece,	9	00
Yearling's fleece, No. 1	5	04
" " No. 2	5	09
" " No. 3	7	04
" " No. 4	6	08
" " No. 5	5	06
" " No. 6	8	07
" " No. 7	6	01
" " No. 8	6	06
" " No. 9	7	00
" " No. 10	7	04
" " No. 11	6	11
" " No. 12	5	00
" " No. 13	6	08
" " No. 14	6	05
" " No. 15	5	07

Which gives an average of 6¼ pounds for each sheep, that sold at 42 cents per pound.—The buck weighed, before he was sheared, 215 pounds. The yearlings are all fat and fit for the butcher. They had no extra care through

the winter. They were put into a yard by themselves, as soon as the grass failed in the fall, fed regularly every day fifteen ears of corn and four bundles of corn stalks, all thrown on the ground. This was their regular ration, and they had no other food till grass got up a good bite in the spring. Plenty of fresh water, and a good shelter was furnished them, the latter of which they did not use, preferring to sleep out on the frozen ground. I bring my sheep into the yards early in the fall—so soon as the grass fails—*in good condition*, and keep them there till grass gets up a good bite in the spring. J. S. TIBBITS.

—*Michigan Farmer.*

PRODUCE OF A SMALL FLOCK.

EDITOR MICHIGAN FARMER—*Dear Sir:*—Having read the communication in the last *Farmer* of the produce of wool of A. W. Calkin's flock of 30 sheep, and at the close asking who can beat it, I thought I would give you the result of my flock of 30 breeding ewes, 6 yearling ewes, and 1 buck, 37 in all; the lambs were put up in the fall, and kept up till spring. The 6 lambs were fed 1 pint of corn per day, the buck was put with the 30 breeding ewes November 23d, and run with them until December 23d, then put up by himself, fed corn once a day 2 gills. The 30 ewes run with the cattle in the cornfield and pasture during the day time, and at night put up and fed with timothy and clover hay—no grain fed to ewes. The lambs and buck were fed hay once a day, and had what water they wanted. My 30 ewes raised 33 lambs, 12 buck lambs are already sold at $3 per head, to be taken when fit to wean. The 37 sheep sheared, and I sold at the barn door (as your correspondent says) 245 pounds of wool at 45 cents per pound.—This you will see is an average of 6 pounds and ten ounces per head, less 2 ounces. I will not ask who can beat this, for I think any farmer can who wills it. My buck sheared (two years old) 16 pounds and fourteen ounces. My sheep are pure Spanish, no French or Indian about them. S. W. PALMER.

Norval, June 25, 1860.

☞ The Merino wool crop of G.W.Kendall of the New Orleans *Picayune*, from his ranch in Texas, amounts to 18,000 lbs., and has been sold entire to a mill in Georgia.

☞ The Wool Clip of Ohio, for the present year, is estimated at 9,000,000 pounds, worth $4,000,000.

☞ An Alabama Judge recently paid $1,200 for a ten days old colt, of a choice racing stock. It is presumed that the Alabamian got his title by being umpire at a horse race.

☞ The bears recently carried off 13 sheep in Meddybemps, Maine.

CAN WE IMPROVE THE SIZE AND VIGOR OF OUR HORSES?

It is a well authenticated fact that English horses, as a general thing, are superior in size and vigor to the American. This remark is especially applicable to the dray-horses of the large cities, as well as to the farm horses in the principal agricultural districts. To a certain extent, this superiority is perhaps attributable to the breed; but it is manifest that there is some other reason for it. It becomes a question, therefore, to what extent the size and vigor of a horse is made to depend upon his food. In the United States we have a stereotyped system of feeding. Corn, oats and hay, are the principal kinds of food used for our horses, and, from present appearances, they are likely to continue so. Now, Mr. Editor, when you begin to enumerate the kinds of horse food used in England, you do not find a list comprising two or three varieties (fed, as they usually are with us, in a raw and unwholesome state), but such an one as this: oats, pulse, beans, carrots, parsnips, hay, mixtures of various kinds, raw and cooked, &c.—Now it is an established principle, that in order to develop fully the physical powers of a domesticated animal, not only a sufficient quantity of food should be given it, but that there should be an alternation and varying of the kinds. The continual use of one kind of food will not stimulate the appetite in nearly so great a degree as a judicious rotation. Let us apply the principle to our own cases, and we find that an entire sameness in our daily food for any considerable length of time, cloys the appetite, and renders eating an operation demanded by absolute necessity, and not the result of the demands of a keen appetite. Variety in food, on the contrary, stimulates the digestive organs, and is almost absolutely essential to domesticated animals, such as the horse, &c.

The partiality of an animal for a particular kind of food, is generally regulated by its internal organization. Thus the lion feeds upon flesh, and the sheep on vegetable matter.—Occasionally we notice a slight departure from these principles, but they are the exceptions which prove the rule or law. The domesticated animal, being, as the horse, confined to certain limits, is compelled to eat such food as his owner offers him, or starve. On the other hand, the wild animal being wholly unrestricted in its movements, and guided by unerring instinct, travels where it pleases in search of the food which its peculiar organization requires. Besides this, the Creator has so arranged things that the food best adapted to the wild animal, is always found in the regions of which it is a native. Now the horse was originally wild, and not a native of our country.—The food of the horse, therefore, which he receives daily from his master is not *exactly* the kind which nature provided for him in his na-

tive condition. It becomes a question then, how nearly we are approximating his natural aliment, and whether we may not, by varying his food more, approach it still nearer. We have the fact before us, that American horses are not as strong or vigorous as the English. Coupled with this fact is another one: we do not give our horses as great a *variety of food* as the Englishman does his. Now is this difference in size and vigor attributable to climate or breed, or to the food? If to climate, we cannot alter his condition, if to breed, then we may improve him, by introducing better ones; but if, as I believe, the difference is owing mainly to our wrong system of feeding, then the remedy is a simple one.

Let us try carrots and parsnips, &c., more extensively—let us eschew unground grain, and uncut hay whenever it is possible, and let us feed more cooked food. It will not be difficult to make the trial, and in addition to this, there will be no risk in attempting it, as we have the most indubitable evidence that a system such as that suggested has the great advantage of economy in cost, even if it does not add to the size and vigor of the animals.—*Cor. Farmer and Gardener.*

NOTE.—Let our Farmers who are not too indifferent or shiftless to pursue the best course, when they know what it is, reflect upon the facts set forth in the foregoing article. It is what we have long contended for.

STOCK-WATER CISTERNS.

EDS. WIS. FARMER—*Sirs:*—As I have a little leisure this afternoon, if it is not already quite too late, I will try to answer some of the inquiries of your correspondent, S., in regard to stock-water cisterns, &c. In the first place I would state that my former communication was written for the purpose of obtaining, and not for imparting, information; but as the idea of obtaining water for stock in the manner proposed appeared to be new to some, I thought I would mention it for the benefit of any who might choose to try the experiment. I would here further say, that I have seen the experiment tried and know that it will succeed.

I think S. was mistaken with regard to my acquaintance, as I do not recollect any such conversation as referred to, and am quite sure I was not convinced that even cisterns cemented on the earth at the sides are a failure, as the scores of this kind of cistern to be found almost anywhere, is evidence enough that they are quite successful. But as the best is usually the cheapest, I will inform your correspondent, S., how I propose to build one the coming fall. I intend to dig my cistern, first, at one side of the ravine, not in it; shall dig it ten or twelve feet deep, ten feet wide, and sixteen or eighteen feet long. I shall wall it up and arch it over the top with a good strong wall, layed in common lime mortar; then put on two good coatings of cement, and cover it with two or three feet of dirt. To conduct the water into the cistern, I shall throw up a bank of earth across the ravine, opposite the cistern, sufficient to create slack water, a foot or more in depth, conducting the water from this pool, by means of a spout, having a screen at the outer end to prevent any rubbish from collecting in the cistern, and also a slide, or valve, to shut the water out at pleasure. The best time to fill a cistern of this kind is when the ground is frozen, and if there is snow on the ground, so much the better, as the water will then always be pure and clear. The object of the pool is to break the force of the current, and allow the water to settle, when it brings down mud and dirt. I think such a cistern would be more convenient, and the expense of building would compare quite favorably with the $700 well spoken of by S., and I will give the figures and tell him how I like it when completed and tested.

Yours most respectfully,

SUBSCRIBER.

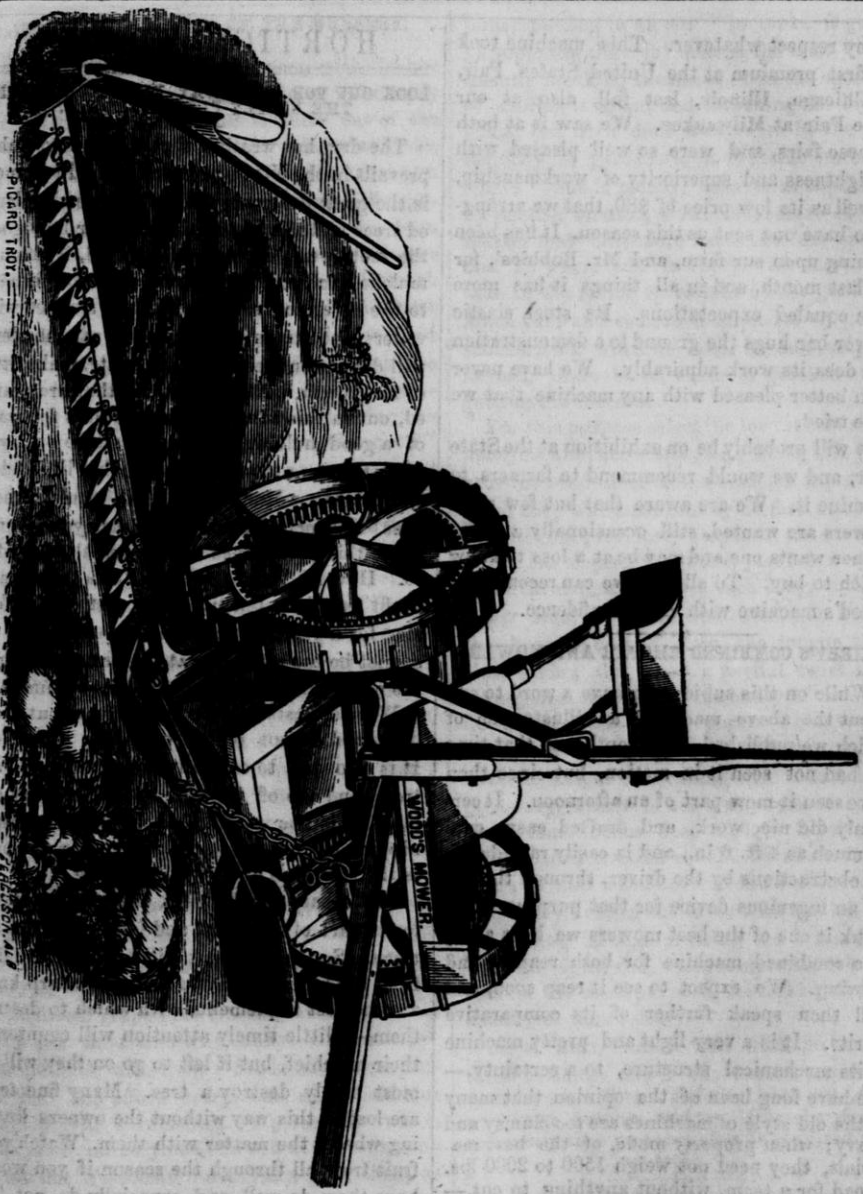
Middleton, July 7, 1860.

☞ The St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association open their next fair on the last Monday of September. The leading premium is a sweepstake prize of $1500 for the best roadster stallion to harness. Three premiums of $600 for the best thorough-bred bull, thorough-bred stallion and roadster stallion to harness; $300 for the second best, and $100 for the third best of each description of animals offered. All the other prizes are in keeping with the former fame of the association, and cover almost everything connected with the agricultural and mechanical world, embracing the fine arts, the floral kingdom, &c.—The premium list amounts to upwards of $24,000.

☞ In parts of Virginia, a large mortality has taken place among hogs, in consequence of eating locusts, which have appeared as predicted by Dr. Smith, the "locust prophet."

☞ The grass crop in Pennsylvania is reported to be unusually good, and the wheat never finer.

☞ Entertaining temptation is like licking honey from a sharp stick.



Walter A. Wood's Improved Mowing Machine, Manufactured at Hoosick Falls, New York.

MECHANICAL.

WOOD'S MOWER.

The above cut represents one of the lightest and prettiest mower that we have ever seen; it is admirably proportioned, mechanical and graceful throughout; all iron and steel, except the pole and seat; weighs but 517 lbs. all complete for running; the gearing runs light and perfect, gives a rapid motion to the sickle, and the whole moves through the grass easier than most machines run when there is no grass to cut. It cuts but little over four feet wide, too narrow, it seems to us, by at least half a foot, for the West; it may be better as it is for the East, where the ground is rougher.

The first impression of every one on looking at this machine is that it is too light; but Mr. Wood claims that experience does not prove it so; stating that of nearly 600 machines sold last year, and many of them to use on rough ground, that very few of them broke or failed

in any respect whatever. This machine took the first premium at the United States Fair, in Chicago, Illinois, last fall, also at our State Fair at Milwaukee. We saw it at both of these fairs, and were so well pleased with its lightness and superiority of workmanship, as well as its low price of $80, that we arranged to have one sent us this season. It has been running upon our farm, and Mr. Robbins', for the last month, and in all things it has more than equaled expectations. Its steel, elastic mower bar hugs the ground to a demonstration and does its work admirably. We have never been better pleased with any machine that we have tried.

It will probably be on exhibition at the State Fair, and we would recommend to farmers to examine it. We are aware that but few mere mowers are wanted, still occasionally a grass farmer wants one, and may be at a loss to know which to buy. To all such we can recommend Wood's machine with extra confidence.

KIRBY'S COMBINED REAPER AND MOWER.

While on this subject we have a word to say about the above machine, an illustration of which we published last month; at that time we had not seen it in motion, but since then have seen it mow part of an afternoon. It certainly did nice work, and drafted easy; cuts as much as 4 ft. 6 in., and is easily raised over all obstructions by the driver, through the aid of an ingenious device for that purpose. We think it one of the best mowers we have seen, as a combined machine for both reaping and mowing. We expect to see it reap soon, and will then speak further of its comparative merits. It is a very light and pretty machine in its mechanical structure, to a certainty.—We have long been of the opinion that many of the old style of machines are too clumsy and heavy; when properly made, of the best materials, they need not weigh 1500 to 2000 lbs. a load for a team, without anything to cut.—We shall watch these new machines with much interest, and hope to see all of them not only better, but lower priced than in the past.

☞ The following patents were issued to Wisconsin patentees lately:

Wm. Workman, of Ripon, Wis., for Improvement in Seeding Machines.

J. A. Smith, of Fond du Lac, and Isaac Orvis, Oakfield, administrator of the estate of L. M. Orvis, deceased, for an Improved Printing Press.

J. C. Howells, of Madison, for an Improvement in Nozzle for Fire-engines.

HORTICULTURAL.

LOOK OUT FOR HOT, DRY WEATHER AMONG THE NEWLY PLANTED TREES.

The dry, hot weather that almost invariably prevails in the North-west during mid-summer, is the great destroyer of hosts of newly planted trees and shrubbery. No matter how good the roots were, or how well planted, if left unmulched and naked, the soil will bake perhaps to the lowermost root, especially if slopped with water; and trees that are not salamanders, will die out entirely, or, at any rate, make little or no growth. About one-half that are planted, out in this country, are thus lost for want of a good mulching; even the whole outlay is often thrown away for want of this little additional labor. Many trees that would otherwise be lost perhaps this season, may yet be saved if the thing is at once and promptly attended to. How many who will read this article may profit from it to ten times the cost of the *Farmer* for a year, if they will but heed it? It cannot be too often repeated that mulching is the great salvation in our dry, hot summers.

Worms' nests may be looked for about these days, and cannot be too promptly destroyed. It is also well to carefully inspect all growing trees, and rub off all sprouts before they get large, it is less work and better for the trees; nipping all undesirable branches in the bud, is the best time and way of pruning.

Look sharp for the work of borers about the lower part of the body, and larger forks of the trees. Sap or *saw* dust will be seen exuding from the holes; a limber wire or sharp knife are the best implements with which to destroy them—a little timely attention will counteract their mischief, but if left to go on they will almost surely destroy a tree. Many fine trees are lost in this way without the owners knowing what is the matter with them. Watch your fruit trees all through the season if you would have them do well, and especially do not forget them during the hot weather.

STRAWBERRIES have done poorly this season, owing mainly to the over wet weather during the fruiting season, sending them too much to vines instead of fruit. But another year they may be all right again, if the beds are kept clear of weeds and protected during the winter with a light covering of straw.—Strawberries are not a very certain crop, at best, but so fine when grown that it pays to have patience with them. Wilson's Albany appears to continue an especial favorite yet East and West.

WORK IN AND OUT OF THE NURSERY.

In the nursery the busy season with the hoe is passed. All weeds should be so effectually killed, that a resurrection is quite out of the question with them. No third day manifestation should be looked for. The plow must now be stopped, and let the trees have a little quiet all to themselves. This precaution has been dearly bought by many tree growers in the North West, who formerly worked through their trees, (to get a fine growth,) till winter forced them to cease from their labors; and when spring came around they found that zero had forced their trees to cease from living.—Taking it for granted that the pruning has been properly done by the "rubbing off" method, as soon as the buds start where not wished, little, in the Western nurseries, remains to be done this month, except to finish up the layering. At the East and South this is the busy month for budding; but as yet this is not practised to any great extent in this part of the North-west. The buds will not become sufficiently fixed in their new abode to withstand the cold without additional protection.

This layering may still, and should be, promptly attended to. All of the hardy shrubs and vines that the West requires are easily propagated in this manner. The want of having practised this to a thorough extent, trusting and depending upon the Eastern nurseries to supply our trade, has been, and *is*, to a great extent, even now, the bane of Western nursery men. This is the sure road to dependence—while the life-long independence may be had by growing our own products. If the Cincinnati grape growers can afford vines at $25 per thousand, why cannot Wisconsin?—If the East, with their "five hundred acre nurseries" can afford evergreens, and deciduous ornamental shrubberies at prices by which Western nurserymen can sell at a profit, why may not Wisconsin nurserymen grow them as well?

It is not yet too late to mend our ways, the present season, in this respect. And even the farmer, and every gardener, will find it to their advantage to notice these little things. Remember that after preparing your scabras, syringas, lilac weigelas, deutzeas, &c., you can readily have a large supply for your own use, (or to give away.) Some improvements have been made in this branch of horticulture. The old stereotyped method of cutting the notch upon the underside of the shoot, close to a joint; putting in an *oat* "to make *it* grow." (I supppose the "it" means the *oat*.) Frequently breaking the shoot off in the operation of bending it down, and loosening the layer—has at last been done away with by the great majority of gardeners, and in the nurseries, where "time is money," has been superseded by another method, slower but surer. It is a maxim that "the more haste the less speed," and no where will it apply with more force than in the minor operations of the garden.—Much care and caution is requisite to perfect success; but when the labor is cautiously performed, there is no surer or quicker way of getting the increase.

For this purpose select the lowest side-shoots honeysuckles, snowballs, &c., taking this year's growth, bend them to the earth, seeing at what point they will most readily be fastened by the hooked pin previously prepared; when at this point, cut slopingly upward, just below a joint, a slit three-fourths of an inch long, upon the *upper side*, as it lies bent over. In bending the shoot, or branch, turn the tongue to one side, giving the *layer* a partial twist at the same point; when the extremity of the shoot designed as the future "parent" plant can be straightened to an upright, natural position, without danger of breaking off. Pin firmly, if necessary, which is not always the case, then cover four inches deep with well-pulverised soil. An excavation should be made for the layer, so that when covered the surface will be level. By holding the layer with the left hand and filling in and pressing the mould firmly with the right, and, when completed, using the foot for the same purpose, the forked stick will usually be unnecessary.

As a "finis," mulch well with the best material at hand; and if the season proves dry, your layers will root sufficiently to put in nursery rows another spring. Gooseberries root so readily that no tongueing is required.

Yours truly, W.

EARLY STRAWBERRIES AND CHERRIES.—As early as the 4th of May, ripe strawberries appeared in the Louisville market; and on the 7th, ripe cherries were sold: yet but few strawberries, compared with other seasons, have thus far been brought in.—*Louisville paper.*

AGRICULTURAL BUREAU.—That subject is before the Agricultural committee of the House of Representatives, we understand, and hope that it will be placed upon a foundation honorable to the nation. Great good may result from it if it is liberally provided for, as we trust it will be.

EXPERIENCE IN ORCHARD PLANTING.

Eds. Wis. Farmer:—As I have taken some interest in fruit growing, I shall give you a short account of my experience in the same. In the fall of 1852 I purchased 2,000 four-year old trees, root grafted; grew one year in Rochester, N. Y., and three years in this State, and heeled them in for the winter; set them in orchard, on border prairie with moderate elevation, northern aspect, with open, porous, clay sub-soil, in April, 1853. All of them leaved out but six; the only enemies they have had to contend with have been frost and the borer. I set my trees 16 feet apart each way, and have very low heads, not any over half standards. I have cultivated my orchard ground every year, to corn, potatoes, and beans, but do not now plow it. If I had minded every body, I should have seeded it down, but nothing could induce me to. In comparing with orchards that have been seeded down I think it has always been in my favor. The trees were selected at that time on account of their Eastern reputation.

Three or four years ago I set 100 standard pear trees, in vacant places in my orchard, which afforded protection to them. My method of protection on planting is, to sack the trunk with cotton cloth sewed up with yarn, which guards against all chafing.

Clinton Matteson.

Rosendale, July 1, 1860.

Note.—This is all well as far as it goes, but why did not Mr. M. tell us whether his orchard had yet come into bearing; what kinds and how many he has since lost?

WINTER MULCHING.

I think that winter mulch should be applied to fruit trees as soon, at least, as the ground is hard frozen in the fall; and removed in spring before the coming of hot, dry weather, or else allowed to remain till fall, merely removing what comes in contact with the bodies of the trees. I think I shall follow the latter course. Would not the removing of the mulch, in the spring, tend to the early ripening of the young wood? If it would I should get a treble benefit from once mulching, as it would answer the purpose of a summer as well as a winter mulch. Those boards spoken of I should attach to some suitable support, so as not to come in contact with the trees, and allow them to remain permanently. I should apply them to none but the choice, half-hardy varieties that had long, exposed bodies; as an entire orchard composed of trees that required this kind of protection, I hardly think could be grown to much profit by farmers in general.

In conclusion I would state that I am a young farmer, and, as before stated, not much experienced in fruit growing. I have planted some trees, and intend to plant more, as means and opportunity occur. I have concluded to follow the above plan of cultivation, and I do not intend to till and crop my orchard at all, that is, near the trees, depending on mulching to secure a good growth; shall I injure or benfit my trees by so doing? Can any one tell who has tried it?

Yours, most respectfully,

Subscriber.

Middleton, July 7, 1860.

THE CRANBERRY.

We condense the following remarks on the cranberry from an article read before the Farmers' Club, of New York, and published in the *Homestead*, by J. C. Young of Long Island:

Mr. Young states that his operations with the cranberry since 1856, have demonstrated,

1. That cranberries will grow and do well though the vines are taken directly from the marshes where they grow wild.
2. That they will grow upon upland, and immediately after it has beeen broken up.
3. That they will grow without manure, and without a wet sub soil.
4. That they do as well without any artificial irrigation.
5. That they need a moderate amount of labor, to keep them clean and free from weeds and grass.

The vines when first planted were not thicker than a broom straw, and were taken from the edges and driest places of marshes adjoining, where they were growing wild. They are now as thick as a pipe-stem, and the rows are are a compact mass from ten to twelve inches in width. It is not yet determined whether it is best to leave a space between the rows or to allow them to cover the whole ground. The use of the scuffle hoe in cleaning the spaces between the drills, whilst it loosened the roots of many vines, seemed to give a new impetus to their growth. The land itself is a sandy, yellow loam, in which wells have to be sunk 57 feet to procure water, and there is no running stream within a mile and a half, so that all the watering and irrigation afforded depended entirely upon the rains. From the plot there was gathered last year 24 bush. Another cultivator set out about an eighth of an acre in the spring of 1855, from which in 1856 he had half a bushel; in 1857, three bushels; in 1858, six bushels; and in 1859, sixteen bush-

els. Mr. Young himself set out another plot of about a fourth of an acre in 1855, from which in 1859, he gathered between twenty and thirty bushels, thus showing that his system gave certain returns of about the same amount at the end of three years. As a general rule it takes three years before a full crop can be realized from the setting out, and during this time the lot wants a certain amount of attendance.

Who among our Western correspondents can tell us their experience in cranberry cultivation, either upon high or low lands? It is a subject on which there begins to be some enquiry, and on which we would like to elicit all important information. The wild cranberry crop of the present season is said to be large and very promising; and among the speculations of the day we would mention an enterprise put on foot by some of our citizens.

Col. Fairchild, and others associated with him, have purchased some thousands of acres of the cranberry marshes of Juneau county, and are busily engaged at present in erecting the needful buildings, and making the rakes and other requisite fixtures for securing the growing crop, which they represent as promising very large. They are intending to make a permanent business of it, and count on large results. We certainly hope they may realize them, and we see no reason why they should not.

WATERING TREES.—More trees are destroyed yearly, than saved by injudicious watering. Many persons pour pailful after pailful of cold water around the roots of newly planted trees, during the early part of the season; their object being to assist the tree by supplying moisture, to force out its buds and leaves to vigorous growth. The result is more often to create disease and rapid decay in the root, to drown the young fibres, and by keeping the ground wet and cold, produce death. Better hoe around the tree every other night, just at sunset, and let the watering alone. The former practice will destroy the tree, the latter will save it.

BLACKING FOR HARNESS.—The following is recommended as a good composition for a harness. Linseed oil, spirits of turpentine, and ivory black, mixed well and boiled. It should be laid on thinly while warm, and polished with a stout brush.

☞ Spreading half an inch to an inch thick of coal tar upon the surface of a gravel walk, then covering with a sufficient of fine sifted gravel to prevent the tar sticking to the feet, will soon form a hard, dry walk, and free from any growth of grass or weeds.

PRUNING; WHEN SHOULD IT BE DONE?

Pruning is, at best, contrary to nature, and should be done, I think, at such times and in such manner, as to offer the least possible violence to the laws of vegetable life. I believe that by judicious, well timed pinching or summer stopping, by the removal of superfluous buds, the occasional insertion of a bud to fill a vacancy, and by bringing into place, by means of stakes, any straggling branches; we may obtain (in connection with well-timed root-pruning of too luxuriant trees) the highest possible result, leaving the pruning-knife to be used, as the surgeon does his scalpel, only to repair the effects of *accident* or *neglect*, or to correct a *natural deformity*.

But, to be entirely effective, this treatment should commence in the nursery rows and with the tree from the bud, pinching off the leader and stronger laterals once or more during the early part of the growing season, when they will continue their growth in the same direction as before; the wounds will heal without scars, and the sap, thus checked in its upward flow, will be concentrated where it is required, for the development and full maturity of the lower branches and fruit spurs. No useless wood is grown, to be cut off at the annual pruning; but we obtain straight, handsome branches that are a pleasure to the eye.

There are many kinds of trees, as the Rostiezer, Marie Louise, Beurre Diel, and other pears, and several of the peaches, plums, &c., of such straggling, tortuous growth as to tax to the utmost ones skill in the use of the knife to bring them into shape. Handsomely formed trees of these varieties, obtained by knife pruning, are rare. Might they not be more easily and certainly obtained by the method above suggested?

We all know how very impatient of the knife are all the stone fruits,—how it distorts the branches of the plum, makes "brooms" of the cherry, and causes them all to "gum." By the practice of *thumb* and *finger* pruning these evils may, in the main, be avoided, and the earliest possible fruitfulness attained, without any injury, but rather a benefit to the plant. Further, I firmly believe that trees thus treated at the outset, if grown with *sufficient space* in the nursery grounds and *lifted with moderate care*, may be safely transplanted without the inevitable amputations, &c., which we are always advised by writers on the subject, but may be safely left to the annual summer stopping above suggested.

Much remains to be said, which perhaps may serve for a future article. A desire to provoke inquiry and experiment during the coming season, and to elicit the opinions and experience of those skilled in fruit culture, has been the leading motive of this communication from a mere NOVICE.

—*Gardeners' Monthly.*

HOME CIRCLE.

EDITED BY MRS E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

THE PLAYMATE.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The pines were dark on Ramoth's hill
Their song was soft and low;
The blossoms in the sweet May wind
Were falling like the snow.

The blossoms drifted at our feet,
The orchard birds sang clear;
The sweetest and the saddest day
It seemed of all the year.

For, more to me than birds and flowers,
My playmate left her home,
And took with her the laughing spring,
The music and the bloom.

She kissed the lips of kith and kin,
She laid her hands in mine;
What more could ask the bashful boy
Who fed her father's kine?

She left us in the bloom of May;
The constant years told o'er
Their seasons with as sweet May morns,
But she came back no more.

I walk, with noiseless feet, the round
Of uneventful years;
Still o'er and o'er I sow the spring
And reap the autumn ears.

She lives where all the golden year
Her summer roses blow;
The dusky children of the sun
Before her come and go.

There haply with her jeweled hands
She smooths her silken gown—
No more the homespun lap wherein
I shook the walnuts down.

The wild grapes waft us by the brook,
The brown nuts on the hill,
And still the May-day flowers make sweet
The woods of Follymill.

The lilies blossom in the pond,
The bird builds in the tree;
The dark pines sing on Ramoth hill
The slow song of the sea.

I wonder if she thinks of them,
And how the old time seems,—
If ever the pines of Ramoth wood
Are sounding in her dreams.

I see her face, I hear her voice;
Does she remember mine?
And what to her is now the boy
Who fed her father's kine?

What cares she that the orioles build
For other eyes than ours,
That other hands with nuts are filled,
And other laps with flowers?

O playmate in the golden time!
Our mossy seat is green,
Its fringing violets blossom yet,
The old trees o'er it lean.

The winds so sweet with birch and fern,
A sweeter memory blow;
And there in spring the veeries sing
The song of long ago.

And still the pines of Ramoth wood
Are moaning like the sea,—
The mountain of the sea of change
Between myself and thee!

CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.

Everybody says the season is an unusual one; and from all who have had the good fortune to enjoy a little rambling about comes the spontaneous exclamation "How beautiful is the country!" Beautiful, indeed; and, as it seems, surpassing all the summers of our memory, is this lavishment of foliage that everywhere meets the eye. It is as though Nature had opened the last storehouse of raw material, expended all the wisdom of her secret councils, and all the love of her great, mother heart, in preparing a surprise of beauty and wealth for her children. As we stand in the midst of this luxuriance of forest and field—of meadow, and orchard, and garden—our souls instinctively take on a deeper reverence for the Being who can thus bring back the seasons in their order, and with the old miracle, the ever new glory. And yet, in the very abandonment of the worship inspired comes up the questioning of the human heart, 'Can all this be again reproduced?' So marvellous in our eyes is this most frequently repeated, yet most wonderful, of the works of the Infinite Father—that of arraying the world in a robe, the magnificence of which, in all beauty, is only equaled by its absoluteness in all use.

And in the flower garden what endless variety of form! what gorgeousness of color! what richness of perfume! Surely there were never *just such flowers* as those that crown the triumphal march of this particular summer; and in such profusion! beds of them where there used to be but a scanty border; hedges of them where once they stretched in vain their arms to clasp each other; a very carpet for our feet where, lately, they scarcely spotted the green; and trailing, climbing, pendent everywhere there is a deformity to hide or a gracefulness to adorn. But here we do not accord so much to the season, itself. To be sure they are children of the same great Father; and where there is a tree to wave, or a moss to creep, there are the flowers, opening fringed eyelids to the light of day, and holding up golden chalices for the refreshment of showers. But they do not come, from all lands, and arrange themselves in our gardens in just such soils and situations as are best suited to their special needs. This can only be accomplished by the care and thought of those who love them and will take the trouble to cultivate each one, something, in accordance to its nature. And

this, we are rejoiced to see, is increasing thro'-out the whole country. We know it from the horticultural displays in our cities and towns; from reports in newspapers and journals; and, best of all, *we see it*, wherever we go, in the homes of our friends. This spring and summer we have been delighted by a succession of excursions into the country, and to a number of the cities and villages of our beautiful State. As far up as Green Bay—whose remeniscences and surroundings, of surpassing interest, must have a chapter by and by—we found flower gardens that would once have been the pride of kings. And all the way home, and all the ways round about, there is, manifestly, a growing interest in the procurement and best possible cultivation, not only of the old varieties so long known and loved, but of choice selections from the multitude that are yearly imported from distant climes. May the entire success of such efforts this year, so charm the eye and win the love of all noble natures, that henceforth the cultivation of flowers may become a most potent instrument in every home, for reclaiming those who would degrade its sanctity and, still more, to dignify and refine those whose virtues are its truest embellishment.

THREE VALUABLE RECEIPTS.—The following are furnished for the *Country Gentleman*, from a source which authorises that personage to commend them unhesitatingly to the attention of his numerous lady admirers:

COMPOSITION CAKE.

One pound and a half of sugar.
One pound and a quarter of butter.
One pound and three-quarters of flour.
One cup of milk.
One teaspoonful of soda.
Six eggs.
One wine-glass of brandy.
Fruit to your taste.

JUMBLES.

Half a pound of sugar.
Half a pound of butter.
Half a pound of flour.
Flavor with cinnamon.

CHOCOLATE CUSTARD.

Half a pound of chocolate.
One quart of milk.
Two eggs.
One cup of sugar.

Grate the chocolate, and stir into the milk when *nearly* boiling. When it begins to thicken, add the eggs and sugar. Let it boil a few moments, constantly stirring it.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE ELFIN QUEEN.

She on a dewy leaf doth bathe,
And as she sits the leaf doth wave;
There, like a new fall'n flake of snow,
Doth her white limbs in beauty show.
Her garments fair her maids put on,
Made of the pure light of the sun.

QUEEN MAB'S DINNER TABLE.

Upon a mushroom there is spread
A cover fine of spider's web;
And for her stool a thistle-down,
And for her cup an acorn's crown,
Wherein strong nectar there is filled,
That from sweet flowers is distilled.
Flies of all sorts, both fat and good,
Partridge, snipes, quails and poult her food;
Pheasants, larks, birds of any kind,
All beautiful, you there may find.
But for her guard serves grosser meat,
On stall-fed dormouse they do eat.
—*Duchess of Newcastle, in "British Poets."*

RESPIRATION OF MAN.

The atmosphere covers the surface of the earth, as an ocean, about fifty miles deep. A man's chest contains nearly two hundred cubic inches of air; but in ordinary breathing he takes in and sends out again, at one time, about twenty cubic inches—the bulk of a full-sized orange; and he makes about fifteen inspirations in a minute. He vitiates, therefore, about the sixth part of a cubic foot in a minute; but this, mixing as it escapes with many times as much of the air around, renders unfit for respiration several cubic feet. The removal of this impure air, and the supply in its stead of fresh, is accomplished thus: the air which issues from the chest, being heated to nearly the temperature of the living body, namely 98°, and being thereby dilated, is lighter, bulk for bulk, than the surrounding temperature. It therefore rises in the atmosphere as oil, set free under water, rises. In both cases a heavier fluid is pushing up and taking the place of a lighter. In aid of this process come the greater motions in the atmasphere called winds, which agitate and assist to mingle the whole, by which is maintained the general purity.

BARKING OF DOGS.—The Australian dog never barks; indeed, in a work entitled "Music of Nature," we are told that in a state of nature dogs never bark; they simply whine, howl or growl. The explosive sort of sound called barking is only found among those that have been domesticated. So the barking of a dog is an acquired faculty—an effort to speak derived from his association with man.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

The municipal authorities of this city appropriated $30,000 to entertain the Japanese during their stay in New York. The ambassadors and their attendants have princely quarters provided them at the Metropolitan Hotel, and are enjoying "all the luxuries of the season" at the expense of the tax payers. It is estimated that the hotel bill alone will reach the snug sum of $65,000, and, in all probability, before we get fairly rid of these Orientals, the bills will foot up against the city to nearly $100,000. The committee have "gone it with a perfect looseness," and will make their helpless constituency smart under their extravagance.

It is quite probable that the Japanese Ball (which came off on Monday evening, the 25th ult., will very nearly engulph $25,000 out of the original appropriation. It was undoubtedly the greatest affair of the kind that ever occurred on this continent; the guests actually numbering from 10,000 to 12,000—and if the proprietors of the hotel do not make more out of the affair than the merchants of New York will out of the commerce which will occur between the two countries for 10 years to come, then we shall be most happily disappointed.

The Japanese are a shrewd people, and will no doubt return home only to laugh heartily at our foolishness. Verily, we are a set of asses. Kossuth found out this fact sometime ago, and the Japanese have just discovered the same "auricular extension."

All that is now necessary to "cap the climax" of this ridiculous tom-foolery is to get the Common Council (the commonest in the known world) to seduce his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, to make us a visit, and Tal Shaffner to lay a cable from Siberia to Greenland.—*Scientific American.*

THE CARPET TRADE.—It is singular what a remarkable taste the American shows for a good carpet. It seems to be impossible for him to walk comfortably through life without a carpet under his feet. Every man who occupies a few square-feet of house room must have the brick or the boards protected by so much carpeting. Here carpeting appears in a thousand places where in other parts of the world it is never seen. The English shopkeeper thinks the bare boards good enough for the reception of his customers, and seldom does the merchant think of adding to the elegance of his counting-room by laying down a square of Brussels. Only those churches devoted to the service of the more aristocratic worshippers are furnished with the comforts of Kidderminster, the bare wood, or bricks, or stone, being considered more consonant with the "self-denying duties of the sanctuary." Widely different is it with the well-to-do American. He believes in enjoying life; and considering that carpets contribute to life's enjoyment, he does not hesitate to spread everywhere he is accustomed to tread with a due quantity of three-ply, or Tapestry, or Brussels, or Turkey. Notwithstanding the high cost of foreign carpetings in this country, it is yet surprising to what extent these are annually imported. In 1859 more than $2,000,000 worth of carpeting was imported into the United States. Of that amount $2,174,064 was for goods of English manufacture, and $10,317 for French makes. Although a larger proportion of expensive carpetings is used in this country than perhaps in any other, yet it would appear that the kind most luxurious of all is sold to a very insignificant extent. The costly manufactures of Turkey are known throughout the world as at once the richest and the most durable of carpets; yet our entire importation of that make, during last year, amounted to only $798, which fact is probably owing to the limited extent of trade with Turkey. The sale of mattings is a branch of the carpet trade which is yearly increasing in importance. The imports of matting in '59 amounted to $265.133; and this year, in consequence of our growing trade with China, the chief source of supply, the receipts are likely considerably to exceed that amount. The imports of floor-cloth are comparatively trifling, our own manufacturers having succeeded in producing an article which has put foreign productions almost entirely out of the market. —*U. S. Economist.*

THE LOST ARTS.

A great deal of nonsense has been uttered by sensation lecturers and magazine writers about wonderful arts which perished with the ancients. To trust in the lamentations of these wiseacres over the "lost arts," one would think we had fallen upon very degenerate times indeed. But none of the doleful stories are true. Cleopatra, no doubt, was a very fine woman; but she never dissolved pearls in wine. Archimedes was a great man in his day, but he never set fire to the Roman ships with burning glasses as the fable relates.

The ancients had no useful arts which we do not understand better and practice more skillfully than they did. The humblest American mechanic could teach the polished Greek and the cunning Egyptian sciences and arts of which they never dreamed. The ancients, indeed, did many wonderful things which have not since been repeated; but they are only such things as are not worth doing over again. If we had occasion to build such a foolish thing as a pyramid, we would improve on our model in every respect; and instead of keeping a hundred thousand half-starved slaves at work for twenty years, we would turn it out finished in a few months. George Law and a hundred others would be willing to take the contract at a day's notice.

If any people, now-a-days, lived in a condition like the ancients, they would be objects of sincere pity, and it would be our duty speedily to send missionaries among them. What a lamentable sight would be a nation of great mental vigor, half clothed and poorly fed, tilling the earth with wooden plows; without soap, pins, friction matches or india-rubber! How queenly would one of our factory girls appear to them! How magical the art of a Yankee clockmaker! Beggars, now-a-days, with regard to the substantial comforts of life, fare better than ancient kings.

Our modern civilization is surely just what is suited to the welfare of humanity. The steam engine, politics, electricity, morality, and every good thing move on together harmoniously. We look into the Past, to note as warnings, the paths of error which our predecessors trod, and we push on cheerfully and confidently, feeling that the Present and the Future are of the utmost importance to us.—*Scientific American.*

NOTE.—The foregoing are our sentiments to a dot; we believe with the above writer, that every art worth knowing has been remembered, and amplified, and improved upon, through every age, as a rule, and will continue to be for all time to come.

The windowless and chairless houses of a few hundred years ago; the bookless shelves, the brown crockery in the cupboards, the coarse woolen garments of the ladies, few in number and scant in pattern; the raw-hide clothing of the male gender; the coarse food and coarser sports of all classes of people; the untutored passions and warlike propensities of the nations, and a thousand other similar follies that might be mentioned, all, all tell their own story of the past. We have no faith in the lost arts or *lost virtues* of our worthy ancestors; only distance lends enchantment to the view.

The present, beyond all doubt, is by far the greatest age of all the past; when all, who are alive and stirring, can live at least two years in one, a fig for the lost arts; it is but the fine spun theory of fossilized old fogies who, failing to penetrate the great future or to appreciate the present, look back and mourn over the imaginary glories of the past. *Forward*, is not only the motto of our own young State, but of the age in which we live. Not *go*, but *come ahead*, is the true motto of Young America.

☞ The National Horse Show and Ladies' Equestrian Fair, being the sixth annual exhibition, will be held at Janesville in this State, on the 4th of September.

CANADA THISTLES.—We know of but one patch of Canada Thistles in Wisconsin, and that is in the village of Waukesha, and you might rs well try to exterminate Lake Michigan. They have been dried up, and cut up, for years, and still they thrive. He who invents some method for this extermination will be a benefactor to his race.—*Free Democrat.*

We know of another, a two-acre lot, at Wrightstown, on the Fox River, the seed of which came from some straw thrown out of an emigrant's box of goods, some years ago. It has been cut for years, and, we believe, has never been allowed to go to seed, yet it spreads. If we had a lot of the kind, we would pasture it to sheep from early spring to snow-fall, occasionally sprinkling salt upon the plants as they appeared. This we would continue from year to year, so long as a thistle dared to show its head above ground.—*State Journal.*

☞ The crops in Minnesota are said to give promise of a great yield. The papers predict that over 6,000,000 bushels of wheat will be harvested there this year.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.—J. M. Clark, of Whitewater, has sold this year from 700 sheep 3,700 lbs. of A No. 1 wool, for which he obtained 47 cents per lb., or $1,759 cash. We call that good farming. We hope others will go and do likewise. Farmers of Wisconsin, raise more sheep!

☞ The Fox Lake *Gazette* says the amount of grain shipped from that station since September last is 250,000 bushels, most four times as much as Whitewater has shipped, and we think more than any other village in the State. Until proven to the contrary, we shall put Fox Lake first, and keep her there, for shipping the most wheat to market since last fall.—*Free Democrat.*

Sometime in May we published figures showing that nearly 250,000 bushels of wheat had been shipped from this station from the 1st of September till the 30th of May; and since that time the amount of shipments have been increased until, on the 30th of June, it amounted to over *two hundred and sixty-two thousand bushels.*—*Waupun Times.*

☞ Charles Goodyear, the original inventor of the art of vulcanizing India rubber, died in New York on Saturday week. Mr. G., like too many inventors, enriched others, while he himself suffered greatly from pecuniary embarrassments.

☞ One gentleman at the South sends to the North, annually, from $7,000 to $10,000 worth of peaches.

☞ It is estimated that the value of the tobacco crop in Connecticut averages $300 per acre each year.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The Crop Prospects of 1860—Prices &c.

Throughout all portions of the great grain-growing West, north of a line running east and west, through St. Louis, the sowed grain crops are among the finest that the country has ever produced. Wheat, particularly, beats everything in the West, as a whole, especially in our own State; unless there is something exceedingly deceptive in appearances, we shall expect to hear of many extraordinary yields at threshing. Still we doubt whether the wheat will equal the straw in growth.

But with simply a good yield, the vast number of acres in Wisconsin, will turn out an aggregate crop that cannot fall much short of 25,000,000 of bushels; three-fourths of this, for sale at fair prices, will, when added to our other marketable products, amount to a handsome sum towards paying up our old debts as well as supplying our current needs.

We think if our good friend GREELEY were to pass through our State at the present time, instead of miserable, bleak winter, as in all cases hitherto, he would see some show of ability to pay our debts. Countless thousands of acres of ripening wheat, high as the fences, and thick as hair, promising their twenty-five to thirty bushels to the acre, would undoubtedly gladden his heart and strengthen his courage, and lead him to advise us to hold on a little longer, and try to pay our individual debts short of assignment or bankruptcy.

He would see ten thousand of the finest farms in the world, still in the possession of their owners, and bearing a sufficient burthen *in a single season*, to discharge what appeared to him a hopeless load of debts, and incumbrances; yea, he would see these ten thousand farmers and their rising young families, hopeful and happy at home, who, if they had taken his advice, to surrender up their property to their creditors, would now have been kiting over the plains to Kansas, Pike's Peak, and California, or scattered, the Lord knows whither, and their abandoned farms growing up to weeds, (usually for the first year at least,) all of which simply proves that the *Tribune*, though usually an honest and wise guide, is not always safe to follow, against the dictates of our own judgment. Corn, oats, barley, rye, and all the root crops are promising largely, all through the West, except it may be in streaks. The grass crop upon old and uplands is, perhaps, rather light, but, as a whole, the hay crop must be large, and every way ample, with the straw and corn fodder crop for the stock of the country, even though the winter should be much harder than the last. Although the country never bore such a burthen of crops as now; and may not again in a lifetime. Wisconsin alone must have an aggregate of perhaps $60,000,000 worth of products; but no matter! it will not hurt us in our present economical spirit, but undoubtedly help us immensely in the way of relieving our old embarrassments.

We hope that our merchants, notwithstanding the fine promise of crops, will have mercy on the people, and bring on as few goods as they *conscientiously* can—the fewer the better. Merchant's gewgaws have had a terrible hand, during what were called the good times, in *cleaning* the farmers out. Many a wheat crop was nearly or quite *traded out* before it was harvested, and sometimes, in fact, before it was sowed. This, as a system, is all wrong, and would ruin any farming community. In our opinion merchants will do well to buy light, and farmers to buy lighter yet. The profits of ordinary farming will never warrant one half the extravagance of the past; that is certain.

We wish New Yorkers would stick to their text, and refuse to trust Western merchants at all; it would soon be the better for all of us, beyond a doubt. But the rascals will do no such thing; they are already scenting our big wheat crops in the distance, and smiling blandly upon us. Beware of that smile! beneath it lurks a curse—the curse of debt; and few are greater, especially with a howling pack of creditors at our heels, demanding high interest or instant sacrifice in case of default. Think of all these things, good lady, as you "go to the store;" don't buy so much as a new apron string, and go in debt for it, if you can help it; to all coaxing solicitations let the answer be NO! emphatically. Industry, good crops, and frugality are the only legitimate avenues to wealth, even in Wisconsin.

The show of abundant crops seems to be dreaded by many; but the way the old crop is going off, even to Europe, coupled with the fact of the prospect of poor crops there, looks quite encouraging at least. We believe our whole crop of marketable wheat will sell as high as $1 00 per bushel, during the year, at the lake ports, and quite likely for something more.—Doubtless there will be croakers about at the

opening of the market, trying to depress prices for speculating purposes; they tried the same experiment upon the last wool crop, but signally failed; while they ceaselessly assured us that the clip must be from five to seven cents lower than last year, it finally sold somewhat higher. Let us then go on and secure our fine crops in the best possible shape, and wait with faith and patience for a good fair price, at least; and we have no doubt but it will be realized.

Brother Barnum again,

This gentleman again appears, in the Oshkosh *Democrat*, of the 5th of July, in an article of about a column or so, in self-vindication. He certainly discourses very complacently and labors quite hard to twist himself out of a rather unpleasant job. We do not blame him, for he must find himself in a very uncomfortable situation. We should like to copy the whole article and answer to some of its short turns, if we thought it would pay for the powder; but feeling that we have already given the gentleman more attention, and advertised him into more notoriety than any proba ble importance that he will ever hereafter attain to, will warrant, we shall only copy and comment upon the reference he makes to us, as follows, in his opening:

"As considerable excitement has grown out of my position in the Legislature, last winter, upon the bill introduced by A. E. Elmore, to repeal the standing appropriation of three thousand dollars to the State Agricultural Society, I deem it appropriate to make a brief reply. So far as the *Wisconsin Farmer* is concerned, I care but little, as I am well aware of the motive that dictates its articles. When one's bread and butter is in danger, we may naturally expect great resistance; and the Secretaryship, together with the printing and incidentals belonging to that august position, is not to be despised. The *Wisconsin Farmer* may, for aught I care, deal out its monthly batch of abuse to its heart's content; I shall continue to light my pipe with them as heretofore."

Now is not this keen and complacent? If the Hon. gentleman had read the *Farmer* before lighting his pipe with it, he would have shown less ignorance in matters of fact, and have been aware that the proprietors of the *Farmer* and the author of the articles so disturbing to him, has no more official connection with the State Agricultural Society, in any shape or manner, or interest in its appropriations or printing, than has the Hon. gentleman himself; none whatever, Brother Barnum, *'pon honor.*

Nor have we ever taken any exception to the Hon. Geo. S. Barnum, or any other man's opposing State appropriations to Agricultural Societies, if they thought proper; but what we did object to, was their manner of doing it.—Lest all may not remember, and, inasmuch as the *Democrat* has never *happened* to publish them, allow us to repeat a few of the Hon. gentleman's remarks while representing and speaking for his constituency of Winnebago county:

"Mr. Barnum supported the motion. He had voted against the last two bills. He voted against them because he was opposed to Agricultural Societies as constituted in this State. They were a humbug. The chief objects to which they were devoted were drinking bad whisky and trotting horses. Generally, the exhibitions consisted of an old boar or a town bull. The balance was trotting stock."

* * * * * * * *

"Mr. Barnum proceeded to assert that Agricultural Societies in this State were productive of far more harm than good, and led to dissipation, idleness and degradation. He knew many good men who were killing themselves by habits of drinking acquired by attending these associations. He hoped the motion to reconsider would prevail."

* * * * * * * *

"Mr. Barnum said, in his remarks of yesterday, he did not wish to go on the record as wholly opposed to such societies, but was opposed to the way they were got up and the manner in which they were controlled. They were usually controlled by bad men—men whose only object was to steal $100. He said no State sustained such societies but Wisconsin. They would be well enough if they were controlled by good men—men who did not wish to steal."

Now we will venture the opinion that the Hon. Geo. S. Barnum lights his pipe with all other agricultural papers (if he takes any, which we very much doubt,) as well as the *Farmer*, and that, too, before he reads them; on what other hypothesis can we account for his ignorance upon all these matters. Our advice to him would be to read the agricultural papers more, or to say less upon the subject; by so doing he would save himself, and his friends, (if he has any,) hereafter from the mortification of being shown up as a fast and blustering ignoramus.

In conclusion we would say, that so far as Bro. Barnum is concerned, individually, we know little and care less. Some one has told us in relation to him, that he is a kind of small

curb stone broker, or money lender; good fellow enough in his way; that he contrived to wriggle himself into the Legislature last winter, but is in no danger of doing it again, &c.; but if, by any singularity, he should, we hope he will have learned a little from experience, if not by reading, that he may not act quite as much like a bull in a China shop as on former occasions. That is the entire extent of our investment in the gentleman, or the subject.

A Visit to Albion Academy and a Delightful Drive through the towns of Albion, Christiana and Dunkirk.

We had often promised ourselves, and the people of the village of Albion, a visit and a lecture, but the time never seemed to have come until the present summer; when at the request of our friend, J. W. Saunders, who generously offered to meet us at the cars, and drive us out, and drive us around generally, we redeemed the promise. Left the cars at Stoughton, and after a rainy drive of some five or six miles, arrived at Mr. Saunders' farm when we were cleverly dinnered, and shown such crops and flocks of sheep as at once gave us a favorable impression of the farmers of Albion. At one o'clock we were conveyed to the Academy, which is pleasantly situated in the centre of the village, eight miles from Stoughton, four from Edgerton. Designed to furnish cheap, yet thorough instruction, the Institution is ably officered, and well attended by a class of young people, who show both by their industry and the earnestness of their faces, that knowledge and discipline are the only objects they seek. Professors Williams and Cornwall are resolute and faithful men, and feel a deep and abiding interest in the prosperity of the Academy. It is certainly fulfilling an important office, and we hope for it a successful career.

In the afternoon we were favored with a large and intelligent audience of farmers, citizens, and students, and immediately afterward made a most delightful drive through the northern portion of the town of Albion, Christiana, and Dunkirk; stopping for tea at the hospitable mansion of Mr. ———, and returning to Stoughton in time for the evening cars, with views of the magnitude, beauty and fertility of Dane county, greatly enlarged. The amount of land under cultivation was a surprise to us, and would doubtless surprise any one whose knowledge of Dane is chiefly confined to the country immediately around Madison and along the line of the rail-road. It is safe to say, that along the route of our afternoon's drive, full three-fourths of the land was waving with luxuriant crops—mostly wheat.—And *such* wheat! The beauty of the land, too, was perfectly enchanting. Gently undulating, with almost every foot arable, and with beautiful groves of oak, maple and linden dotting the prairie, here and there, it is hardly possible to conceive of a more magnificent panorama than passed before our vision that afternoon. It will be long years ere we forget either those beautiful towns, or the enterprising farmers who have helped to make them what they are.

Evansville Seminary.

We were recently favored, through the courtesy of Rev. D. Y. Kilgore, the present efficient Principal, with a most interesting visit to the above Institution. Were pleased to find it located in the north-western corner of Rock Co., in one of the pleasantest little villages of the State, and characterized by an appearance of thrift and enterprise.

The Seminary building is large, substantial and imposing. It is constructed of brick, consisting of three stories besides the basement and is crowned by a handsome observatory which commands a most charming prospect from every side. Though quite unfinished when Mr. Kilgore opened the term just closed, is now handsomely completed, at an expense of some $1,300—all raised by contributions of the people of the village and vicinity, within that period—and at the beginning of the next academic year will have accommodations for two or three hundred pupils.

The recitations which we had the pleasure of hearing were creditable to the students engaged, and furnished a favorable commentary on the character of the instruction. The addresses in the evening by His Excellency, Governor Randall, and our humble self, were attended by hundreds of the intelligent people of town and country, and altogether the occasion was one we shall remember with pleasure.

Parents who would like to educate their sons and daughters in a quiet village of industrious, moral people, from which the vices common to the larger towns are excluded, and under the instruction of earnest and enthusiastic teachers can hardly do better than to send them to Evansville Seminary.

Vermont—A Suggestion.

D. J. Powers, Esq:—I would suggest to

the writer of the piece in the *Wisconsin Farmer*, of July 1st, entitled "A trip to the National Capitol—What we saw there and on the road," that next time he takes a pleasure trip he might derive some pleasure, also be much benefitted by a journey to Vermont. We think he must have left in early youth, or that some years must have elapsed since he was there, or he would have been aware that some improvements have been made by way of finishing and painting old houses, and building a few new ones.

A READER OF THE FARMER.

We are indebted to some friend for the above anonymous communication. It appears to be written in a female hand; all the better, we want more lady correspondents.

We are also right glad to find now and then one who sticks up for old *Varmount*; it is a glorious old State, and as was said by Sam Slick, or some one else, "a mighty good one to emigrate from.

We think our good friend will discover on a second reading of our notes of travel, that we referred to the old style of Vermont architecture, not the new; we are aware, with her, that as some of the old houses have tumbled down, new and more modern ones have been rebuilt. We are also aware that as many of the old houses have tumbled upon the hill and mountain sides, that they have not been rebuilt, except into sheep sheds; the scanty fields about them have been turned into sheep pastures, and their former occupants have migrated to this, our far West, as did you and I. Nearly twenty-five years have sped their flight since your humble servant left them; although several times since revisited—so often that we have a complete stereoscopic view upon our memory of all its scenery, peculiarities, and people.

We trust our friend will not infer from any thing said that we undervalue old Vermont, or would speak slightingly of her, by any means. We are aware of her sterling virtues, and they are many; still, like all the rest of human kind, she has plenty of room for improvement, not only in architecture, but in many other things.

The Dog Law Officially endorsed.

Governor Randall is constantly receiving letters, enquiring whether the "Dog Law" was signed, and complaining that it is difficult to enforce. He has, in reply to one of these communications, written a letter of which the following is a copy. It will be seen that the Governor expresses a very decided opinion upon the subject:

[COPY.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
MADISON, *July* 6, 1860.

Dear Sir:—Your letter in regard to the "Dog Law" is received. The bill was properly signed and is the law of the State; and that law will not be repealed with my approbation, while I remain in office. No good citizen will object to it or refuse to obey it. A man who is able to own a dog, which costs as much to keep as to keep a cow, is able to get a collar for him. No good citizen will refuse to make the sacrifice of obedience to that law, when he must know that if it is enforced, it will save to the farmers and stock-growers of this State from $40,000 to $60,000 dollars every year, and increase the number of wool-growers very largely. Every human life lost by the bite of a dog is worth more than all the dogs in the country. A man who is not willing to sacrifice one dollar for his privilege, where so great a benefit may accrue to the State by compliance with the provisions of the act, ought to be kicked out of it.

Very truly yours,
ALEX. W. RANDALL.

Preparations for the next State Fair—Prospects &c.

The Committee of Preparation for the Fair are pushing the preliminary work, with commendable energy. The ten acres added to the grounds have already been nicely cleared of all stumps and underbrush; the track, which before was decidedly faulty in many points, has been so greatly improved by carrying the south end further out, and by grading and enlarging the curves, that the best judges now pronounce it as good a half-mile course as can be made; the materials for completing the works have been purchased, the contracts have been let, the erection of fences and buildings is going rapidly forward.

The location for two years not only warrants good substantial improvements but renders them absolutely necessary, so that we may safely promise the thousands who are particularly interested, that the appearance of the grounds, when the preparations shall all have been made, will exceed anything heretofore witnessed in this State.

The fence will be eight feet high, with cedar posts and upright boards; the Hall of Fine Arts commodious and imposing. Instead of an octagon, 60 feet in diameter, as in 1858, it is to be a rectangular building 50x100, with alcoves on each side, and two tables through the middle. This style will insure both a fi-

effect and the greatest possible degree of comfort, and at the same time a thousand square feet of table and over three thousand feet of wall room for the display of articles in this department.

The exterior will have the appearance of being two stories high, with a ventilating section still above, and will be furnished with a neatly draperied cornice.

Among the special attractions already secured, the world famed Ice-boat, conceived and completed (we had almost said *perfected*) by that distinguished inventor, NORMAN WIARD, is especially worthy of remark. The details of the arrangements, by which its exhibition is secured, will be perfected in a few days, and the announcement be made in the next number.

COUNTY SOCIETIES SHOULD COME AS DELEGATIONS,

And bring their tents with them. Year after year we have urged the propriety and advantage of this, but as yet, the experiment has has not been made. If entered as a part of the exhibition by counties competing for the Banner, it will be transported free of charge, and the Society will furnish handsome grounds on which to pitch as many as may come. Friends of the Society and of agricultual enterprise, think of it. A dozen cloth tents, advantageously located, with flags waving at their mast heads, would constitute a beautiful addition to the exhibition, and would each prove to be highly convenient and economical to their respective owners.

THE PRIZE BANNER

Will be a splendid thing of its kind, and is sure to be awarded to *some* society in the State; the only question is, *to which one of the thirty-three?* As yet but two, Pierce and St. Croix, have notified us of their intent to compete!—Is it possible that those two young and hyperborean counties are the only ones in Wisconsin that have enough enterprise and *pluck* to enter the lists? The notoriety and really valuable reputation which any society winning the Banner will truly secure, may easily be worth thousands of dollars to the successful county; and we cannot but think that the agitation of the subject now going on in the different sections of the State, will result in several other entries. The Ex. Committee has concluded, therefore, to extend the time to August 15th, in order that any societies that may have been *napping* all summer need not be excluded for want of time. All that is necessary is for the officers of any county society to agree to compete, notify the Secretary of the State Society of such intention, and then stir up the farmers to make good the credit of the county. WE WAIT FOR THE ENTRIES.

The Trenton Farmers' Club.

In Dodge county is an enterprising association; their proceedings are reported in Euen's Prison City Item, and are usually highly interesting. We would like to publish them at length if space permitted.

At their meeting of June 23d, the subject of manures and their application, was discussed and among other things the best mode of disposing of straw, piling it in compost heaps to rot, plowing it under, &c. &c., were recommeneded. All very well perhaps in the absence of stock to eat it. But it is very clear to us, that farmers, who would sustain their soils, should so plan to balance their operations as to feed and consume, as nearly as may be, all their forage products; but if the straw and coarser products should over-run in amount, then mix them in liberally for bedding, both in stable or yard.

A barn yard is one of the best places in which to make straw into manure; and our plan has been to pitch it in from time to time, when we were likely to have a surplus; the tramping of the stock upon it, with the wetting of the storms, and otherwise, puts it in a condition that the hot weather soon reduces it to manure. Almost any amount of straw may be thus disposed of; we never see a pile of it in any one's fields, or about their buildings, after the winter is passed, without regret.—Thus left it is a mouldering nuisance; but worked into the yards during winter, it is in the best way of returning again to the soil from whence it came.

The Eastern Cattle Disease.

The excitement growing out of this difficulty seems just now to be rather lulled, both in Massachusetts and elsewhere in the east; indicating clearly that the difficulty is not probably on the increase.

Nearly all the great stock states have taken precautions, in one form or another, to guard against its introduction among them. Most likely the show of cattle at many of the State fairs will be materially lessened by the general apprehension. We do not think there will be

any danger in our own state, as all cattle from out of the state are to be excluded.

There has been a rumor that the difficulty had appeared in Illinois, but we think it will turn out a mistake; probably some other disease has been mistaken for it. Every disease that appears among cattle now-a-days, is at once charged to the pleuro-pneumonia. We sincerely hope the real disease is being hemmed in and eradicated, at the east, and that we shall hear less of it hereafter.

Wonderful Growth.

We are in receipt of a few heads of timothy, from J. Tower Esq., of ——— Sauk County, which are full eight inches long, the seeds for which, he states were sown on the 20th of April in a field of winter wheat. The heads were cut on the 24th of June, having matured to this remarkable length in sixty four days from the seed.

They are accompanied by wheat heads from the same field of about the same length. Who can show a better growth even this fruitful season? We wait to hear.

The Reaper Trade

This season has been the briskest of any previous season; every-thing in the shape of a machine has been sold out slick and clean, old and new, so that the coast will be clear for all the new patents next year; it is said that some highly improved machines will make their appearance under the renewed patents of Palmer, Seymour and Morgan, and others. It is understood by the knowing ones, that the business of manufacturing will to quite an extent take on a new shape for the future. Let us hope that better and cheaper machines will come out of it.

The Sugar Cane Crop,

So far as planted this season, is said to be doing finely; the largest field we have heard of, is some twelve acres in the town of Middleton, in this county. But we learn that a great deal has been planted in smaller fields, of one and two acres, all through the state. Unless frosts are remarkably early we shall expect to see a well matured crop, and a deal of good syrup, and even sugar made from it.

The benefit of experience in the requisite machinery for grinding and evaporating it, has led to so many important improvements, that there is little or no difficulty in working it up successfully. If the experiments of this season turns out as favorably as it promises, we shall expect to see nearly or quite enough grown and manufactured another year, for the use of the state.

Acknowledgments.

We are obliged to numbers of the County Agricultural Societies, who have made use of the Farmer for premiums, and will endeavor to make it a much more useful reward to such as thus receive it, than anything they would receive in its stead. We think we ought to furnish 5000 copies per annum for this purpose, and that they would not only benefit us largely but also those who received them, vastly more than what they now receive. If there is any virtue or value in agricultural papers, for the better informed few, there must be for the many. A circulation of 20,000 copies of the Farmer, among all our agricultural and business men, would warrant a first class journal, and ten times repay its cost annually.

Premium Farms.

The committee of the State Agricultural Society upon premium farms, have been engaged in making the necessary examinations of those entered for the last two weeks. Their official decision we have not yet learned, but understand them to have met with numbers of finely tilled farms, and highly hospitable owners, of course.

They report the general promise and prospect of the country as in the highest degree encouraging, not only in wheat, but in every other kind of crop. They put the probable average yield of wheat, at from twenty-five to thirty bushels per acre; and anticipate a crop of from twenty-five to thirty millions of bushels for the State. They are unaminous in the opinion that no state ever showed such a growth in everything before.

The Madison Horticultural Society.

This organization now in its second year, is rapidly attaining interest and importance in our midst. First put in motion by a few zealous amateurs, it has constantly grown in numbers and favor, until at the present it is undoubtedly the second, if not the first, in vigor and importance as a society, in the state. Its members have now become numerous, and its exhibitions are really tasty, extensive, and remarkably well attended.

At their recent exhibition in the Assembly Hall, as fine specimens of flowers, boquets, and

fancy decorations, were shown as are to be met with in Cincinnati or elsewhere; the exhibition did themselves much credit, to say the least, and called together one of the most tasteful and gay assemblies of the season; we hope to see them often repeated.

Will Cook's Evaporator Make Sugar?

In reply to many who are asking the above question we would say, that in our opinion, Cook's Evaporator will undoubtedly make sugar without difficulty, out of good cane, and without lime or any other deleterious substances, used in cleansing; it is so constructed that it raises all the scum during the process of boiling, and enables its removal without difficulty.

Sugar once made, or granulated, can of course be refined and clarified without the least difficulty, by old and well known proceses, until it is nice enough for all uses. If the millions per annum, that are now expended by the State for sweets, can be grown and saved among us, it will be a highly important step in the direction of economy, and eventual wealth. We hope that all will try their best this season to produce the best results from their cane. We are informing ourselves to the fullest extent on the subject, and shall be glad to communicate with all growers, upon the same, either through the Farmer, or by letter. We can tell those who do not know, where the best of everything can be obtained in the way of experiment or manufacture.

List of State and District Fairs.

National Horse Show, Springfield, Mass,	Sept.	4– 7
New Jersey, Elizabeth,	"	4– 7
Tennessee, Nashville,	"	10–15
Wheeling Island, Va,	"	11–18
Muskingum Valley, Zanesville,	"	18–21
Vermont, Burlington,	"	11–14
Illinois, Jacksonville,	"	11–14
Kentucky, Bowling Green,	"	18–22
St. Louis,	"	24–27
Nebraska, Omaha,	"	19–21
Wisconsin, Madison,	"	24–29
Pennsylvania, Wyoming,	"	24–27
Ohio, Dayton,	"	25–28
Maine,	"	25–26
Minnesota, Fort Snelling,	"	27–29
Alabama,	Sep. 29	Oct. 2
Iowa, Iowa City,	Oct.	2– 5
New York, Elmira,	"	2– 5
Oregon,	"	9–
Indiana, Indianapolis,	"	15–20
Georgia, Atlanta,	"	23–26

County Fairs for 1860.

Badax, Viroqua,	Sept.	10–12
Waupaca, Weyauwega,	"	13–14
St. Croix, Hudson,	"	18–19
Jackson, Albion,	"	18–19
Columbia, Cambria,	"	18–20
Winnebago, Oshkosh,	"	19–20
Sheboygan, Sheboygan Falls,	"	26–27
Waushara, Wautoma,	"	26–27
Monroe, Sparta,	"	26–27

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Madison, Wisconsin,

IS IN A SHAPE TO DO ALL SORTS OF REPAIRS on Agricultural and other Machinery, on short notice.

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Castings of all kinds made weekly. **Patterns of almost every description** can be found at the Foundry.

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Every point that the experience of the past has demonsonstrated as too weak, has been strengthened, until the fullest confidence is now entertained that they will prove

Just precisely what is wanted!

Our upright three-roller mills will cost from $50 to $75, depending upon size and weight.

Our Horizontal double-geared Mills from $60 to $100.

The Patent Lever Safe-Guards are used to compress the Rollers upon all the larger, and upon the smaller Mills, when desired.

This apparatus renders it impossible to break a Mill without the grossest carelessness, a highly important consideration to all buyers, of course.

Those wanting mills will do better to buy of us than from the East, as new pieces can be so much more easily obtained when needed.

☞ Address all communications on the subject to Mendota Foundry, Madison, care of

12-10] D. J. POWERS.

GEO. V. OTT'S
LEATHER & HARNESS STORE

Wholesale and Retail

Upper, Sole, Harness, and Belting Leather,

FRENCH CALF AND KIP SKINS,

Shoe Findings, Tools and Lasts, Plastering Hair.

☞ Harness made to order, and Repairing done, &c.

GEORGE V. OTT.

In Basement of Bruen's Block, under Dane co. Bank, Madison, Wis. 12-7-12

J. T. MARSHALL,

Importer and Dealer in

FINE DRUGS & CHEMICALS

Also Manufacturer of Chemical Preparations, French Cosmetics, Fine Perfumery, &c.

No. 32, City Buildings, New York.

☞ Price list supplied to the trade on application. ☜

The subscriber will send (*free of charge*) to all who desire it, the Recipe and directions for making a simple *Vegetable Balm*, that will, in from two to eight days, remove Pimples, Blotches, *Tan*, *Freckles*, Sallowness, and all impurities and roughness of the Skin, leaving the same—as Nature intended it should be—soft, clear, smooth, and beautiful. Those desiring the Recipe, with full instructions, directions, and advice, will please call on or address (with return postage,)

JAS. T. MARSHALL,
Practical Chemist,
No. 32 City Buildings, N. Y.

12-10-3]

J. S. BROWN,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Ag't for obtaining Patents

IN THE

United States & European Countries.

DRAWINGS AND PAPERS OF ALL KINDS REquired in securing, obtaining, extending, defending or selling patents, prepared; and all business connected therewith, attended to.

Copies of drawings, illustrations, specifications, records descriptions, and information relative to inventions and the arts, both in this country and abroad, promptly furnished.

Inventors are advised to have preliminary examinations made at the Patent office, to ascertain if their inventions are probably new, bdfore proceeding to make applications for patents. By doing so, disappointment and expense will often be avoided. After making such an examination and deciding that an invention may be patented, he very seldom fails in any case he proceeds with. The fee for this examination is generally five dollars. It is necessary, however, to except brick machines, churns, looms, grist and saw mills, plows, pumps, sewing machines, steam engines, stoves, threshing machines, washing machines, and water wheels; the very great number of patents already granted in each of which classes, requiring a double fee to be charged for a thorough examination; and in the case of stoves, it would generally cost less to make application at once than to make a previous, reliable search. But, when desired, he will make as careful an examination in these classes as he can afford, for the ordinary fee, and in most instances would discover it, if the device should be old. To enable him to make an examination, a model sent to him would be best. But a rough sketch of the invention, accompanied by a description referring to the sketch by letters or figures, is generally sufficient.

REJECTED APPLICATIONS receive special attention. Many patentable and very valuable inventions now lie buried in the Pateet Office, because the applications were imperfectly prepared or unskillfully prosecuted. If, after examination, a rejected case is believed to be patentable, he will undertake to prosecute the application for a contingent fee previously guaranteed, charging nothing for his services unless he succeeds in obtaining a patent. A long and successful experience in this branch of his business warrants him in offering so favorable terms to inventors. Or, if the inventor should prefer, a stated fee will be charged independent of the result.

Models sent by express, should be directed to his office 451, 7th street, Washington, D. C. 1

JOHN P. ROE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN PURE BRED Durham Cattle and Southdown Sheep, offers for sale, at prices to suit the times, a few superior young Bulls and Rams of the above breeds, from animals of my own importations. P. O. address, Union Church, Racine Co. Muskego, Waukesha Co., Wis. [12 9 3

For Sale.

FOUR SUGAR MILLS at $35 each, to close out a lot. A. MENGES,

Madison, June 22. [12 9 2] No. 2 U. S. Block.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE DIRECTORS OF THE DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmer's) INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *large, prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra hazardous risks. Its character as a well-conducted, reliable and prompt paying institution has become well established *shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmer's* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY, Director. GEO. B. BLY, President,
LOGAN GRAVES, do E. BARKER, Vice Pres't
MATTHEW L. COE, do EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER, do JOHN WAKE, Treasurer.
L. B. HILLS, Acting Director, E. BARKER, Gen'l Ag't.
12 3 12*]

THE

Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Office S.E. Corner Main & Wisconsin Streets,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wis. and Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT THAT A Policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provisions for one's family," and since his day, EXPERIENCE has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generally practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms. It is a HOME Company. Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly sacred character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies.

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

TRUSTEES:

S. S. Daggett,	Dr. E. B. Wolcott,	H. L. Palmer,
Lester Sexton,	Sam'l Marshall,	M. Steever,
Geo. B. Miner,	A. H. Scoville,	H. L. Dousman,
J. A. Barber,	Ezra Miller,	J. A. Dutcher,
C. P. Illsley,	A. C. Wilmans,	D. B. Whitacre,
J. C. Johnson,	James Neil,	Andrew Proudfit,
J. B. Martin,	A. Eldred,	J. Bonnell,
D. Newhall,	H. A. Nichols,	M. S. Scott,
D. Nash,	S. C. Hall,	J. Hackett,
J. H. Rountree,	B. F. Pixley,	A. Graham,
O. Alexander,	M. C. Darling,	Carl Shurz,
L. G. Fisher,	J. H. Earnest,	S. C. Spaulding.

S. S. DAGGETT, *President.*

A. W. KELLOGG, *Sec'y.* E. B. WOLCOTT, *Vice Pres't.*
C. D. NASH, *Treas'r.* S. G. BENEDICT, *Agent,*
12 1 24] Madison, Wis.

HOWE'S IMPROVED

Hay or Cattle Scales.

THE BEST IN USE.

FIRST PREMIUM OVER FAIRBANKS AT Vermont State Fair, 1857, and 1858.

First Premium and no competition in 1859.

First Premium at 13 different State Fairs.

Silver and Bronze Medals at the American Institute Fair, New York, 1859.

Howe's Scales for all use, have great simplicity, wonderful accuracy.

REQUIRE NO PITT; may be set on top of the ground or on a barn floor, and easily removed.

No Check Rod; no friction on Knife edges; all friction received on ball. Weigh truly if not level.

Delivered at any Railroad station in the Union or in Canada, set up and warranted to give entire satisfaction or taken back.

Send for Circulars and Price Lists, with account of trial of scales between Howe and Fairbanks, at Vermont State Fairs, to JAMES G. DUDLEY,

General Western Agent, 93 Main street,
12 3] Buffalo, N. Y.

HERRING'S PATENT

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,

WITH HALL'S PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS, HAVE NEVER FAILED in more than three hundred disastrous Fires.

THE SAFEST AND BEST SAFE IN USE.

Delivered at any Railroad Station in the United States or Canada, at the very lowest rates, by

JAMES G. DUDLEY, Sole Agent,
12 3] at 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapter 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations,.....		$39,080 95
ASSETS.		
Premium Notes of policy holders,...	$35,462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,..	2,986 02	
Amount due, secured by mortgage and in judgment,.....	332 47	
Office furniture and fixtures,.....	300 00	
		$39,080 95

Whole number of Policies issued,.....	4,807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$2,009,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,....	None.
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,.	None.

Number of policies issued in 1859,.....	1,187
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$1,140,076 00
Amount of premium notes receiv'd thereon	17,109 82
Amount of cash premiums receiv'd thereon	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid, (12 in number,)....	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents,.....	3,317 70
Amount of expenses paid, including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,.....	3,317 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madison Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President,
D. J. POWERS, Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do
WM. DUDLEY, do
JAMES MORRISON, do

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860.

T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

February 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	$10 00
February 28—Loss of J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland County,.....	10 00
April 22—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau County,.....	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane County,.....	15 50
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson County,.....	690 38
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co.	650 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	68 00
Nov. 25—Loss of Jas. K. Main, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	403 57
Nov. 25—Loss of Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha County,.....	27 00
December 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison, Dane County,.....	20 00
December 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth County,.....	400 00
December 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha County,.....	100 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $2,986 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance in a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in this Report.

The Officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS:

N. W. Dean,	D. J. Powers,
B. F. Hopkins,	Geo. F. Hastings,
James Morrison,	William Dudley,
C. C. Washburn,	G. F. Taylor,
J. W. Boyd,	H. H. Giles,
S. H. Vandercook,	David Atwood.

L. W. Hoyt.

OFFICERS:

N. W. DEAN,.....	President,
D. J. POWERS,.....	Vice President,
DAVID ATWOOD,.....	Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, ...	General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin Institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and the State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expenses; while stock companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refund to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1 50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged, not exceeding the amount insured.

10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

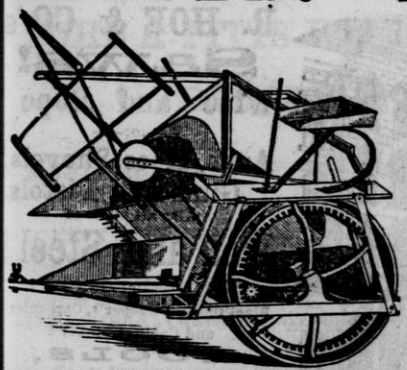
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary,
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

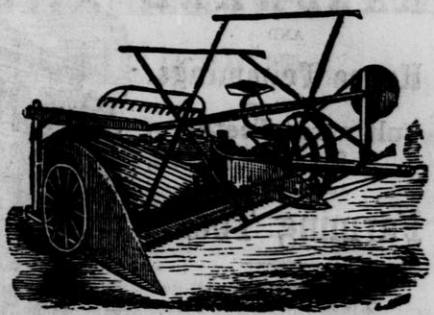
Madison, January 7, 1860. [12 2

☞ OFFICE IN PORTER'S BLOCK, MADISON. ☜

SEYMOUR & MORGAN'S IMPROVED NEW YORK

REAPERS AND MOWERS.





HAND AND SELF-RAKERS.

THE NEW YORK REAPERS, both Hand and Self-Rakers, are now built as combined machines, and for both mowing and reaping are not excelled by any machines now built. At the great State trial of Kentucky, held at Louisville last harvest, these machines were awarded the two first premiums, as a reaper and as a combined machine, over some of the best harvesters now in use. In all kinds of grass or grain they quite equal in good workmanship the best single reapers or single mowers.

TWO HORSE REAPERS.

Farmers, take notice, we do not offer you a four horse machine as a two horse reaper, and then take your order in such a way that if you are dissatisfied with the machine as a two horse reaper to compel you to keep it at all events. We offer two horse machines of about five feet cut, both hand and self-rakers, which we *guarantee one team to manage with ease*, and although many of our six feet machines are used with single teams, we would not insult the common sense of any farmer by telling him that a six foot reaper weighing over half a ton is of easy draft for two horses on soft prairie.

SELF-RAKERS.—While we claim that our Self Raker will leave the bundles in as good shape as the best of hands can do on a hand raker, and equal to if not superior to any other Self-Raker, we do not claim that it will necessarily "work any better in heavy, lodged, and tangled grass" than a hand-raker, but we are ready to warrant either of our machines as capable of satisfying the farmer in the worst of grain or grass.

HAND-RAKER.—As all farmers do not yet consider that hand-rakers are annihilated, to such we offer a combined machine, which for simplicity, durability, and ease of workmanship, both for man and beast, is unequalled, to all who want a machine of this character we will say, see one of our machines before purchasing elsewhere, and buy the best.

COMBINED MACHINES.—As all our Reapers are combined machines, they are more readily changed from reapers to mowers than those having mowing attachments.

TWO MOTIONS TO SEYMOUR & MORGAN'S REAPERS.

Seymour & Morgan have a patent for using two pinions of different sizes thus giving a higher motion for mowing than is necessary for reaping, thereby preventing clogging in heavy grass.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR 1860.

While our reapers for 1859 worked admirably and gave good satisfaction, the improvement for 1860 is greater than that made in any previous year. The machine is perfected in all its details, and without impairing its durability or strength, the weight has been diminished some two hundred pounds, making it now the easiest draft as well as the best working reaper in use.

WARRANTY.

We not only warrant our machine to be well made, of good materials, and durable, and to work as represented, but we guarantee the principle of its construction to be perfect, and should it fail to work or should it break in consequence of such imperfection, we will make the machine good free, and remunerate the farmer for his loss of time occasioned thereby. We also not only warrant every part of our reaper, including the rake in self-rakers, but we also warrant the mower, and should the machine fail either as reaper or mower, we are willing to refund all moneys, and return all notes received for such machine.

AGENTS.

HALVER HALVERSON, Leeds, Columbia Co.
H. C. SNOW, Avoca Depot.
JOHN MCKENZIE, West Blue Mounds.
WM. P. STRONG, Lowville,
ANDREW HANSEN, Burke.
JACOB JACKSON, Cambria.
CLARENDON ROYES, Hampden.
A. G. DARWIN, Delivering Agent, at M. & M. R. R. depot, Madison.
DONALD MCDONALD, Verona.
DICKINSON & WILLARD, Bridgeport Depot.
J. B. STICKNEY, Mazomanie Depot.
S. P. ELWELL, Salem, La Crosse Co.
WALTER, BROWN & Co., LaCrosse.

TERMS.

Four Horse combined Self-Raking Reaper and Mowers, in Milwaukee,	$175
Two Horse " " " "	170
Four Horse " *Hand-Raking* " "	155
Two Horse " " " "	145
Single Reaper,	120

TEN DOLLARS DEDUCTION FOR CASH.

N.B.—The above prices include more extras than go with any other Reaper, besides a complete set of whiffletrees adapted expressly for use on the Reapers.

The subscriber can also supply those desiring the new PALMER & SEYMOUR CRANK REAPER.

Those wishing testimonials or any information respecting Seymour & Morgan's Reapers will please address

XII VII S. L. SHELDON, Madison, General Agent for Wisconsin.

JOHN NAZRO & Co.,

Nos. 121, 123, and 125 East-Water street, Milwaukee,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE

AND

House Trimmings.

—:o:—

Cultivator Teeth,
Straw Cutters,
And all kinds of

Farming Tools!

—:o:—

All kinds of
TIN PLATE
SHEET IRON,
COPPER, &c., &c.

—:o:—

PLATED FORKS,

Cutlery, Spoons,

R. HOE & CO.'s
Saws!
Wire and Rope

—:o:—

Axes, Hoes, Shovels,
Guns and Pistols.
Also all kinds of

Iron and Steel!

—:o:—

Blacksmith's, Cooper's, Carpenter's
and Cabinet Maker's
TOOLS,
Of all kinds

—:o:—

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS,
Belting & Bells.

$25,000 WORTH OF
SPRING AND SUMMER
DRY GOODS:

AT THE NEW FIRM OF

MENGES & BARTELS,
No. 2, United States Block,

MADISON, WISCONSIN.

Our MR BARTELS has just returned from NEW YORK and BOSTON, where he has purchased the best assorte
Stock of

STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS

EVER SEEN IN THIS CITY.

As their DOMESTIC GOODS have been bought for CASH exclusively, the
are able to compete in prices with MILWAUKEE and
CHICAGO, and they invite

COUNTRY MERCHANTS & FARMERS

To call on them, before purchasing elsewhere.

We also keep on hand a Good Assortment of

Yankee Notions!

A. MENGES,
Formerly Deputy Bank Comptroller.

JOHN L. BARTELS,
Formerly with S. Klauber & C

THRESHING MACHINES.

JOHN A. PITTS' IMPROVED PREMIUM SEPARATOR

—AND—

DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWER.

MANUFACTURED AT BUFFALO, N. Y., BY JOHN A. PITTS, THE ORIGINAL INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

THESE MACHINES STAND UNRIVALED FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN, AND ARE acknowledged to be SUPERIOR to any other Thresher in the World, in its *operation, finish and mechanical construction.*

The Shoe is hung so as to shake alike at both ends. Other *improvements in the Machines* for 1860, make it far superior to any heretofore made.

THRESHERS of different Sizes are Manufactured, from Two to Ten Horse Power; also,

PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES, from Three to Twenty Horse Power.

These Machines are sold here at from $25 to $75 less than other Treshing Machines. Call and examine our machines before purchasing elsewhere. ☞ Terms made easy. ☜

P. L. CARMAN & CO., Agents for John A. Pitts.

Office and Warehouse near M. & M. R. R. Depot, Madison, Wis. xii-9

FARMERS! ARE YOU INSURED?

B. G. RIPLEY, President.
T. A. ALEXANDER, Vice Pres't.
THO'S K. BRACE, Jr. Secretary.
J. B. BENNETT,
General Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

INCORPORATED

1819.

Charter Perpetual.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - - - - $1,500,000!

Capital and Surplus, - - - - - - - - $2,194,100.02.

THIS old established Company gives especial attention to the insurance of

Farm Buildings, Barns and Out Buildings, Furniture, Grain, Stock, &c.,

for terms of 1 to 5 years. For this class of property, a scale of rates has been fixed low enough to enable every farmer to insure his property. Dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, &c., insured as low as is consistent with with solvency and fair profits.

LOSSES EQUITABLY ADJUSTED AND PROMPTLY PAID.

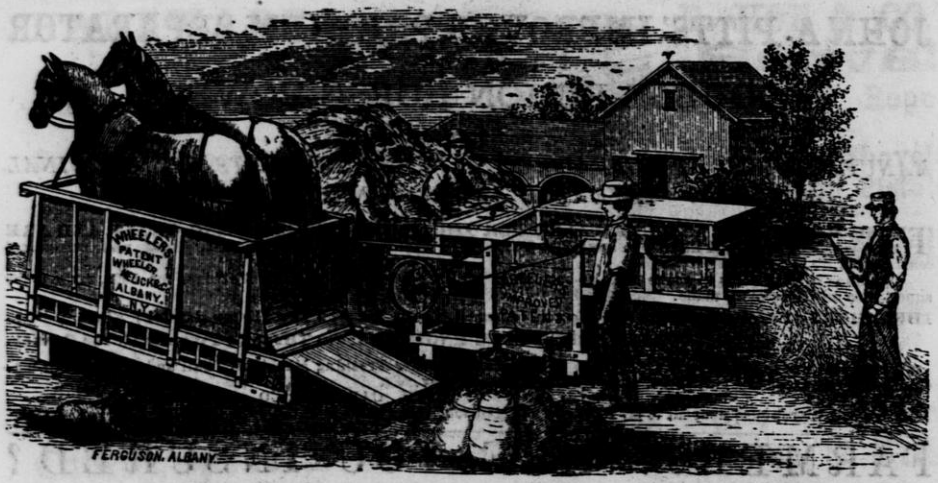
UPWARDS OF $12,000,000 of Losses have been paid by the Ætna Insurance Co. in the past forty years.

Agencies in all the principal cities and towns throughout the state. Policies issued without delay, by any of the following duly authorized Agents of the Company. Apply to the nearest local agent.

W. H. WYMAN, State Agent, Madison.
W. J. WHALING, Lake Manager, Milwaukee.

Appleton, ...AUG. L. SMITH.	Hazle Green,....CHANDLER & YORK.	Platteville .....J. H. ROUNTREE.
Baraboo,.....H. H. POTTER.	Hudson.....S. CURTIS SIMONDS.	Portage... .....D. VANDERCOOK.
Brodhead.....C. B. PECK.	Janesville.....H. W. COLLINS.	Prescott.....P. V. WISE.
Beloit .....T. L. WRIGHT.	Jefferson..... ...D. OSTRANDER.	Potosi..... .....J. W. SEATON.
Berlin.....J. L. TURNER.	Kilbourn,.....G. J. HANSSEN.	Prairie du Chien..IRA B. BRUNSON.
Beaver Dam.....G. E. REDFIELD.	Kenosha.....L. G. MERRILL.	Racine .....DURAND & MILLER.
Cassville,.....W. P. DEWEY.	Lancaster,.....H. H. HYDE.	Ripon.. .....H. L. EGGLESTON.
Chippewa Falls..JAMES A. TAYLOR.	La Crosse.....THEO. RODOLF.	Richland Centre..PRIEST & MINER.
Columbus.....R. W. CHADBOURN.	Mauston... .....JOHN TURNER.	Reedsburg.....WM. HASKELL.
Delavan.....N. M. HARRINGTON.	Menasha.....AUG. E. BATES.	Sheboygan.....EUGENE CARY.
Darlington.....W. H. ALLYN.	Madison.....DEAN & WYMAN.	Shullsburg.....M. HOLLISTER.
Eagle.....C. W. POTTER.	Milwaukee ..... W. H. HOLLAND.	Stevens Point....WILLIAM McNAIR.
East Troy,.....J. B. STONE.	Mineral Point....R. L. READ.	Stoughton.....S. T. BUCKMAN.
Edgerton .....R. S. FASSETT.	Manitowoc ... ..S. A. WOOD.	Sparta.....E. S. WHITAKER.
Elkhorn .....J. A. PERRY.	Monroe.....E. A. WEST.	Superior.....WM. R. PERRY.
Eau Claire.....H. C. PUTNAM.	Masomanie.....S. E. WATERHOUSE.	Sauk City,.....G. B BURROWS.
Fox Lake.....G. W. BURCHARD.	Neenah .....C. C. TOWNSEND.	Viroqua, ... W. F. TERHUNE.
Fond du Lac.....W. T. GIBSON.	New Lisbon.....M. McQUIEN.	Watertown.....J. A. HALL.
Fort Atkinson...N. F. HOPKINS.	Oconto.....J. F. WOODRUFF.	Waukesha.....WM. SOPER.
Geneva.....E. D. RICHARDSON.	Oshkosh.....C. H. BRUSH.	Waupaca.....WINFIELD SCOTT.
Grand Rapids...POWERS & LANG.	Ozaukee.....S. A. WHITE.	Weyauwega.....JNO. FORDYCE.
Green Bay.....H. S. BAIRD.	Pepin.....HENRY D. BARRON.	Waupun.....W. H. TAYLOR.
Horicon.....W H BUTTERFIELD		Whitewater.....O. MONTAGUE.

WHEELER'S PAT. RAILWAY HORSE POWER



W. D. BACON, WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN,

Is constantly receiving and will keep for sale

Wheeler, Melick & Co.'s valuable Railway Improved Combined Thresher and Winnower, for two horses.

SINGLE HORSE POWER THRESHERS, with Straw Separators.

STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS

WOOD SAW MILLS.

FEED GRINDERS.

WHEELER'S FOUR AND SIX HORSE LEVER POWERS, ready to use for general purposes for Cutting Straw, Grinding Feed, Sawing Wood, as well as built expressly to drive all the different sizes of Threshers by them made, enabling the purchaser to choose a Tread or Lever power. Also—

Pitt's Eight and Ten Horse Power Threshers and Separators,

With Latest Improvements, with or without Trucks, Straw Stackers, &c. Also,

Felton's Improved Feed Mill,

Capable of Grinding Corn in the Ear, or the smallest of shelled grain. Will grind Meal or Flour for domestic use; can be easily operated with one horse; will grind coarse or fine, according to the wish of the operator; is self-sharpening, and can be worked on any barn floor. Four years use prove it to be the *most durable*, as well as the best FARMER'S MILL offered to the public, and will be sold at greatly reduced prices.

WHEELER'S THRESHER'S are built with special reference to economical threshing, and can be used on any ordinary sized barn floor—and with late improvements can be as well-worked in the field; can be worked with from three to five hands and to adapt them to more special convenience, Wheeler, Melick & Co. have built two sizes, one with 26 inch Cylinder, more particularly for home use, to be operated with little help; and one with a 30 inch Cylinder, to accommodate neighborhood wants; and the same snug, compact form (enlarged) is retained so that in addition to neighborhood threshing it can be economically used for home wants, and worked on any ordinary sized barn floor—and the attention of Farmers is called to this particular feature in the Tread Power, for with a Tread Power threshing can be done in cold and stormy weather, by the farmer in his barn, and with *moderate elevation*.

Testimonials can be given from numerous farmers of the perfect ease and safety with which horses can be worked on these Tread Powers; yet to obviate the objection of an occasional customer Wheeler has built a light, strong made Lever Power, to be worked with four or six horses, admitting customers to choose according to taste and judgment. ☞ Machines will be sold invariably at **the lowest shop prices of the Manufacturer,** adding transportation charges at Milwaukee, where orders will generally be delivered.

These Machines will be kept for sale at

My Residence, : : : . : :	Waukesha,
My Place of Business, No. 158 East Water street,	Milwaukee,
H. & J. F. Hill's Warehouse, : : :	Milwaukee,
J. F. Kirkland's Pier, : : : : :	Sheboygan.

Where responsible and reliable agents will always be on hand to attend to the requests of customers.

☞ The subscriber keeps constantly on hand **Castings at cost** to repair all breakages that can occur. ☜

9tf] **W. D. BACON, Waukesha, Wis.**

WISCONSIN FARMER.

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D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

WHAT PLANS CAN THE FARMER PURSUE TO REALIZE THE LARGEST PRICE FOR HIS CROPS?

The foregoing is a question often asked us, both verbally and by letter; it is one on which we have often reflected, and one that we still find hard to answer. How to dodge the army of speculators and middle men, that stand between the tillers of the soil and the consumers of their products is the great question?

Wool appears to be one of those commodities that embodies so much value in comparison to its weight and ease of handling, that factory consumers not unfrequently buy nearly or quite direct from the farmer, or grower; hence, in that case, we see the producer realizing within a fraction of its highest Eastern market value. Not so with wheat and grain; these great staples of human subsistence, vastly more important, all things considered, than any and even all other productions of the soil, are, of all others, the greatest foot-balls of speculation and gambling extant. No sooner is a crop ripening and getting ready for market, than the head speculators of the East begin to cry out, through their paid newspaper organs, of wide circulation, that for this or that reason, "prices are going to rule exceedingly low;" the prophecy is reiterated from Wall-street to the remotest corners of the Western grain-growing States. Western buyers pitch their tune accordingly, and very likely the market starts off at from 45 to 60 cents per bushel, for wheat that is intrinsically worth from 80 cents to $1 00. Many, as is always the case in new countries, are in close corners, and have to sell for what they can get; thus, too often, are the crops of the very men who ought, and need, to make the most out of them, rushed off at the very lowest possible figures, may be without paying them one penny's profit for their labor.

This is one of the great evils growing out of the present bull-and-bear system of buying and selling, but not the only one. It is a widely-extended complaint, and from what we have seen and heard, we doubt not too often a well-founded one, that buyers of produce cheat habitually and constantly in their weighing.—That numbers of such cases have been detected, is matter of history; how many escape undetected, is only matter of conjecture.

At our principle wheat-buying stations competition is usually exceedingly sharp, and, not unfrequently, buyers send their scouts out a little way, on every road leading into the country, watching for their *prey;* well, this, in and of itself, is not particularly wicked, though perhaps foolish.

But when it is true, as is sometimes charged, that these sharpers buy wheat at a higher price than they can afford, and then make up the difference by cheating in weight, it is quite another matter. We have heard those that we fully believe to be honest and trustworthy men, say they could not continue and live in the business of wheat buying, because of these tricks of their competitors; the sharpers would invariably out-bid them, and calculate on making it up, and more too, by cheating in weight. The justification that such buyers usually make is, the practice that some farmers have of selling dirty and inferior wheat for a good quality. Such buyers and such sellers are both upon a level, and if they could be compelled to trade wholly with each other, it would, of course, be all right.

The foregoing are, perhaps, the most prominent of the evils of the present system of grain trade. What are the best remedies for these, and the balance unenumerated, is the great and difficult question?

UNION STORE HOUSES,

and Farmer's Associations, are about the only plan of organic action that seems to be practicable, even in theory; and these associations, when attempted in practice, so far as our observation has gone, have usually failed in whole or in part to secure the end in view. Theoretically, nothing seems easier than for the farmers near every railroad center, to go into an organization, wholly among themselves, for the purpose of selling and buying their most heavy products and articles needed for domestic consumption.

We will suppose that every such principle buying and selling mart has,as a rule, 500 good average farms within its business circuit; this number, if their proprietors were agreed, and worked together, could, for a membership fee of ten dollars each, build themselves a good warehouse, capable of storing many thousand bushels of wheat at one time; and capable of receiving, weighing, handling, or shipping any amount at the least possible expense.—Suppose these 500 farms averaged 400 bushels of wheat, each, to sell; making altogether 200,000 bushels. Suppose 15 cents per bushel to be saved on the whole amount, by taking economical advantage of its handling and disposal. This would amount to the sum of $3,000 per annum, on wheat alone; or $60 to each farm, upon an average; add to this what additional might be made upon other products sold or forwarded through such a house, and, also, add what could be saved on the heavier articles needed by the farmer, such as lumber, salt, agricultural machinery, and nameless other articles, and it is not probably too much to assume that two-thirds as much more could be saved as from the wheat alone; making an aggregate of $5,000 per annum, or $100 each to the farmers concerned.

Now, this all appears well on paper, does it not? Why, then, can it not be carried out in practice, in all localities where farmers are not satisfied with the treatment they receive in disposing of their crops? The greatest difficulty that we see in the way is, the lack of acquaintance and confidence existing among the farmers themselves, in such an undertaking; in most localities, they would almost be afraid of each other, and more than likely, unless they were exceedingly circumspect and lucky, they would fall into the hands of dishonest and designing or ignorant officers; either of whom would be equally sure to ruin them in a short time. That such associations, properly gotten up and managed, could get all the money they would need *upon actual wheat in store*, with which to make advances to such as needed to realize early, cannot be doubted.

The warehouses of such an association should be placed in a location secure as possible from fire, or other casualty, and all the liabilities kept insured to the fullest extent at all times; in a word, their business should be conducted with even more care, if possible, than that of private companies; not only because there are more concerned, but because there are more to please and satisfy. Everything should not only be right, but beyond suspicion; and no one should be trusted as an agent on whom there was any question of doubt as to his honesty, or capability.

Such are a few of the ideas that suggest themselves to our mind upon this subject; we put them forth for what they are worth, and, in conclusion would say, that while we have an abiding faith in the practical utility of associations for mutual insurance, for trade and commerce, for scientific advancement, morals and religion, we are by no means unmindful of the difficulties that too often hedge them round and defeat their successful working; the natural jealousy of even well-meaning men; the selfishness of the great mass; the absolute dishonesty of many more than ever get to State's prison, all, all stand as barriers in the way of what looks plausible in theory and easy in practice, especially to the young and inexperienced.

We see, by our exchanges, that such associations are already being formed in several neighborhoods; to all such we certainly hope the greatest possible success. We would like to see the farmer reap the main reward of his hard toil; and we fully believe he will, eventually, to a much greater extent than now. Our columns are open to a discussion of this interesting subject, in articles to the point, and not too long.

☞ Farmers frequently desire to buy or sell hay in the stack. Can you give any rule by which the amount can be determined?

The *Valley Farmer*, in answer to one of its correspondents, who asks the above question, says, there is a rule which is believed to be reliable. It is to multiply the length, breadth and hight into each other, and ten solid yards will make a ton.

A WEEK AMONG THE FARMERS.

[The following, from General ATWOOD, of the *State Journal*, member of the Committee on Farms, is decidedly readable:]

Reader, if you are a politician, or a business man of any kind, imagine yourself relieved from all political or business anxiety for a week, and spending that time in the examination of the well-tilled farms of Wisconsin, witnessing the immense crops that now cover the improved ground of the State, and enjoying the princely hospitality of our best farmers, and, if your imagination is powerful, you may have a feeble idea of the pleasure that we have experienced during the past week.

The Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, at its meeting in February last, offered a premium upon farms, and we were fortunate enough to be selected as one of the committee of judges to examine such farms as might be entered in competition. We look upon this appointment as fortunate in more respects than one. It has given us a week's freedom from the toils of business life—a week's pleasure in visiting the different portions of the State, becoming acquainted with many of its vast resources, as well as with many of its most substantial citizens, and of observing the prospect for a harvest unparalelled in its extent by that of any previous year, and such a prospect as will hardly be witnessed more than once in a lifetime.

The past week having been selected by the Committee on Farms to make the necessary examination of such as were entered in competition, that pleasant duty has been partially performed, and, without transcending the bounds of propriety, we propose, briefly, to refer to some things that came under our personal observation, not only officially but individually.

We must premise by saying that our associates in this excursion were Mr. B. R. Hinkley, the worthy President of the State Agricultural Society, and Hon. Benj. Ferguson, the present Senator from the county of Dodge.—It would be difficult to find two men, within the range of our State, that would have added more interest to an excursion of this kind, or whose minds, from practical observation and experience, were better fitted for the duties imposed on them, than these gentlemen.—They have both been, for many years, extensive, practical, and successful farmers in Wisconsin, and are men that cannot be mistaken as to what *is* good farming. We had hoped to meet the whole committee, but for some reason, the veteran farmer, Col. Billings, and the distinguished naturalist, I. A. Lapham, who has made Wisconsin his main study for many years, were not with us. We regret their absence very much, but we doubt not that it was unavoidable, as we think they would as deeply regret losing the privilege of making this excursion as any one could regret the necessity that caused it.

The first meeting was on Tuesday last, upon the farm of Hon. C. S. Kneeland, located about half a mile from the village of Waupun, in the county of Dodge. This farm consists of ninety-one acres, and it is about six years since Mr. K. commenced its cultivation. Its location is very beautiful, and the soil is of a superior quality of oak openings. The farm is in a good state of cultivation, presenting fine meadow land, splendid wheat fields, and a fair prospect for corn, fine potatoes and good pasturage and wood land. The management of the farm shows good economy, and it will require but a short time, with Mr. K.'s practical industry, to make his home a sort of paradise on earth. The site for his dwelling and outbuildings, is hardly surpassed in real beauty and loveliness, by any spot within our knowledge; and the splendid site has been improved by putting upon it remarkably tasty and conveniently arranged buildings; not large and costly, but neat, economical and useful.—The house is well arranged for making easy the duties of a farmer's wife; and everything about it gives evidence that those duties are most cheerfully and admirably performed. The out buildings are also after the same style—presenting economy of expenditure and great practical usefulness. In these buildings we find a place for everything, and everything in its place. The barn, the horse barn, the carriage house, the cattle sheds, give indication of a desire to protect his animals and his crops, as well as to raise them. This is a matter that many of our farmers greatly neglect, but we apprehend that almost any one would be stimulated to a right action in this direction by an examination of the premises of Mr. Kneeland. Even to the pig pen, do we find the same taste displayed. His arrangement for keeping hogs is so perfect, that even the life of a porker is rendered tolerable. Would that our city hogs would take to the country in search of such accommodations. With all our natural prejudices against swine, we can almost tolerate their existence when so well provided for as are those of Mr. K. With such a farm—such conveniences, and such means as Mr. Kneeland has gathered around him by dint of his own industry and economy—for he told us that everything we saw in the way of improvement had been earned on the farm—a family can hardly fail to be happy; and in this case every appearance indicates that not only the man, but every department of the household, fully appreciate the beauties of their home, and make the best use of them.

* * * * * * * *

On the arrival of the cars we went on with them to Oconomowoc. This is a pleasant little village, with its excellent schools—its superior grist mills—a good degree of business, and is the location of the "Summit Bank," conducted principally under the auspices of

H. K. Edgerton, Esq., late of this city. We need not tell those who know him that we found everything in order, for they well know that his nature would revolt at any other condition of things. A nice banking house, front of Milwaukee brick, neatly and tastefully arranged inside and out, with plenty of money in the vaults, makes this one of the pleasantest institutions of the kind we have seen in many a day; and as the community around have the fullest confidence in its *soundness*, friend Edgerton's position is an enviable one. The country around being one of superior excellence, and settled by the best of citizens, renders this a point of considerable business, and a pleasant place in which to live.

In a short time a conveyance was provided which soon brought us up at the residence of our friend and associate, Mr. Hinkley. Here we took a brief look at his magnificent farm, containing 160 acres, all in an excellent state of improvement. Although the farm has been let for the past three years, the indications are that Mr. H. has been remarkably lucky in the selection of a tenant, or that his own experienced mind has been brought to bear in the direction of affairs upon the farm, during the time it has been thus occupied. There are no marks of neglect upon it. The fields present the evidence of skillful farming, and the crops give abundant indication that the soil has not been unduly taxed without being correspondingly replenished. The owner and director of such a farm, most worthily and appropriately, occupies the highest place in the gift of the State Agricultural Society.

After partaking of the hospitality of Mr. H., in the shape of an excellent dinner, we passed on to the farm of Hon. E. W. Edgerton, about four miles distant—the second on the list of competing farms for examination. Here we found a farm of 320 acres, of excellent land —being rich openings. The soil is a sandy loam, rendering it quick as well as productive. Mr. E. commenced upon this farm in 1837, and the surroundings clearly show that the intervening time between then and the present has been well spent in its improvement. Everything has been done under his immediate supervision, and no inconsiderable portion of the work is the result of the labor of his own hands; and while his hands have been abundantly able to execute, the practical mind has been active in the planning and direction of every improvement. In the management of this farm, in all its appointments, we see the practical, the skillful, and the systematic farmer. Commencing at so early a day, most of the fencing is made of rails, that will, no doubt, give place to a good board fence at no distant day. But any common board fence sinks into insignificance when compared with Mr. E.'s rail fences. The most vicious animal would give up all hope of jumping over, or getting through it, when he had approached within ten rods of it. It is not only well put up, but it is most admirably staked up; and such a quantity of this uniformly excellent fencing, we never before have seen upon one farm. The whole is enclosed with it, and then sub-divided into twenty acre lots. Upon this farm there is now growing 115 acres of wheat, and oats, corn, and potatoes, in proper proportion, all presenting the most promising prospect for an unusually rich harvest; and woe be to a weed that attempts to lift its head above ground on these premises. Mr. E. does everything upon a perfect system, keeping an account of every action, and its result. He furnished the committee with the manner of cropping every subdivision of his farm, for the last five years; and the results of his efforts prove, most conclusively that systematic and intelligent farming is the most noble calling within the reach of man. Mr. E. has not only given close attention to the cultivation of the soil, but he has attended to the improvement of his stock, till we find that his horses, cattle and sheep rank high among the best in the State. In fact, he is now, while in the prime of life, reaping the full benefits of having devoted his early years to the thorough cultivation of his own soil, and of his own mind. May he long live, and may his example and success stimulate the young men of the State to go forth, take up the rich, uncultivated lands, and do likewise.

After completing the examination of Mr. Edgerton's premises, we were shown several farms in the vicinity, among which were those of T. C. Dousman, Orson Reed, &c., &c., all exhibiting fine improvements. We have long known that the town of Summit had the reputation of being among the best agricultural towns in the State; and from our own personal examination we are satisfied that this reputation is well deserved.

After spending the night with friend Hinkley, that gentleman again took us about the country, until the arrival of the cars from the West, when we passed on them to Pewaukee, at which point we were met by Mr. Geo. Peter Peffer, whose farm was the third on our list for examination. This farm consists of eighty acres, and it presents almost every variety: high land and low land, good land and poor land, dry land and wet land; but under the skillful treatment of Peter, who has a strong arm and a willing hand, the different elements will be made to subserve each other, until, in a short time, the whole, will present a noble specimen of the results of honest toil, skillfully directed. This man, Peter, as he is familiarly called, is a German by birth, having immigrated to this country when fourteen years of age. He became a carpenter and joiner, which trade he followed several years, with reasonable success, when, in 1845, all of his earnings were destroyed by fire, leaving him to begin anew; but being able bodied and industrious, the struggles with the world without means had no terrors for him. He went

on, following his trade and farming alternately, according to circumstances, until now he presents a farm in competition with the best farms in the State, for the premium offered by the State Agricultural Society; and while the farm may not present the attractions of some others, we venture the assertion that the committee will derive no more sincere pleasure and satisfaction, and, we might add, profit, from the visiting of any farm, than it did on this one of Peter Peffer. He is reclaiming the marshes by tile draining; improving the upland by hauling the low lands upon it—growing hedges for his permanent fences; in fact, he has his plans fully matured, and most of them in a state of progress that in a short time will convert an eighty-acre farm which, in its native state, was very uninviting, into a most attractive and desirable home. Mr. Peffer is a practical man, possessing great energy of character, and adaptability to circumstances, and we predict for him a prominent position among the best agriculturists of the State at no distant day. He is very interesting in his description of personal incidents.—He showed us the wheelbarrow which he made himself, years ago, and remarked, that that, pushed with his own hands, constituted his first farming team. He has had considerable reputation for some years, and most deservedly so, as a nursery man and fruit grower.—We must here relate an incident in connection with this subject, which goes very far to illustrate the benefits of agricultural societies; and we cannot do better than to tell the story in his own language, as nearly as possible. He said that he was called, by many, a nursery man and fruit grower, and he would tell us how he became to be one. In 1851, without any particular knowledge on the subject, he grafted a wild plum tree, and in 1852 it bore some beautiful fruit. He entered this fruit at the State Fair, and the first premium was awarded to him for it. This encouraged him to go on—to study and to experiment, and the result has been attended with good success.—"But," says Peter, with animation, "if it had not been for the State Agricultural Society, and for that premium on plums, I should have been nothing to-day but Peter Peffer, the carpenter." This is one of the illustrations of the benefits arising from agricultural societies; and we rejoice to find that Peter considers his present calling a great elevation from that of a good carpenter, as he no doubt was. It is so; and proud may be any man, of whatever position, who becomes a practical and successful tiller of the soil. We shall hope to see Peter Peffer's farm five years hence, when he shall have fully executed his present plans, and we will venture the opinion that at that time there will be no farmer in the State who will not be able to derive instruction and profit from Peter's example and experience. May the numbers of such men be greatly increased in our State.

We next proceeded to Racine, arriving at that city on Thursday evening. On Friday morning we were met by Mr. William Smith, of the town of Somers, in Kenosha county, who conveyed us to his farm, about nine miles from Racine, which was fourth on the list.—Mr. Smith is a Scotchman, by birth, having landed in this country in 1834, coming to the Territory of Wisconsin soon after, and stopping for a time in Milwaukee. In 1836 he located on the farm upon which he now lives, and has ever since devoted himself to farming, and with excellent success. His farm, at present, consists of 280 acres, 200 of which is under a good state of cultivation, the balance being timber land. The portion under cultivation is upon prairie—of an excellent soil naturally, and which has lost nothing of its excellence under the judicious management of Mr. Smith. His farm is sub-divided into lots of 28 acres each, and each lot is provided with a good spring, rendering it convenient for pasturing stock in its regular turn, and a regular rotation of pasturage, meadow, and tillage is kept up with the various lots. The fencing upon this farm is mostly of boards. Five boards with a cap of scantling about two by five inches. These pieces are spiked firmly to the posts, and where the ends come together, they are coupled with a scrap of iron some four inches long, and spiked through the cap pieces into the posts. This makes the fence remarkably firm, and protects the lots against the most vicious animals with entire certainty.—We are thus particular in this description, as it was new to us, and we were very favorably impressed with it, and would be glad to see the example followed by others. The crops upon this farm are very fine, and the appearance of the whole farm gives abundant proof that the director of the operations upon it, is worthy to rank with the first farmers in the State.—Mr. Smith's herd of cattle is among the best, as a whole, that we have seen in the State; and it would be difficult to select any one or two for exhibition at the State Fair, but we trust that Mr. Smith will present on that occasion his entire herd. It would be a presentation of which any man might feel a just pride. In his buildings Mr. S. has shown good taste, having in view both economy and utility. We were glad to find so excellent a farm as Mr. Smith's in the list of those entered for competition. It will have the tendency to draw attention to that portion of the State where it is located, and bring more prominently to view the many superior farms in that locality.

We would here refer to one feature of farming now practiced to considerable extent among the best farmers, that strikes us with much favor; and that is, that they seed down with grass, all land that is sown to wheat, oats, or barley, whether it is to be kept for mowing land or not. If a farm is properly sub-divided into lots, the feed, after the grain is harvested, will more than pay for the seed, and if not fed

down, the plowing the grass under will greatly benefit the soil. So that, in any event, it proves a profitable expenditure. The idea is worthy of the consideration of all farmers.—With this we close up our description of the farms entered for competition, that have been examined, being only those of Messrs. Kneeland, Edgerton, Peffer, and Smith, any other farms incidentally referred to, were not entered for examination. We cannot close without expressing our obligations to the many farmers, and their excellent families, who have bestowed such attentions upon the committee, as have rendered their visit one of extreme pleasure as well as of deep interest. We should be very happy to extend the simple hospitalities within our reach to each and every one of these kind friends, at our own house in return, should occasion ever offer.

The great prospect for crops, of every description, in our State, is a source of heartfelt congratulation. The wealth of Wisconsin is in the soil; and it does seem as though providence was developing the agricultural resources of the State with an especial view to relieving the financial embarrassments of our people. The crop of this year, if vouchsafed to harvest in accordance with present prospects, will greatly elevate Wisconsin in the commercial world. Our people will pay their debts and be happy. Could the Eastern capitalists, who have loaned money to our people, now pass through the country, and witness our prospective wealth upon the ground, they would no longer look upon their money as lost; and if Horace Greeley should now visit the State, and examine the same things, he would hardly advise all those in debt to surrender their farms in liquidation thereof. Wisconsin people are sound, if they but act wisely and prudently. They can and will pay their debts. We believe it, and feel it more strongly than ever, after spending a week among the farmers.

☞ A solidified milk establishment has just been started at Middleton, Orange county. It will require about 1,000 gallons per hour. The water, (88 per cent!) is extracted from the milk by an evaporating and drying operation, which leaves an article that, by the addition of sugar, may be put in cans or papers and kept in a perfect state of preservation for any length of time. It can be eaten in a dry state, or is readily soluble on coming in contact with any fluid. Many people use it in preference to milk, because it is, of necessity, a purer article.

☞ J. P. Danforth, of Marion, last week sold to C. H. Eaton, of this village, a very prime lot of spring wheat. This was the first new wheat brought to this market. The price paid was one dollar per bushel.—*Mauston Star, Aug.* 1.

IMPORTATION OF GRAIN INTO GREAT BRITAIN —AMERICAN MANUFACTURES.

The British Government recently published full returns of the imports of Agricultural Products, Live Stock, &c., into the Kingdom for *nine months*, ending with September, 1859.—These returns afford some interesting facts for the consideration of American farmers and manufacturers.

The importation of wheat and flour into England from all countries, is in quantity, equal to 6,541,254 barrels of flour in 1859, while in the same period of nine months the previous year it amounted to 7,832,411 barrels. Of this large quantity, 7,257,411 barrels were furnished mostly by Russia and France, while the United States furnished but about 75,000 barrels, and in 1859 hardly 20,000 were imported from the United States. The wheat supplied by France to England during the last year was more than one-third the whole amount bought and of flour nearly 90 per cent of the whole quantity imported. France, with a dense population, cultivating an old soil, manages to supply this immense surplus of grain to England. England being chiefly engaged in manufactures, it is impossible to raise from her soil food sufficient to sustain her inhabitants, the deficiency being equal to $8,000,000 a month, or over $96,000,000 a year.

This immense sum, except the small proportion of it furnished by the United States, is paid for in cash, because the protective policy adopted by France, Russia, and other countries of Europe, which furnish these provisions, exclude British manufactures, and receive only gold in payment, while the amount of the precious metals more than equal to this, is annually paid by the United States to great Britain for her manufactured goods. To meet the balance of trade against us last year we paid to that country for goods, the most of which might have been manufactured at home! a sum exceeding by $30,000,000 the entire product for the same period of the gold mines of California. This large sum is chiefly paid for textile fabrics and iron, while we have the raw material for these goods at our own doors equal in quality to any in the world. Indeed no inconsiderable portion of this sum is paid for fabrics, the raw material of which is the product of American soil, transported more than three thousand miles, and is manufactured and returned to us at our own expense. So that, in fact, the United States, with a virgin soil capable of feeding the world, and with the raw material sufficient for the manufacture of every article needed for home consumption, is actually paying to Great Britain a hundred millions of dollars annually, which she pays over to other nations for the food she consumes while she is manufacturing goods for us.

Although we purchase largely of England, she buys nothing of us that she can purchase elsewhere. Her importations of Indian Corn

of late have greatly fallen off, while her importations of cotton, which no other nation can furnish her, have largely increased.

Cotton, rice and tobacco are the chief articles which England receives of us, leaving an immense balance against us, which must be paid in gold. But for the discovery of the mines of California these large importations would long since have rendered the nation bankrupt.

A policy similar to that which exists between the United States and Great Britain, may be recognized as existing between the agricultural states of the South and West, and the manufacturing states of the North and East. We furnish both the raw material for the Eastern manufacturer, and the food for the operatives, and buy their goods in return paying transportations, commissions, &c; while we possess unlimited motive power at a much cheaper rate at home, for all manufacturing purposes. The cost of the transportation of the cotton to the Eastern mills, the wheat, beef, &c., to feed the laborers, while they convert the cotton into cloth, and the profits and charges on the manufactured goods back to us again, would afford the Western manufacturer a handsome profit alone; to say nothing of the cost of motive power where the coal may be had for a little more than the cost of digging. The true policy of the South and West, is to manufacture their own cotton and wool, and to consume their own corn and beef at home.

With the completion of the railroads now contemplated, coal will be delivered in most of our towns and cities at a low rate. Indeed, at the present time, its cost at our principal Western cities is hardly half that which is paid by the Eastern manufacturers. Besides the great facilities afforded us for the employment of steam, we have upon our Western rivers available water power sufficient to run all the spindles and looms in great Britain.

It is the true policy of every nation to unite in the same locality, the PLOW, THE LOOM, AND THE ANVIL; and there is no country possessing so many advantages for these combined, as are to be found in the fertile and prosperous valley of the Mississippi.—*The Valley Farmer.*

☞ WALKING HORSES.—Lewis B. Brown, of New York, has given the managers of the Great National Horse Show, to be held Sept. 4th, at Springfield, Mass., the sum of $30, to be offered as a special premium for "the best walking horse under the saddle, or in harness." This is a very proper way of calling the attention of the public to the consideration of the fact that a good walk is the most useful gait that a horse can have. It has heretofore been wholly overlooked in making up prize lists.

☞ The Burlington (Wis.) *Gazette* says J. B. Fairbanks exhibited at the office a "timothy head" measuring 12¼ inches in length.

THREE GREAT AMERICAN INVENTIONS.

To America belongs the honor of giving to the world three of the greatest inventions of the present age. These are the Electric Telegraph, The Mower and Reaper, and the Sewing Machine, which constitute three great representatives of the commercial, agricultural and domestic worlds. Though mysterious and wonderful are the operations of the Electric Telegraph, yet it is but secondary in practical importance to the Mowing and Reaping Machine; for it is upon agriculture and its appliances that commerce chiefly depends. It was eight or ten years after the last great efforts were made to construct machines for cutting grass and grain, before they became practically perfect. Enough, however, was seen in the original mower of Ketchum, and the reaper of Hussey, to warrant the conclusion that complete success was attainable. It is seldom the case that the first inventors of a great design succeed in carrying it through to perfection. But these men having reached a starting point, thousands of others set to work, to perfect what they had begun; one has overcome a difficulty here, and another there, each having contributed something towards the completion of the work, until now, so far as the practical operation of these machines is concerned, the farmer has little more to desire. Yet, notwithstanding the great perfection to which these machines have been brought, they will, of course, be still improved in numerous minor points.

Without the aid of these machines it would be impossible at the present stage of the world's progress in other matters, to harvest the grass and grain that are now grown, or to secure enough of these two crops to meet the wants of the present population. And while the mower and the reaper have been pushed forward to their present degree of perfection, other departments of farm labor have received corresponding aid through the invention of other machinery.

But while the telegraph is rendering such essential aid to commerce, and the mower and reaper to agriculture, the sewing machine is, if possible, doing more to relieve the weaker branch of the human family from the severest portion of domestic toil.

The more valuable an invention proves to be, the more liable it is to become the prey of pirates, who seek to thrive upon the toil of other men, and hence these three great inventions have been the most fruitful subjects of litigation. But recent decisions have established the legitimate claims of those leading inventors, though at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

With the sewing machine as with the mowes and reaper, it is but recently that the chief difficulties in the way of its perfect operation have been overcome. The first patent issued for a sewing machine was in 1842, and this,

like several subsequent inventions and improvements, failed of any practical results.—In 1847, Elias Howe, Jr., invented the most valuable feature now connected with these wonderful machines—a feature that is indispensable to all subsequent inventions. This consisted "in performing a seam by a combination of the eye pointed needle and shuttle." After being reduced to poverty in defending his rights in the courts of law, Mr. Howe is now reaping a rich reward from the patent fees now paid him by the leading manufacturers of machines under other patents, for the right to use what is termed the lock-stitch. Since the issue of Mr. Howe's patent, about *three hundred* patents have been granted for various improvements in sewing machines.

In 1855 there were sold by eight of the most prominent manufactures, 3,513 sewing machines, and in 1859, the same companies made and sold 46,243; but by far the largest number of these were made and sold by three companies, viz: Wheeler & Wilson, Grover & Baker, and I. M. Singer & Co. The patent fee received by Mr. Howe for the number of machines manufactured by these several companies during the year 1858, amounted to the handsome sum of $143,000. Up to 1853 he had not received a sufficient amount from his invention to pay the patent office fees.

The invention of the spinning jenny and the power loom wrought a wonderful revolution in the manufactures and trade of England, increasing the consumption of raw cotton from a few thousand pounds up to a *thousand millions* of pounds in 1858. The invention of the power loom led to serious riots in England by the hand weavers, fearing that by this invention they would be driven to a state of starvation by the want of employment. And so it was apprehended on the part of those whose scanty subsistence depended upon the needle, when he success of the sewing machine became fully established; but no such results have been realized; on the contrary, they have proved the greatest blessings; thousands of destitute females have toiled night and day with the needle, and received each in return from one to two dollars a week. A shirt manufactory in New Haven, Connecticut, employs 500 of these machines. In Troy New York, upwards of 3000 of the same class of machines are at work making shirts and collars. To make a fine shirt by hand upward of fourteen hours of constant labor are required; with the sewing machine it can be done in one hour. A coat that formerly required seventeen hours to make, can now be done by the machine in three hours. Besides the immense saving of labor, and the superior quality of the work done by the machine, the comparative healthfulness of the two modes of labor can hardly be estimated.

Such are some of the most important results of this last great American invention. These machines are now finding their way into the remotest corners of the globe. They are used in China, Hindostan, Australia, Turkey, Africa, South America, and all parts of Europe.—It will prove the greatest boon to woman of the nineteenth century, and the "song of the shirt" will be heard no more.—*Valley Farmer.*

IN DOOR FARMING.

Much is being said in your paper about the profits and pleasures of farming, *out of doors*, but nothing is said of the in-door labor, where the most of the hard toil without remuneration is found. It is healthy and pleasant work when farmers get where they can have sufficient help in-doors, as well as out.

But with some exceptions, the farmer's wife is, as a general thing, the most hard-working class there is; she must be watchful and never tiring, for if she is not able to perform to-day's labor, to-day, to-morrow she has got a double task to perform; to be sure, she is not driven to it with the lash, but the spur of necessity drives her on, and with the cares and labors of in-door farming, she often has the cares of a large family. Farming is not, as a general thing, found to be sufficiently remunerative to allow of hiring in-doors work, so that all the labor and care must come upon the farmer's wife. If she has a large family, and the prospect good for more, still she must make and mend, bake and brew, wash and scour, churn and make cheese, milk and feed hogs, &c. Because she knows, if she hires, the family wants must be curtailed enough to meet the expense of hiring, when with all her planning and hard work, she can scarcely get enough, for the husdandman is too apt to think that the products of the farm are sufficient, and all else are superfluities. So the wife must wait for the hens to lay, for from that source often comes all the change that falls to her share!

Please insert this in your columns, for if it does not meet with the views of some of your correspondents it may meet the case of their wives. A FARMER'S WIFE.

—*New England Farmer.*

☞ Badax county is said to be, by all who have visited it, the best farming county in the State. It would really surprise many who visited our county a few years ago, to visit it now, and see the vast amount of improvement that has been done; in the improvement of farms, in the building of dwelling houses and barns, in the straightening and working of roads, in the re-setting and finishing of fences, in the planting of orchards and shade trees, and in the general improved condition of the country. The general appearance of the county now forcibly reminds one of the appearance of his native land.—*Viroqua Expositor.*

☞ J. C. Wheeler, of Pewaukee, Waukesha county, has threshed from three-fourths of an acre, *forty-seven bushels of barley*, this year.

GARDENING FOR WOMEN.

There is nothing better for wives and daughters, physically, than to have the care of a garden—a flower pot, if nothing more. What is pleasanter than to spend a portion of every passing day in working among plants and watching the growth of shrubs, and trees, and plants, and to observe the opening of flowers, from week to week as the season advances?—Then how much it adds to the enjoyment to know that your own hands have planted and tilled them, and have pruned and trained them—this is a pleasure that requires neither great riches nor profound knowledge. The humble cottage of the laboring poor, not less than their grounds, may be adorned with pet plants, which in due time will become redolent of rich perfume, not less than radiant with beauty; thus ministering to the love of the beautiful in nature.

The wife or daughter that loves home and would seek ever to make it the best place for husband and brother, is willing to forego some gossipping morning calls, for the sake of having leisure for the cultivation of plants, and shrubs, and flowers? The good housewife is early among her plants and flowers, as is the husband at his place of business. They are both utilitarians, the one it may be in the abstract, and the other in the concrete, each as essential to the enjoyment of the other, as are the real and the ideal in human life. The lowest utilitarianism would labor only for the meat that perisheth. Those of higher and more noble views, would labor with no less assiduity for the substantial things of life, but would in addition seek also those things which elevate and refine the mind and exalt the soul.

The advantages which woman personally derives from stirring the soil and snuffing the morning air are freshness and beauty of cheek and brightness of eye, cheerfulness of temper, vigor of mind, and purity of heart. Consequently she is more cheerful and lovely as a daughter, more dignified and womanly as a sister, and more attractive and confiding as a wife.

Hence the fruits and products of garden culture, as they relate to woman, when viewed objectively, are but small, relatively, as compared with the benefits secured in regard to herself as the center of social refinement and enjoyment, amid such a world as ours. A husband who revolves round such a center cannot but be a good neighbor, a useful citizen, a kind father, a loving and confiding companion. Do not, then, mothers and sisters, the latter wives in prospect, neglect the garden.

☞ The man who did not think it respectable to bring up his children to work, has just heard of his sons. One of them is a driver on the canal, another of them has been taken up as a vagrant, and a third has gone to a public institution to learn the shoemaking business under a keeper.

THE DANGERS OF BURNING FLUID.

Mr. Editor:—Everybody loves or ought to love, a good, clear light, for sewing, reading or writing, as well for the greater degree of cheerfulness it imparts, as for the sake of the eyesight. How many persons are there, who at a comparitively early age are compelled to use spectacles, whose eyesight has been injured by the use of poor lights, such as were at one time almost the only kinds in use in the country, and which are still found in many farm houses. I refer to the old-time tallow candle. But inconvenient and uncleanly as is the old candle, and averse as most tidy housekeepers are to its use, I confess a most decided preference for it over that most to be dreaded of all illuminating preparations, *camphene or burning fluid*. I would as soon keep a canister of gunpowder open in my house, as to have one of the ordinary fluid lamps in common use. More terrible accidents have happened—more persons have died in horrible agony, or have been maimed and disfigured for life—by its use within the last ten years, than from almost any other cause, and how many persons, who have a regard either for their own, or for the safety of others, can consent to its use, I am at a loss to conceive.

There are lamps for burning fluid, so constructed, it is said, as to be entirely safe. If such is the case, allow me, who am prompted by no other motive than that of common humanity, to advise those of your readers who *will use* this fatal preparation, to satisfy themselves that the lamps they use are entirely incapable of being exploded. A neglect of this, may not only imperil their own, but the lives of those they hold most dear.

When persons are burned in any way, many of the simple remedies, which are almost always at hand, are, in the confusion and pain of the moment, entirely overlooked or forgotten. With your permission, I will name a few which may prove useful to some of your readers.

For Slight Burns, where the skin is not broken, mix a little weak alcohol with sugar-of-lead water, in equal quantities, and apply it frequently. Equal quantities of laudanum and lime water, is also a good preparation, and where the pain is very severe, sweet oil, and laudanum in equal quantities, will relieve it.

Where the Skin is broken, apply turpentine and sweet oil in equal quantities. The lime-water mixture will also be found good. Never break the skin of a burned part; it is the best dressing you can have for it.

Hoping these simple hints and remedies will not prove valueless, I remain yours,

A Parent.

—*Farmer and Gardener.*

☞ A. G. Niles, of Madison, has brought into our office a specimen of his Timothy, which measures five feet long, and the heads of which are 9 inches long.—*Journal.*

From the Ohio Farmer.

HOW I MADE SORGHUM SUGAR.

A number of my neighbors having witnessed my success in making sorghum sugar, requested me to write out my process for the public benefit. If my experience is of any value, well; if not there is no harm done.

The sugar I send you is made from syrup manufactured last fall by Mr. John Donnan, of this vicinity. The cane was grown on sandy soil, and cultivated as you would cultivate corn. Mr. Donnan took his cane to a Cook Sugar Evaporator, on an adjoining farm to be boiled down. As he only desired syrup for table use, it was made thinner purposely, than if intended for sugar. Happening to see some of it in May last, I said it would crystalize, if made a little thicker, and was told to try it. I did so; then set it away in a room at a temperature of 78°. In two days' time it was a mass of crystals, and in three days I set it to drain. The result you see.

In the manufacture of the syrup no lime or chemicals were used; and I put nothing into it whatever, when I undertook to crystalize it. Had the syrup been made thicker last fall, and set away in a room at the proper temperature, say 75 to 80 degrees, it would have crystalized just as readily then as now.

I have been equally successful with other samples of syrup. The difficulty is in knowing when it is boiled just right, before it leaves the Evaporator. The best test I know of is the appearance of the syrup, when allowed to drip from a paddle. When it falls in rather brittle flakes, it will crystalize at once. When boiled to the proper consistency, it should be put into conical shaped sugar coolers, with a gate to draw off the molasses, after crystalization. When the syrup has crystalized, it should be allowed to drain twenty to thirty days; then spread upon a wooden platform, exposed to the sun's rays until the color and texture are satisfactory, being frequently stirred meanwhile. Sorghum sugar made in this way ought not to cost over two to three cents a pound.

WALTER CAROTHERS.

SWEET POTATOES.—Mr. S. B. Higgins of Palmyra, informs us that he has nearly five acres of Sweet Potatoes, that are looking finely. He gives it as his opinion that the Sweet Potatoe can, without doubt, be successfully grown here, and having paid much attention to its culture, and had experience therein, his opinion is entitled to weight. If Mr. Higgins succeeds as well as he anticipates, with his present crop, he will have a large quantity of this root to dispose of. We hope he may not be disappointed.—*Whitewater Register.*

☞ Save the seeds of flowers, garden vegetables, &c., as they ripen. Select the lowest and best pods, mark them and put them away to dry.

GIRLS IN TELEGRAPH OFFICES.

In England, the business of operating telegraph wires has been, to a great extent, placed in the hands of young women, who find it a very agreeable occupation. The inland department of the Electric Telegraph Company, in London, now employs one hundred young women, who receive and transmit messages to all parts of the United Kingdom. The room in which they are engaged is lofty, spacious, and admirably lighted, and ventilated. A number of long tables are placed across the room, upon which the instruments are set, an attendant being placed opposite each one. There is one table for Manchester, another for Liverpool, a third for Birmingham and Glasgow, and so on for the whole of the chief towns.—When not engaged at the instruments, the girls employ themselves with needlework or reading. The room is in charge of a matron. The compensation ranges from two dollars and a half to six dollars a week. Ten hours constitute a day's work. A period of six weeks is sufficient to learn the whole process of telegraphing, but longer practice is required to impart efficiency and rapidity of execution. There is a kitchen in which the girls cook their dinners, with a laboratory and other appliances for their comfort and convenience. They have a servant to assist in the kitchen. The access to the room is by an exclusive stair-case, and no man is, upon any account, admitted into their department, except upon special order. To the women, the experiment has proved to a demonstration that their proverbial incapacity to keep a secret, is a great untruth. Of the thousands of important and valuable secrets which must yearly come to the knowledge of these young women, not a single one has ever been exposed. Many of them are closely connected to persons distinguished in literature, science, and art.

[Will not our American cities follow this praiseworthy example, and thus open another profitable employment to women?—ED. FAR.]

READ THIS, BOYS.—A strong writer administers a wholesome dose to boys, on chewing tobacco, and smoking, assuring them that tobacco has spoiled and utterly ruined thousands of boys—inducing a dangerous precocity, developing the passions, softening and weakening the bones, and greatly injuring the spinal marrow, the brain, and the whole nervous fluid. A boy who early and frequently smokes, or in any way uses large quantities of tobacco never is known to make a man of much energy of character, and generally lacks physical and muscular stamina, as well as mental energy.

☞ Not less than two hundred thousand hemlock trees are cut down annually in the United States to furnish bark for tanning purposes.

TELEGRAPHING IN 1860.

Most of the telegraphing in our country is now performed neither with the Morse, House, Bain, nor any of the usual recording telegraphs but simply by sound. Ten years ago each line had a complete set of apparatus. The receiving register was made with the greatest care, so that the clock work would move with the greatest perfection, and the various appliances had to be arranged in a particular form. The operator put the machinery in motion, and he read from a paper the despatch as it was slowly received. As he read aloud, a copyist near by wrote it down with a pencil, and when finished it was handed to the copying clerk, who wrote it out, put it in an envelope, and dispatched it by a messenger. Expert telegraphists at length dispensed with the copying clerks, and soon after the recording instruments were laid aside.

The first operator who practically received messages by sound was Mr. E. F. Barnes, of New York city. This is now the daily practice of all the leading telegraph stations in America, only the local or interior stations use recording apparatus. Mr. Shaffner states in his work, that some years ago, as president of a telegraph line, he made a rule forbidding the receiving of messages by sound; but since then it has been reversed, and no operator can get employment in a first class station unless he can receive by sound. At the Cincinnati stations alone there is not a single recording instrument; the mysterious agent speaks through the wires; the pen has given place to the tongue of the lightning, and an expert operator can receive 5,000 words per hour. Such is the perfection, and such is the daily practice in American electric telegraphing; and the forty miles of wire between Washington and Baltimore, in 1844, have grown into forty thousand miles in 15 years—an almost miraculous achievement.—*Artisan.*

☞ The best time for painting houses, according to the *Scientific Artisan*, is late in Autumn, or during Winter. Paint then applied will endure twice as long as when applied in early Summer, or in hot weather. In the former case it dries slowly and becomes a very hard surface, like glazing, not easily affected afterward by the weather, or worn off by the beating of storms. But in very hot weather, the oil in the paint soaks into the wood at once, as into a sponge, leaving the lead nearly dry, and nearly ready to crumble off. This last difficulty, however, we should think, might be obviated in a measure, though at increased expense, by first going over the surface with raw oil. By painting in cold weather, one annoyance might certainly be escaped, namely, the collection of small flies on the fresh paint a thing very common in this region in Summer.

☞ Keep tea in a close chest or canister.

GRANT COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

Friend Powers:—*Dear Sir*—Enclosed you will please find $1 00, as pay for the Wisconsin *Farmer* for 1860, which ought to have been paid the first of January last, but through my carelessness, remains unpaid to the present time, and for which I have no palliation to offer; because, on my part it has been from pure neglect; but, however, it is too late to alter the past, but we hope to do better in the future.

We are glad to see the *Farmer*, issued again in its old style, (monthly) we like it much better than in semi-monthly form, but we must say that in any form the *Farmer* has become an institution which we cannot do without in our families.

Harvest is pretty well over around us, and from what we have seen and heard of the wheat crop, we think it is the best that has been gathered for many years. Oats are going to fall far below the expectations of some farmers, from the fact that the growing crop looked very well, but when they came to be handled, the grain, as a general thing, is very small, and consequently will be light.

Grass is almost a total failure, on account of the parching droughts which we have had for so many months.

Corn has been suffering for want of rain, but this morning we have had a most refreshing shower of about six hours' duration, which will help it some; and unless we get an early frost may yet make an average crop.

New wheat is bringing from 90 cents to one dollar per bushel in our markets, which we think ought to satisfy farmers generally at this season of the year.

I remain, very respectfully, yours,

George Broderick.

Hazle-Green, Aug. 2, 1860.

☞ To make paper stick to a wall that has been whitewashed, make a strong brine of salt and water, heat it boiling hot, then take a broom and scrub the wall with it. When dry put the paper on as you would on a new wall, and it will stick quite as well.

Or, wash the walls with vinegar, previous to putting on the paper, and I'll guarantee your paper will stick "closer than a brother."

Indian Sponge Cake.—One quart of fine bolted Indian meal, one cupful of flour, one cupful of sugar, two eggs, one quart of sour milk, and a teaspoonful of saleratus.

From the New England Farmer.

IS THERE ANY PROFIT IN FARMING?

Having read T. J. Pinkham's views under this caption, some months since, in the *Farmer*, I felt inclined to answer; but having worked on a farm for sixty years, my sight imperfect, and my hand somewhat palsied, I wisely left the pleasing task to younger heads and hands. I think the answer has been well given. But as Mr. P. has come out in your last issue with a somewhat clenching rejoinder, and called earnestly for figures, I will endeavor to give some facts which have fallen under my notice.

Sixty-four years ago this present winter, I was born in a small log house, covered with bark, and a hovel of the same materials, and sheltering a cow, our only stock, occupied the exact spot where I sit writing. On this piece of land, consisting of 100 acres of forest, my father, with no capital but a firm constitution and strong nerves, converted this forest into a farm, on which he raised his family of five children, and gave them such an education as the stinted facilities of that time afforded. Forty-two years ago my father sold me this farm for $1000, and personal property considered worth $500, for which I was to pay $750 to my brother and three sisters. With the remainder I was to erect buildings, fence and stock the farm, and provide for my parents, at that time verging on the helplessness of age.

Now I would respectfully ask friend P. if this can be accomplished from tilling the soil, and cultivating this small farm alone? And can it be kept in a good state of cultivation without foreign manures? And if so, is not farming, even on a small scale, at least a living business?

Now for facts! And here let me say that every dollar has been drawn from this one source, *labor on the farm*. In the first place I paid the debts to the heirs, and to my aged parents; have erected buildings, and have added some 30 acres of land. This farm, which is now occupied jointly by myself and son, who is still a young man with a young family, is worth four times its value at the time it came into my hands. For the last twenty years it has paid a small yearly profit; so that we have invested in land, stocks, &c., a sum equal to $5000. This is not an isolated case. I live in a town of small farmers; the present occupants have inherited their farms from their sires, who broke the forests, while some others have, in their younger days, worked for wages until they had obtained a sum equal to the price of a wild lot, of fifty or one hundred acres; while still others have purchased their land on credit. These have made their farms, and many of them are now independent, and have laid by something effective for sickness or old age. I have in my mind an individual who worked with one of my neighbors for $10 a month, some years since; his wife, also, was dependent, for her means of housekeeping, on her weekly earnings, and neither of them had a shilling but the earnings of their own hands. What is now their condition? They have a fine, productive farm, with good, convenient buildings: a stock of cattle and horses that any man might be justly proud of; he has given his three oldest children an academic education, and has recently purchased and paid for another farm.

These are a few out of many encouraging results of farming on a small scale, without capital; without the aid of foreign manures; without the aid of science, except that gained by hard experience. I am aware that farming in the old town of Chelmsford is a different business from what it is in northern Vermont. But I would ask friend P. if he knows how much his town paid for their poor farm, on the old turnpike road, some thirty years since, and how much money it has put in the town treasury, after paying for itself the first eight years; and whether this was the result of the profit of the orchard and wood lot? My own experience, from a long life of toil, with a proper proportion of draw-backs, from frosts, unfruitful seasons, and the multiplicity of ills that attend farming, as well as other callings, teaches me that farming has its proportion of blessings and encouragements, and if a fortune cannot be made as rapidly as by some other calling, still it is a paying business; and though the farmer's progress is slow, it is sure. "I have been young, but now am old, yet have I not seen the *industrious, prudent, temperate farmer* forsaken, or his seed begging bread."

J. MUDGETT.

Cambridge, Vt., Dec. 17, 1859.

A SANGAMON COUNTY FARM.—There is a farm of 3,000 acres twelve miles east of Springfield, which, for its productiveness this season will, we think, compare favorably with any farm in the State. This farm belongs to Mr. Hamilton, of Kentucky, and is divided as follows: 1,400 acres Wheat, 400 acres Rye, 1,200 acres Corn. The wheat field was entered last week and in a few days more the entire crop will be in market. Seven headers are at work with threshers to match, producing a very lively spectacle, and suggesting visions of a goodly number of dollars placed to the credit of the lucky owner. We understand that 20,000 bushels have already been sold to a Chicago house at $1 25 per bushel, to be delivered immediately in that city. This is equal to $1 08 on the farm. Such a crop as this is worth raising, and we are glad to say in this connection, that the wheat crop of old Sangamon is turning out well—much better than was anticipated. Good by to dull times and empty purses, as soon as the fall trade begins.—*Springfield Journal.*

☞ Cranberries will keep all winter in a firkin of water, in the cellar.

STOCK REGISTER.

SHEEP, WOOL, &c.

Eds. Wisconsin Farmer—Sirs:—The Aug. number has just arrived, and I have been looking at the article entitled "Two conclusive reasons why Farmers ought to keep Sheep." I fully endorse the ideas there advanced. As to the first reason, I know that sheep do pay, by experience. I will give you a short account of what my flock have done this year:—I clipt 165 sheep, from which I took 1049 lbs. of wool, which you will see is an average of 6 lbs. 6 oz. per head. 100 fleeces weighed weighed 717 lbs., all clean washed wool. I sold it at the first offer for 46 cents; could have taken 50 cents in one week after I sold. I raised 65 lambs, for which I could take $5 per head—which, by the way, is less than half what I would be willing to sell the whole lot for. I consider young ewes, that will average 7 lbs. clean washed wool—I mean pure blood Spanish, (which, by the way, are very scarce in this State,)—worth $25 per head, and have yet to learn that they can be bought for less than that even in Vermont. I would not advise any man starting a flock to purchase many such sheep, but would say buy the best grades, and be sure and use a full blood buck. As to the second reason given in your article, I know of nothing but sheep that will save our prairies from impoverishment; sheep, if rightly managed, will do it. Let every man who has 160 acres, stock down at least one-third, and, in many cases, one-half would be better, and put on the sheep; he will soon see that, while he is making it pay, he is enriching, instead of wearing out his farm. But I will close, and shall be satisfied if I may induce some one to seed down another ten acres.

Yours respectfully,

R. F. Graves.

Randolph, Columbia Co., Aug. 6.

Great Yield of Wool.—Mr. Kidder, of Dodge county, this season, sheared from two merino bucks 27½ pounds of Wool. From two bucks and seven ewes, 91½ pounds, an average of over ten pounds per head. Mr. Kidder has a flock of 28 sheep, from the whole flock he sheared 219 pounds of wool, and has 26 fine lambs. Minnesota is destined to be as fine a sheep growing and wool raising State as there is in the Union.—*St. Paul Democrat.*

☞ At Alexander's annual sale of Short Horned cattle in Ky., recently, bulls sold at from $50 to $360, cows and heifers $70 to $295.

CALIFORNIA WOOL IN THE EAST.

The importance of Wool culture to the State of California can scarcely be estimated, and anything in reference thereto, calculated to advance it, cannot but be regarded with deep interest. It was formerly a decided objection to our wool in Eastern markets, that it was not sufficiently well assorted and classified when offered for sale. This objection, we are happy to observe, is disappearing. On this subject an intelligent correspondent, writing to us from Westford, Massachusetts, under the date of March 18th, 1860, (and who, by the way, informs us privately, that 50,000 pounds of wool such as he recommends the culture of, are used by the mills of his locality weekly,) offers the following remarks:

As a New England manufacturer, I feel much interest in the production of wool in California, as we look to that State and Texas as the sections whence our increased demands for that article are, eventually, to be supplied. California wool is well adapted to the manufacture of carpets, blankets, and flannels. I have been using more or less California wool for seven years, and prefer it for many purposes to any other I can find.

When I first commenced using it, I found coarse and fine mixed together, and was obliged to buy forty per cent of wool that I could not use, and had to sell again. For the past two years the wool has been graded, and the bags come marked in such a manner that manufacturers know the quality of wool they contain; buy it with confidence, and pay the full value of it.

While starting so extensive a branch of trade, it is very important that each grade of wool should have a mark for itself, and the manufacturers will then supply their wants knowingly. Whereas, if the wool comes marked to suit the fancy of the shipper, the buyer will take the benefit of any uncertainty, and the transaction, though favorable to the buyer, is not satisfactory to either party.

The grading and marking of wool I would strongly urge upon your wool dealers and shippers.

I purchased a lot of California wool a short time ago, marked in a manner with which I was unacquainted. It was carelessly graded, and I, for my own safety, based the price offered for it on the coarsest part of the wool.—I am now using it, and find one-third of it finer than was wanted for the grade of goods intended to be made from it. Though a gainer in this transaction, it is much better for the manufacturer, in the long run, to supply himself with stock he is acquainted with.

I would respectfully make a few suggestions to wool growers. The low grades of California wool have dead hairs in them, which will not color. The dead hairs are an indication of the sheep being run out and diseased. Recently the wool received is much improved

in this respect, and shows more care in its cultivation.

The grade of wool I would recommend farmers to raise, as being most saleable and profitable, is that adapted to delaine manufacture. This branch of trade has reached great perfection in Massachusetts, and the supply of wool for this purpose falls very much short of the demand. The Pacific Mills at Lawrence have imported Southdown wool from England, within the past few months, as our domestic production of this grade is insufficient.

A cross between the Southdown and the native breed is exactly what is needed. Farmers will find that the weight of fleece, and price obtained therefor, will result more to their advantage than from any other breed. Southdown sheep are apt to have a tendency to black fleeces. Black wool is not so valuable as white for delaine purposes, nor, indeed, for any branch of manufacture: therefore, care should be taken in the selection of Southdown bucks, and see that they come from white flocks for two or three generations back. It is not by any means uncommon to have black lambs come from white sheep of the Southdown breed.

Woolen manufacturers in this section are doing a prosperous business, and all the mills are in full operation. Flannels and fancy cassimeres have proved very profitable to the manufacturer, for the past two years. The flannel manufacture is extending itself more than any other branch of woolen goods, at present.

WATER IN PASTURE FIELDS.

Mr. Editor:—It is not always possible (except at great expense) to supply every pasture field on a farm with fresh water, and yet, when it can be done (with even more than what would appear a justifiable outlay), a farmer should scarcely hesitate about doing it. The present hot weather is so suggestive of the subject, that a reason or two why cattle should at all times be supplied with pure, fresh water, may not be inappropriate.

First. It is demanded on the score of humanity. I care not what others may say in opposition, a single fact will overthrow a dozen of their theories. In their native, or wild state animals are supplied by the Almighty with a bountiful supply of pure water. Where ever we find a scarcity of water (as in the Eastern deserts), we find also that the animals which inhabit those deserts (the camel, for instance) are so organized as to be able to do without it for a considerable period without inconvenience. The animals of the farm, however, are not of this class. They cannot do without water for more than a few hours without suffering, and for this very sufficient reason, they should have it at all times convenient to them. The same wise Being who supplies water so abundantly, has implanted in animals an instinct which teaches them to partake of the refreshing fluid in precisely such quantities and at such times as are adapted to their wants. For this reason we never hear of a foundered wild horse, or of a buffalo injured by excessive drinking of water.

Cattle in an enclosure in which there is no water, may, and doubtless frequently do, suffer intense agony from excessive thirst, but can give no expression to their sufferings.—Who is prepared to estimate the amount of torture to which the poor, patient brutes are subjected? As an evidence of it, mark the eagerness with which, at the close of a hot, dry summer day, they hasten to the water as soon as liberated from the pasture field. A cow or a horse requires water fully as frequently as a man, and yet what man would be able to remain a whole day in pasture field, exposed to the fierce rays of a July or August sun, *without a drop of water*? It may be urged that the succulency of the pasture supplies the necessary moisture. In the earlier parts of the season perhaps it does, to a considerable extent, but not in July or August, for then the juices of the grasses are most wholly dried up. Upon the grounds of humanity, then, if upon no other, cattle should, if possible, be supplied with water at all times in the field; and where this is not practicable, they should be driven to the water trough, or stream, at midday at least.

Again, a plentiful supply of pure, fresh water, is essential to the health of animals. I need not attempt to prove this by any labored argument. Stagnant water is unfit for man or beast, and doubtless very many of the diseases to which cattle are subject, are justly attributable to the want of a generous supply of that which is fresh and pure.

Water tanks and pools in pasture fields are desirable wherever practicable. They are not only grateful places of resort to the cattle, but they exercise a most wholesome effect upon the feet, allaying fever, washing off impure and irritating substances, and thereby unquestionably preventing many cases of that troublesome disease known as foot-sore. In the construction of a pool, considerable circumspection is required. Many that I have seen are mere mud puddles, and as such, are little better than none. A properly constructed pool should have a depth of at least twelve inches; there should, if possible, be a steady stream flowing through it, and the bottom should be covered several inches in thickness with clean, rough sand or gravel, in order that the water, when the cattle are standing in it, may be kept pure and sweet.

Having experienced the very best results from keeping my premises supplied with an abundance of water, I will sum up this brief argument by saying that humanity not only demands it, but it is sanctioned by the broadest principles of economy. J. T. W.

Cumberland Co., Pa.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

ANTI-DOG LAW MEETING.

The *Waupaca Spirit* publishes the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of the town of Dayton, Waupaca county, held in said town, on the ninth day of June, 1860, for the purpose of considering the merits and demerits of the present Dog Law. W. C. Carr was called to the chair, and E. C. Packard was chosen secretary.

The following preamble and resolutions were presented and severally discussed and passed said meeting by an almost unanimous vote:

WHEREAS: The execution of the provisions of the New Dog Law, passed by our last legislature, has a tendency to create ill-feeling and animosity between hitherto friends and neighbors, and in our opinion is oppressive and uncalled for, therefore

Resolved, That as good citizens of the town of Dayton, we believe that the New Dog Law, passed by our last legislature, in its present form, is unconstitutional, and unnecessarily oppressive, and that the provisions thereof should not be enforced.

Resolved, That our town officers be requested to return the money to every person who has paid for a Dog License, and also to pay all expenses which have accrued in suits commenced in said town, and also to pay such other reasonable expenses as have otherwise accrued under their direction in carrying out the provisions of said Law to the present time, out of the funds of the town, and to stay any further proceedings under said law.

Resolved, That our town officers be exonerated from any censure for their course under said law to the present time; provided they cease from any further proceedings; if not, we will hold them responsible for whatever consequences may result from further proceedings.

Resolved, That we will make no further complaint against any officers for not enforcing and carrying out the provisions of said law, by voting for a tax at our next town meeting, sufficient to defray all such expenses.

Resolved, That any person making complaint against any officer, whose duty it is to execute the provisions of said law, for not complying therewith, shall receive our unqualified disapprobation, and shall not receive our vote for any office of honor, trust or profit.

Resolved, That we will support no man for member of our next legislature who will not pledge himself to use his influence, and vote, for the repeal or an essential modification of said Dog Law.

STOCK.—"A merciful man is merciful to his beast." All who have the charge of animals should recollect this. Show mercy to the poor brutes. Don't beat, whip, overdrive or misuse them.

☞ Raise a variety of stock as well as grain.

THE WOOL SEASON OF 1860.

The past ten days have formed an important period in the commercial history of our State for the current year. In that short space of time upwards of one million dollars eastern capital has been actually paid out to our farmers for their wool clip—an amount of wealth calculated, in the present impoverished state of our money market, to work an untold influence for our commercial prosperity. The clip has been a heavy one, and it has brought fair prices. The season is considered to be about three-fourths over. It has been characterized so far as this State is concerned, by more determined competition than has ever before been known. As announced in our commercial columns at the commencement, prices were expected to have ruled five cents below last years rates. This expectation was based upon the difficulty of selling old wool this spring at a reasonable advance on its cost last season, together with the unbettered prospects of the market for manufactured goods.

The feeling was general that the best wools should be taken at a price not to exceed forty cents. As the season fairly opened, a larger number than usual of heavy manufacturers and dealers entered the market. Those who had hitherto purchased in this field conceived that there was an attempt to drive them out, and they exerted themselves to the utmost to maintain possession of the territory, where year after year they had obtained their supplies.—Wool growers have found, by the experience of the two past seasons, that by holding back they could command their own prices, adopted this course. Thus the market opened slowly. There were rumors of the ability of purchasers to pay last year's rates, but as yet they remained firm in their determination to buy for less.

In a small way competition had already commenced, and as high as forty-six cents had been paid at few places, when, on Monday, the 18th inst., the ball fairly opened by a certain heavy manufacturing company giving their agents *carte blanche* to purchase at current prices, whatever they might be. Others, of course, had to do the same, and a general advance was the result. Forty-five and forty-six cents now became the common offering prices, with forty-seven and forty-eight cents, and in some of the principal battle-fields of competition, even fifty cents was not unfrequently paid for choice lots. Thus the market opened and at these rates the bulk of the clip of 1860 has been sold. The same prices still prevail, but the trade has assumed a quieter phase, which will continue with little variation till another clip comes in.—*Detroit Advertiser, June 27th.*

☞ Lard should be hard and white; and that which is taken from a hog over a year old is the best.

HORTICULTURAL.

APPLES;—HOW TO GROW THEM IN WISCONSIN.

We notice a fine show of apples in several sections of the State in which we have traveled, especially about Whitewater; many orchards are bearing quite bountifully. That those who persevere in planting the hardier kinds of fruit, and in taking good care of them will, at no distant day, realize a good return for their labor and pains, we have no doubt.

Only short sighted people, who get discouraged at a single disappointment, or with a single effort, will give up orchard planting.—Nine-tenths of all who have had no success, may trace it directly to a want of knowledge of what varieties of trees to plant, or of what care to take of them afterward. We occasionally see attempts made to grow orchards upon low, flat, rich lands; but in no case with anything like success; such cases will show an unhealhty growth at best, and early death out. Well drained rolling lands are much the best adapted to the purpose; and if considerable rough and elevated, and the orchard upon the bleak side, at that, all the better.

But, above all things, select only those varieties that are approved as hardy in this climate; there are plenty of apple trees peddled through the country that are as unsuited to our climate, as are orange and lemon trees; we might just as well buy the one as the other. Buy hardy varieties, plant on suitable soil, and if and die, replace them the first opportunity, with new ones; keep doing so, and labor and wait with patience, and our word for it, you will have a bearing orchard in what will seem but a little time. We will venture the opinion that the show of apples, and, may be, pears, at the State Fair this fall, will be vastly encouraging, and lead many who have been too careless or skeptical to grow orchards, to wish they had tried it more faithfully. Wisconsin will learn to grow plenty of good apples yet, for home use and for exportation; if she does not, it will be the fault of her too easily discouraged people. Did she abandon wheat growing ten or fifteen years ago, when the hedgerow failed? Should she abandon apple-growing, because the first edition of trees sold through the State were only a small portion of them adapted to the soil or climate? We think not. Learn what our circumstances need, and persevere; that is the road to success.

SPARE THAT TREE.

The following from the *Saturday Evening Post* isn't bad for this latitude:

"Horseman, spare that tree!
'Tis not a hitching post;
Though in its infancy,
It soon will shade a host.

Then spare, oh spare that tree,
For he who placed it there
Meant not that it should be
By beast of thine gnawed bare."

CORRECTIONS.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your issue of August, in my article "Work in and out of the Nursery," you make me say, commencing with the seventh line from bottom of first column, "after preparing your scabras, &c. It would make more sense to have it as intended, viz: "after the first single purchase of your *spireas*, &c. In the second line from the top of last column make the *n* in "noat" an *h*; and in the fourth line "loosening" should be "losing." Yours, &c., W.

A POMOLOGICAL VISIT.

Last week we stepped out of the dusty, noisy and crowded streets of our metropolitan village and made a foray upon the more attractive premises of Mr. A. G. Tuttle, situated about three-quarters of a mile northeast of this commercial emporium. Although we had previously judged of his orchard by its fruits, we were not a little disappointed at the improvements and forwardness of his young and thrifty trees. About eight years ago, Mr. T. commenced setting them out, and has now three hundred in fine condition, very many of which by his skillful attention are now bearing apples in surprising numbers and perfection.—One of the chief means of cultivation has been to give the roots plenty of air, an advantage effectually accomplished, (like the killing of two birds with one stone,) by the cultivation of root crops on the orchard plat.

Mr. Tuttle has a nursery of about 5,000 trees, being, as he assures us, only of varieties which are hardy and worthy of cultivation in this latitude. How any one can patronize itinerant pedlars of doubtful seedlings, when there are trustworthy home nurseries in the immediate vicinity, is to us a matter of infinite astonishment. As an offset to the dollar or two sometimes saved by experimenting with the imported article, the economical owners, after a hopeful and toilsome expectancy of eight or ten years, are often, nay, generally egregiously and dearly disappointed. Those who are contemplating, as all should be, the setting out of fruit trees next spring, should, by all means, visit this orcard during the six or eight weeks to come, and if they do not go to Mr. T. for

their trees next spring, it will be because they have decided to obtain them at some other home nursery, and *not* of traveling vendors.—*Baraboo Republic.*

GRAPE CULTURE.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—A short time since you handed me, for examination, a book entitled "Bright's Single Stem, Dwarf, and Renewal System of Grape Culture; Adapted to Vineyards, Arbors, &c. By William Bright, Philadelphia." It has been read with much interest, as things novel usually are. Mr. Bright has taken a step out of the usual beaten track, and has a system and way of doing things quite his own.

The "Dwarf and Renewal System" is a method of fruiting the vine on a single short cane, with very short lateral branches. He grows a cane from the ground the first season upon all his vines; at the fall pruning he cuts every other one within two eyes of the ground; those not cut back are fruited the second season, when they in turn are cut down; and so the renewal goes on from year to year.

The general feature looks well, and remains to be tried. I shall plant a quantity next spring with the "Dwarf and Renewal System" in view.

The work will well repay a perusal by all fruit growers; for, aside from its "grape talk," there are many practical "hints" to the ready gatherer, which will apply with much force in the garden and orchard culture of fruit trees. The chapter upon "shallow planting," in the appendix, is worth many times the price of the book to those commencing orchards in Wisconsin. And the ideas of mulching in Summer are rich in facts and suggestions well worth trying. He uses the Southern field pea, which "has a stalk almost as large and firm as that of a tomatoe," and in ninety days "produces as much shade and mulching material as an acre of good clover;" so says Mr. Grape Book. Why may not this same kind of pea be sown early about each apple, pear, and cherry tree? thus producing a thorough mulch and shade through summers, and easily decaying, an excellent surface manure. Many extracts might be made, showing its adaptability and usefulness; but we trust it will be well disseminated through the State, and help to give an impetus to the culture of the grape, upon some of the thousands of acres in the State so well adapted to its growth.

Yours truly, O. S. WILLEY.

'76 Nurseries, Madison, Wis.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE WISCONSIN FRUIT GROWER'S ASSOCIATION.

"By their fruits ye shall know them."

MESSRS. EDITORS:—With the issue of the present number of your paper comes the month of Fairs, (though not always the most *fair*) in which the products of all mankind are brought side by side, to vie with one another's excellence; this is well; it arouses the active energies of us all to do better, raise more, compare notes, get new ideas, or, at least more of them, and to go home the wiser, if not the richer. This has been the aim of the above named Fruit Association, which has been in existence for the past seven years, to disseminate facts, and *no* theories, in fruit growing. To a great degree the object has been nobly met and responded to by the tree planters in the State. And not to this State alone are its benefits confined, but to the whole Northwest, of which our State is part and parcel, of a fickle climate.

The Association has frequently gathered the products of the orchard together, and had "shows" which would have been an honor to older States and Associations than this; but in its infancy it has *not* done what it is *now* capable of doing, and *should* do to sustain its reputation. Full preparations are being made by the officers who have it in charge, for a "good time coming." Ample table room for the exhibition of fruits and flowers will be provided, so that none need keep or leave their "specimens" at home, through fear of their not being seen. The premium list requires that the fruits be named, which is a step in the right way of letting the world know what they can grow. Still this need not detract from the general interest of those who have purchased trees indiscriminately, and lost the names. Many excellent varieties are under cultivation obtained in this way, and which are succeeding admirably in this State. To give them their proper nomenclature is one of the principal objects of the Association; so that all fruits not named will be, to the best of the ability of the judges, and committees on nomenclature in attendance.

A full list of the varieties presented for exhibition will be preserved and published. The

State now shows the heaviest crop of fruit that has been grown since '56. To gather these together from all parts of the State, and spread them before the thousands who will there witness them, will form no small feature of the State Fair, and if it is not the *most attractive feature*, more than one will be mistaken.

We would earnestly urge all who can not be present to send specimens (three of each) to the Secretary, who will see that they are well arranged, and afterwards disposed of as the exhibitor may direct.

O. S. WILLEY,
Secretary of Wisconsin Fruit Growers Association.

NOTE.—Packages of Fruit from Fond du Lac, and counties adjoining, can be sent to Sun Prairie the week previous, from which place they will be received by the Secretary.

☞ The Ithaca (N. Y.) *Journal* states that in that vicinity the trees are actually breaking down with the abundance of peaches upon them.

BERRIES.—From people who profess to be posted in regard to the matter, we are informed that the cranberry crop will be extraordinarily prolific this season, unless some unlooked for circumstance should intervene to prevent it. Last year over $10,000 were invested in cranberries, and this fall twice that amount will be left here, if the crop proves as good as anticipated.

The yield of blackberries this season promises to be large, and in the course of three or four weeks our market will undoubtedly be full of this delicious and wholesome fruit.—*Taylor Falls Republican.*

☞ The New Lisbon *Republican* says that the prospect for a large crop of Cranberries is unusually good, and that several capitalists from the Eastern cities are looking around for places to buy.

AN ESTIMATE.—Parties well acquainted with the subject, estimate that the farmers of Juneau county will, this year, have for sale 250,000 bushels of wheat. We have never before raised enough for our own population.—*Mauston Star.*

PROFITS OF FARMING.—We have just learned that the result attained from threshing the wheat grown upon 450 square rods, upon the farm of H. J. Van Kuren, in Empire, was 100 bushels round measure, which is about 36 bushels to the acre. He has sold a portion for 85 cents per bushel. One year ago he purchased the land upon which it grew for $8 per acre. The crop more than pays for the land and the labor and seed expended to raise it.—*Fond du Lac Commonwealth.*

MECHANICAL.

KIRBY'S REAPER AND CLIMAX CUTTER—Testimony of a First Class Farmer, both for the Machines and for Cutting Feed.

D. J. POWERS, ESQ.—*Dear Sir:*—F. E. Shandrew, the gentlemanly agent at Watertown, for selling Kirby's American Harvester, put one of them up for me, and as it works entirely to my satisfaction, I am prepared to give you my opinion (as you requested) of its merits. I think, as a mower, it cannot be beaten; it mows clean and handsome; the contrivance for separating the cut from the uncut grass, is admirable—it leaves a little path for the off horse to travel in, which he soon learns to follow, and is just the place for him to go to cut the full width of the knives, and no more. It works well in the harvest field; there is no need of whipping up the team to get motion enough to cut the grain.

The draught is light—a pair of horses can work it as easily as to haul a plow or drag, and its machinery is so simple, and it is built so strong, there is very little danger of its getting out of order. Upon the whole we think it is the best combined reaper and mower we have seen.

As I am writing I must tell you how much I was pleased with the Climax Straw Cutter I purchased of you last fall. It is one of those machines that goes right along without any tinkering. I attached a horse power to it, and cut all the cornstalks that grew on eleven acres of land, some hay, and straw, and oats in the bundle; we could cut sixty large sheaves of oats in thirty minutes.

I expected, last fall, I should hardly have fodder to get my stock through the winter; this induced me to try the experiment of cutting feed for my cattle, which has proved very satisfactory. I sold about eighty dollars worth of hay last spring. I do not know that the machine saved me that much, but I am certain that it paid for itself. For cutting hay and loose straw it would be quite an improvement to have the feed draw in faster. If you could remedy this defect I think your machine would be just about right.

I have been aware for several years that all farm stock does much better by often changing their food; they get tired of one kind, if constantly fed on it, even if it is of the best quality; we can judge by our own appetite—plum pudding is very good eating, but there is

no man that would live entirely on plum pudding; so, corn meal is good feed for oxen, but if fed on that, and nothing else, they would soon die out. This is one great advantage in cutting cornstalks, straw, &c., they can be mixed together with a little bran or meal, and make something that is palatable, something that cattle like and will thrive on. Last winter I stabled and fed, on cut feed, twenty-three head of cattle and horses. I never wintered my stock before so much to my satisfaction. By having everything convenient it did not add so very much to the labor of tending them; they could be fed just at the right time, and just the quantity needed, and there was no fodder wasted. I fattened one yoke of oxen, and noble fellows they were, too; every one that saw them pronounced them the fattest cattle that they had seen. I have no doubt but they were the best oxen that were driven out of Jefferson county, last spring; their live weight, after driving them ten miles, was over 1900 pounds each. They were fed each day, in addition to the cut stuff, to the two about twenty-four quarts of corn and cob meal, ground together; when the weather was not too cold we usually mixed it up over night.—When *Joe* went out to take care of them in the morning, they would roll up the whites of their eyes, and say, as plainly as oxen could say:—"I will thank you for a large shovelfull of that feed!" which they always got, and never refused to eat up.

With great respect, I am yours, &c.,

M. R. CLAPP.

Milford, Wis., July 23, 1860.

REMARKS.—Since our last issue we, too, have seen the Kirby Reaper in the wheat field, and have also been much pleased with its working; it is so compact, and neat, and the draught is so easy, that it can hardly fail to operate first rate in almost any hands. It is evidently a little too narrow cut for the West, six inches more would be just the thing for a two horse machine. Its iron frame will not rot or break with good usage. We understand that over one hundred of them have been going in the State this season, so that many others will have an opportunity of forming their own opinions of them.

Mr. Clapp is one of the best farmers in the State, and does not express an opinion without due consideration; his ideas about feed are eminently sound, and every farmer who would do things right, should consider them. Good farming cannot be done without an ample stock to sustain the soil; and an ample stock cannot be well or profitably sustained upon our upland farms without economical and judicious feeding. The sooner that many of our farmers heed these suggestions the better; no mistake about it.

Mr. C.'s suggestions about the feeding of the Climax Cutter, when driven by horse power, have all been anticipated by the manufacturers for the coming season, together with some other minor defects of last season. So that we have every reason to believe they will give the most perfect satisfaction to all buyers hereafter.

We should like more sound and practical observations from such farmers as Mr. Clapp, of Jefferson county, for monthly publication; they would be read with profit by all.—ED. FAR.

WHAT ALL GOOD FARMERS NEED AND MUST HAVE.

EDS. FARMER:—In this age of sharp competition and small profit in farming, those who would make their labor pay, must study the closest economy in all things, and, especially, in the mode and manner of performing their various kinds of labor. The productions of the farmer have been nearly, if not quite, doubled within the last twenty years, through the instrumentality of labor-saving machinery. Still, in our opinion, improvement and progress in that direction is not, by any means, exhausted, but, probably, only just begun. But to my subject:

A GOOD, STRONG, CHEAP HORSE-POWER,

That can be operated any where with from one to four horses, *not a tread, horse-killer*, but an easy, simple, sweep motion, that will drive a light thresher to do from one to two hundred bushels of threshing per day; or a light feed mill to grind the same amount of of any coarse provender; or a power straw cutter, to cut for a big stock a week, in half a day; or a corn sheller to shell and bag its 100 bushels in half a day; or a wood saw to cut up the whole pile in a short time; or to drive a pump to raise any amount of water when needed in dry weather; or to drive a circular saw to split boards, &c.; or to raise stone, brick, mortar, &c., when building; or anything else that may occur where power is needed.

Yes, Mr. Editor, every good farmer who is doing much, wants such a horse-power, and most, or all of the subordinate machinery we have mentioned. Not on a large scale, but snug and compact for his own daily and hourly use. But some one is ready to exclaim by this time, "How much would so much machinery cost?" In reply, we would say, not a large sum, if gotten up properly and sold at a fair profit. From $50 to $60 for such a horse-power, would be plenty; $40 for the thresher, with merely a straw separator; $40 to $50 for a good power feed mill; $30 to $40 for a first class feed and root cutter and corn sheller combined; $25 for a wood saw, and the same for a pump and fixtures. Now, how much does all this amount to:—60—40—50—40—25—25=$240 capital invested, interest wear and repair, say 33 per cent, $80. What ordinary farmer could not save this amount, or even twice or thrice it, or the whole cost of it annually, if properly applied in doing his work? "I pause for a reply."

But to make our assertions in part good, let us figure a little; say 1500 bushels of grain to thresh at a cost of at least 8 cents per bushel, saying nothing about waste which is undoubtedly two cents more with the large out of door operations, but say eight, which is $120. Now with the farmer's machine, three men, and a boy to drive horses, will with the farmer's two *regular* horses, thresh 150 bushels per day, all snug and almost without waste, at an actual expense to the farmer of not over two cents a bushel, as he has little extra help or team to hire; but, for safety's sake, say three cents a bushel, which is $45. Showing a saving upon this one item of nearly two hundred per cent, or $75 altogether.

Next, let us figure on *feed grinding*. Suppose a farmer to feed altogether, 1000 bushels of coarse grain, corn included; we will suppose it to take him just the same amount of time and team work to take it to mill, as to grind it at home, with his own mill; in which case he merely saves the toll, which under our law is an eighth, and, in practice, more frequently a sixth, particularly when corn is *cracked* and ground, say a seventh, as an average; a seventh of 1000 bushels is 143 bushels, all ground, for which you must add a toll of one seventh, which is 20 bushels; this to the 143, makes 163 bushels, saved in toll, on the 1000, even when millers are honest. How much more it may often be we will not even guess. But the 163, at 40 cents a bushel, is $65 20, a pretty sum, to be sure; and to this may usually be added as much more, from the fact and benefit of having feed ground, which, in whole or in part, is very apt to be omitted, when the mill is a little remote, or the farmer careless.

Next, for the economy of cutting feed; the advantage in this case cannot, of course, be so definitely shown; but the united testimony of all good feeders experienced in the matter, is, that when the meal feed is ground and mixed with it, it is an economy of at least one-fourth in absolute increase of nutriment; while the extra condition of the stock, and the manure, more than pays for all extra labor and trouble. Suppose the farmer feeds altogether $400 worth of fodder, and he ought to feed twice that, he makes a saving of $100. Say nothing about shelling corn, as it was reckoned in feed grinding; but reckon for a saving of 25 per cent in wood cutting and pumping, and the whole is as follows, $265 20. Now, who will say we have over estimated? and if we have not, who will doubt the great economy, as well as comfort and convenience, in having this set of machinery, or all of it that one's circumstances and business call for?

LABOR-SAVING MACHINERY,

Is the great economy of the age, especially for the farmer; and, in conclusion, we repeat, that a cheap and good every-day farm horse-power, that can readily be removed from place to place, and applied to all sorts of work, is the desideratum of the age; thousands of them are, and will be constantly wanted. Where can they be got, Mr. Editor? Can you tell us?

A Walworth County Farmer.

Remarks.—We concur exactly in what our correspondent says of the importance of a cheap and handy Farmer Horse-Power. Every farmer who keeps a team should have one ready to hitch on to, at all times, for this and that; many of the operations mentioned can be done at a vast saving, beyond a doubt, by hitching on the horses, instead of going to work by hand.

We fully believe in the economy of farmers doing their own threshing, with small machines—in that way they can do it for almost nothing, in the way of out expense, and save in every way. The same with feed grinding, feed cutting, wood cutting, corn shelling, pumping, &c., &c.

We cannot tell our correspondent just where all this machinery can be found, but doubt not that more or less of it will be on exhibition at the State Fair. We know of parties that are getting up a farm horse-power that they say is just the thing. Also, several other of the machines spoken of, which they intend exhibiting at the Fair. Every farmer who wants machinery should attend the State Fair, just on that account, if for no other.—Ed. Far.

DRILLING IN SEED.

We understand that the above system of putting in grain, and especially wheat, has been much more extensively practised the past season, than ever before in this State; and that it meets with almost universal favor, especially among all good farmers. It is claimed to save from one-fourth to one-third of the seed invariably; and, further, to be much more likely to grow early, particularly if the season is dry. The drilled wheat last spring came up and grew right along, while the broadcast sowed made little or no progress until the rains came, by which time much of it was picked up by the birds and other depredators. The reason why drilled wheat did so much the best was, because it was put in at a uniform depth, and deep enough to be kept permanently moist, while much of the surface-sowed was covered so shallow as to get little or no moisture; hence it did not vegetate.

We know of no good objection whatever that can be urged against drill-sowing, while, on the other hand, the economy and safety of it certainly highly commends it to the consideration of all. We know that some object because, they say, the ground must be in such good order; but we know of no good reason why all old ground that is clear of stumps and stones, should not be in equally good order for broadcast sowing or drilling.

The cost of drills, we presume, is about the greatest reason why they are not more used, but if they will save fifty cents worth of seed to the acre, they certainly will soon pay for themselves; besides the important fact that in putting in with a drill, your work is constantly and regularly finished as far and fast as you go. We hope our farmers will interest themselves in this matter, and fully debate it at their farmers' clubs, and elsewhere; and if they find drilling to be both economical and superior to broadcasting, that they will ere long adopt it, and thereby probably save some hundreds of thousands per annum to the State and to themselves.

HOME CIRCLE.

EDITED BY MRS E. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

THE GREENWOOD.

Oh! when 'tis summer weather,
And the yellow bee, with fairy sound,
The waters clear is humming round,
And the cuckoo sings unseen,
And the leaves are waving green—
Oh! then 'tis sweet,
In some retreat,
To hear the murmuring dove,
With those whom on earth alone we love,
And to wind through the greenwood together.

But when 'tis winter weather,
And crosses grieve,
And friends deceive,
And rain and sleet
The lattice beat,—
Oh! then 'tis sweet
To sit and sing
Of those with whom, in the days of spring,
We roamed through the greenwood together.

—*Boucles, in Household Poetry.*

CAUSES AND TREATMENT OF SUMMER COMPLAINT.

BY C. H. CLEVELAND, M. D.

[The following extracts from an article recently published in the *Ohio Valley Farmer*, and fresh from the pen of Prof. Cleveland, of Cincinnati, is transferred to the Home Circle, because we believe it will be more valuable to our readers than anything that could take its place. A personal and professional acquaintance with the writer gives us the fullest confidence in the practical value of his teachings; and a general understanding that this is to be an unusually bad season for just such diseases as are here treated of, suggest the wisdom of a timely observance of both preventions and cures as herein detailed.]

Much is said, at this season of the year, in regard to the causes and the cure of summer complaints; and many cases of derangement of the bowels, produced by improper and undigested food, by the magic influence of fear, are changed, in the opinion of patient and friends, into attacks of genuine Asiatic cholera.

The genius of the plague, when charged with having destroyed an hundred thousand lives, indignantly replied that he "had taken the lives of but ten thousand—fear had killed the remainder." Such, doubtless, also, is the fact in modern times. Many instances have come to my knowledge, where a slight derangement, through the depressing influence of fear, has been increased until the patient has, in imagination, encountered all the dangers of cholera; and yet nearly all the treatment required was

a persistent horizontal position, and the hopeful assurance that the case was unattended by danger.

Often people suffer severely from adopting a diet they are not accustomed to, and especially excluding the most wholesome of all articles for the hot season—well ripened and sound fruits. Fruits, fully ripened and undecayed, taken at meal times, and in moderate quantities, not only do not *produce* summer complaints, but do much to *prevent* them. But if a person has already taken a full supply of other food, and, in addition, overloads his stomach with fruit, or takes fruit between meals, or has eaten that which is unripe, or has commenced to decay, he need not be astonished if he finds his digestion imperfect and the alimentary canal diseased.

With all possible care, but more frequently from a culpable want of care, derangement of the bowels may occur, and then the sufferer needs advice.

* * * * * * * *

Keep everything about your premises clean, dry, and well ventilated. Remove at night all clothing worn during the day—*never* lie down with any clothing on which is wet with perspiration. Bathe the whole body once or twice a day, frequently adding common salt to the water used. And when there is an attack of summer complaint put a compress of several thicknesses of cloth, wet with cool water, over the bowels, in which salt has been dissolved. Lie down quietly, eating and drinking but very little; and if these simple means do not effect a cure, send at once for a physician, whom you know to be well deserving of your confidence, and then implicitly follow his directions.

In considering the treatment of the various maladies known under the general name of summer complaints, it will be necessary to divide them into several classes, according to their causes and nature.

Diarrhea, which is, perhaps, the most common and least formidable of the diseases of the alimentary canal, is usually caused by the patient having taken into the stomach food either in too large quantities, or of such a nature as cannot be readily digested.

Even the more wholesome and ripe fruits and fresh vegetables will produce diarrhea, when taken in too large quantities, and between meals. Sometimes these articles are not simply undigested, but undergo putrefactive decomposition in the bowels. When this is the case they are apt to cause great distress and, oftentimes, inflammation of the intestines, which sometimes leads to dysentery or even cholera.

Simple, uncomplicated diarrhea can usually be cured—by first using a gentle purgative so as to remove from the alimentary canal all the undigested offending matter—keeping the patient quiet—and bathing the whole surface of the body with pure water, or that in which there is a little saleratus or common salt, or some whisky, so as to remove the excess of heat from the body and not any of the electricity from the system. Should there be much heat, bloating or tenderness of the abdomen, apply a wet bandage around the body, continuing it, renewing it, or repeating it, as the case demands. When the food ferments, or sours in the stomach or bowels, combine some super-carbonate of soda, and frequently, some kind of spice and rhubarb. This, of course, is to be taken inwardly. The reason for using the soda is to neutralize the acid which the fermentation has generated and to counteract any inflammation which it may have produced; and the spice agents are added to prevent any farther decomposition; the same as spices are used to preserve meats from injury, or, as they were employed by the ancient Egyptians to preserve their mummies.

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FOOD FOR THE SICK.

During the active stages of diarrhea and dysentery, but little food will be taken, and what little is swallowed may pass away so quickly as to yield but little nourishment; and hence, at such times, the food should, in part at least, be made liquid, and if necessary, so thoroughly cooked that the digestive organs will have but little to do to prepare it for nourishing the body.

When the tongue is dry and red, or dark-colored, broths, beef-tea and soups, or milk thoroughly boiled, to which a little lime-water has been added, will be preferred to vegetable food. Sometimes, when the tongue is dry and fissured, gruel, toast-water, and other forms of vegetable food cannot be digested, and will be sure to increase the disease. This is often the case in dysentery.

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But when the tongue is moist, coated with a thick white fur, and swollen as it often is in diarrhea, or after a dysentery has been nearly cured, *vegetable* food, and particularly that in which there is some form of starch, will be preferable to much animal food. Corn-meal gruel, made by first boiling some water, stirring a *little* corn-meal, and continuing the boiling for three or four hours until the meal is thoroughly cooked, when the gruel is allowed to cool, and the meal to settle, so that only the clear fluid is used. This is the way to make corn meal gruel at all times. It must not be boiled less than two hours, and none of the *meal* should ever be given to the sick, as it is liable to irritate the stomach. A little wheat flour may be tied in a cloth and boiled for an hour or two, then mixed with a little water, and afterward slowly stirred into a dish of boiling milk. When carefully prepared, and the milk not burned, this forms an admirable article of diet for those suffering from disease of the stomach and bowels.

* * * * * * * * *

As the sick one regains strength, and the

digestive organs recover their power, mutton broth, animal jellies, and a very guarded and gradual return to the accustomed diet, will serve to make the recovery sure and complete.

DRINKS FOR THE SICK.

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In health, and with those beyond the age of infancy, the absence of liquids, as drinks, or in combination with the food, even for a few hours at a time, causes such suffering as to make the demand for them imperative.

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Usually in disease, whether acute or chronic, the processes of *elimination*, through the lungs, the kidneys, and skin, require to be aided, or at least, to be kept free from obstruction; and a proper supply of fluid of the requisite character and condition, will often do as much as medicine, and frequently far more than solid medicine to accomplish these ends.

The natural food of infants contains enough of the constituents of water and other matters in a fluid form to subserve the purposes of drink as well as food, and doubtless but little liquid, as *drink* simply, is required by an infant in a state of complete health, and while the surrounding atmosphere is at a proper temperature. But when sickness occurs, and the powers of digestion and assimilation of the infant are weakened by disease, there can be no doubt that the sense of thirst very often leads the little patient to nurse, when the food of the milk is not needed and must prove quite harmful.

During any, even slight illness—if accompanied by a febrile condition—and during the heat of summer, water, pure cold water, should always be offered to an infant, however young, before it is allowed to nurse. If it is not *thirsty* it will have no relish for the water and will not drink of it, but will partake of the required amount, *as food*, of the natural food, but not nurse the mother's milk merely to satisfy thirst when the nourishment contained therein cannot be digested and assimilated.

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I am sure that the importance of giving fluids merely as *drinks* to children, both in health and during disease, has not been properly appreciated even by the profession.

The use of water, and, in summer, of *cold* water, by patients laboring under all forms of disease, to the full extent of satisfying and quenching thirst, is now so common as to cause but little remark. * * * *

As water readily passes through the coats of the stomach and the blood vessels, its use greatly aids in the elimination of such harmful substances as are present in the system, and produce, or are produced by, the disease. The water, itself, is one of the best, although not the most powerful *solvent* known; and thus not only serves to dilute and wash away the dissolved, effete matter, but itself changes the dead and effete solid and semi-solid matters into fluids, and renders them capable of elimination. In febrile and inflammatory disease the living tissues and structures are rapidly destroyed, and hence the great need of solvents and water to fit and aid those dead atoms in the process of elimination. The feeling of thirst present in such diseases is indicative of the needs of the system, and should be gratified.

But other matters in addition to water, may be introduced into the system along with the drinks. The Alkalies and Acids, are of value. Nearly all the uses they subserve can with more certainty be realized if they are first dissolved in fluid and administered in the form of beverages. In that form they are well fitted for use, and readily find their way to all parts of the system without acting too violently upon any organ or tissue.

Acidulated drinks are in almost constant demand in most forms of acute disease, especially where the febrile inflammatory action has been somewhat severe, and has continued two or more days.

Water may be made acid by the addition of citric acid, lemon juice, cream of tartar, tartaric acid, the berries of the sumac tree, acid fruits, etc. With those who relish it, sour buttermilk is often an admirable article, serving the purposes of both food and drink.

Alkaline drinks may be prepared by dissolving a little soda, or potassa, or other alkali in the beverage used; but, except in certain forms of disease as in gout, rheumatism, and dropsy, great caution is requisite in the use of alkaline drinks.

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Nutrient drinks in the form of toast-water, milk, beef-tea, gruel, soup, and various other preparations, supply the needed aliment in a form to pass directly through the coats of the stomach into the general circulation. As they thus relieve the organs of digestion of the usual labor demanded to prepare solid food for the purposes of nutrition, they are of peculiar value in debility and derangement of the stomach and intestines.

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Shielding drinks are also of very great value in disease of the stomach and intestines.—Flax seed, gum Arabic, slippery elm, prickly pear, and other mucilaginous articles, have been so often and for such a length of time made use of in the sick chamber, that nothing more than an allusion to them would be necessary, were it not for the too common practice for the nurse to prepare them with too much of the shielding agent to the amount of water used. They should never be prepared with so much of the medicine as to have a *ropy* appearance when lifted on a spoon. * * It should also be *freshly* made three or four times in the twenty-four hours, and during hot weather kept cool by being surrounded with ice or a cloth constantly wet. Many times the patient is made worse by having forced into his feeble stomach some of these drinks that

have become rancid. The physician should pay special attention to this matter, and give minute and positive directions in regard to the preparation and use of shielding drinks. The frequent use of flax-seed in their preparation should be discouraged, as it quite readily changes on exposure, and is less pleasant to the patient than either gum, or slippery elm bark.

Aromatic drinks are far too seldom ordered by the physician. They possess decidedly antiseptic properties, and hence are of value in fevers and inflammations, as well as in diarrhea and dysentery. They are slightly stimulating, and hence rouse the torpid or enfeebled stomach. They are admirable agents for relieving nausea or depression of the stomach, preventing the changes in the contents or walls of the alimentary canal which lead to the evolution of acids or gas. Infusions of balm, mint, sage, and other aromatic plants, barks or roots, are often very grateful to the patient and very useful remedial agents.

As possessed of both sedative and *tonic* power, an infusion of peach leaves, or wild cherry-bark, will be found of great utility in most febrile derangements, particularly where there is a tendency to putridity.

MODERN WONDERS.—When a young man is clerk in a warehouse or bank and dresses like a prince, smokes fine cigars, drinks nice brandy, attends theaters, balls, and the like, I wonder if he does all upon the avails of a clerkship?

When a young lady sits in the parlor all day with her lily white fingers covered with rings, I wonder if her mother don't make the puddings and do a good deal of work in the kitchen?

When a man goes three times a day to get a dram I wonder if he will not by and by go four times?

When a young lady laces her waist a third smaller than nature intended it, I wonder if her pretty fingers will not shorten life some dozen years or more, besides making her miserable while she does live?

When a young man is dependent upon his daily toil for his income, and marries a portionless fine lady, who does not know how to make a loaf of bread or mend a garment, I wonder if he is not lacking somewhere—say toward the top, for instance?

DELICIOUS VEAL CUTLET.—First take your cutlet and beat it with the flat side of the cleaver or rolling pin. Beat it for about five minutes, then, having thrown a quantity of butter eggs and flour into a frying pan, when the mixture is hissing hot, put your cutlet in, and there let it stew. The mixture will penetrate to the core, and is imbibed in every part.—*N. E. Farmer.*

FOR THE CHILDREN.

CHORUS OF FLOWERS.

We are the pretty flowers,
Born of sunny showers.
Mark our ways, how noiseless
All, and sweetly voiceless,
Though the March-winds pipe to make our passage clear:
Not a whisper tells
Where our small seed dwells,
Nor is known the moment when our tips appear.
We thread the earth with silence,
In silence build our bowers—
And leaf by leaf in silence grow, till
We laugh a-top, sweet flowers.

—*Leigh Hunt.*

TO THE HUMBLE-BEE.

Fair humble-bee! fair humble-bee!
Where thou art I, too, would be.
Insect lover of the sun,
Joy of thy dominion!
Sailor of the atmosphere;
Swimmer of the waves of air;
Voyager of light and noon;
Epicurean of June!
Wait, I prithee, till I come
Within earshot of thy hum,
As I chase thy waving lines
Over shrubs and over vines,
Flower-bells and honeyed cells.

—*Emerson.*

TO A FLY DRINKING OUT OF A CUP.

"Busy, curious, thirsty fly!
Drink with me, and drink as I!
Freely welcome to my cup,
Couldst thou sip, and sip it up;
Make the most of life you may;
Life is short, and yours a day."

SPIDER WEBS.

Lenwenhock has computed that 100 of the single threads of the full-grown spider are not equal to the diameter of a hair of the beard; and, consequently, if both are round, 10,000 of the spider-web threads are not bigger than one such hair. He calculates farther, that when young spiders first begin to spin 400 of their threads are not larger than one of a full growth. If this is true 4,000,000 of a young spider's threads are not so large as a single hair of a man's beard!

Children, here is something to think of.—How can you ever again—if you ever did do so wicked and thoughtless a thing—pull out the legs of, or stick pins through, spiders?—Rather watch with a new interest the wonderful operations of this creature God has so curiously and skillfully made. As you watch

their patient toil in re-weaving the beautiful webs so frequently and needlessly destroyed, ask yourselves, each one of you, "Am I willing to do whatever useful thing I can as well and as busily as the poor, little, despised spider?"

MISCELLANEOUS.

HAMMOND FARMER'S CLUB.

Mr. Editor:—Having just attended the Hammond Farmer's Club meeting, let me tell you what I saw and heard:

Hammond is one of the eastern tier of towns in St. Croix county, bordering on a belt of wood land, extending from Lake Pepin to St. Croix Falls. It is only four years since the first furrow was turned.

During this short period of time the town has settled and improved rapidly. Fields of twenty, forty, sixty, and ninety acres, may now be seen gently waving in the summer's breeze, making ready an abundant harvest.

A dozen or fifteen of the farmers desirous of profiting by the mutual suggestions and experiences of each other, have formed themselves into a club, and meet monthly at each other's farms, taking with them their wives, who add much to the pleasure and interest of the occasion.

The meeting which I attended, and propose to tell you about, met at the farm of Mr. E. H. Jacobs. They got together about 10 o'clock. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved; a few business matters were attended to, when the club resolved itself into a committee of the whole to view the farming operations of Mr. Jacobs. By the time the crops, fences, buildings, &c., were all scrutinized, the dinner call was sounded. The committee, increased by the addition of the ladies proceeded to a practical examination of the culinary operations of Mrs. Jacobs. After dinner the gentlemen repaired to a room by themselves, to discuss Mr. Jacob's management on his farm, and any subjects that might be brought forward.

The Chairman called upon Mr. Jacobs for a statement in regard to the management of his farm; how he prepared the ground—how much seed to the acre—what crops are on fall plowing, and what on spring plowing, &c. Then each member was called upon to give his views of Mr. J.'s management, or suggestions if he wished to. Conflicting views led to discussion, and discussion brought light or the desire to obtain it.

Other subjects, such as which is the best cross plow? the best mower and reaper? which is most profitable to raise, stock entirely, or grain entirely, or combine the two branches of farming?

Those and other subjects were discussed with ability and profit. About 4 o'clock the club adjourned to meet at President Scribner's farm.

Mr. Editor, I believe these Farmers' Clubs are a good "institution." They have a tendency to awaken thought; this leads to information, and information to action of the right sort and in the right direction.

Farmers, more than any other class, are apt to do as "father did," or as they do in "old Connecticut," or "old Kentucky," or some other old place, without stopping to enquire, is it profitable—is it the *right* way?

It is a regulation of the club that each member shall take an agricultural paper. The *Farmer* and *American Agriculturist* are taken.

Success to the Hammond Farmer's Club, so says Observer.

Hammond, July 12th, 1860.

The Wool Clip of Crawford Co., O.—Crawford is one of the largest wool growing Counties in the State, all of her farmers being engaged in the business more or less, and many of them largely. The following is a list of a few of the largest in this vicinity, with the amount each received for his clip, this season: Robert Kerr, $7,200; G. W. Leith, 1,200; James Kerr, 2,000; Nicholas Failor, 750; Jacob Thomas, 750; C. W. White, 1,200; S. D. Rowse, 5,500; John Monett, 1,100; W. Kennedy, 800; Joseph Mason, 600; E. R. Welsh, 6,000; M. Charlton, 1,200; D. Pettit, 700; D. C. Boyer, 700; James Hufty, 2,000; Elias Lavely, 1,400; Abm. Monett, 1,500; J. Hills, 1,200; Robert Mason, 700; Mr. Knowls, $600. These are only a few of our extensive wool growers—we could give the names of forty more whose clip amounts to over $600.—*Bucyrus Journal.*

A Big Yield.—D. M. Fowler, of Plymouth, last week threshed out the barley raised by him on five acres of land. The yield was two hundred and eighty bushels. That we call good!—*Mauston Star.*

Harvesting.—Our farmers have been busily engaged in their wheat fields during the past week. The yield will be enormous. Thus far the weather has been very favorable. The demand for hands, at good wages, cannot be supplied.—*Stillwater Messenger.*

VERMONT.

"The mention of America, Sir, has never failed to fill me with the most lively emotions." Thus the mention of Vermont, Sir, in the last *Wisconsin Farmer*, awakened a thrill of interest of which I was before almost unconscious. I do not appear upon this page as her panegyrist. Stronger nerves than mine should guide the pen which heralds her praise. May I not, however, say a word in my own unpretending way, of my unpretending native State in your journal.

Inland in her locality, hilly and mountainous in her physical proportions, and, often, sterile in soil, what has she to boast of? Sufficient fertility of soil to produce fast trotting horses, fine wooled sheep, and nice feeling cattle. Sufficiently pure have been the rills, and rivulets, and rivers, that trickle down her hillsides and mountain gorges, and wind through her valleys, to produce health of body and vigor of mind, which, coupled with active industry and economy, have produced strong moral and religious principles, which have enabled them to take care of themselves at home or abroad.

Nor has Vermont been standing still these last twenty-five years; I, too, visited the place of my birth two or three years since. Judge of my surprise, although I knew the fact, when I saw the iron horse plunging through the Green Mountains, where I crossed twenty years before with the Troy coach, an up-and-down-hill business and a zig-zag course.

I was then on my way West, I have since seen nature on a grander scale—but have not seen human nature more improved, or better calculated to answer life's purposes. I have since traveled upon the waters of the Mississippi and its tributaries—the "Six Great Lakes"—and the vast prairies of the Western States; seen nature clothed with a beauty and loveliness and perfume truly enchanting; have seen hundreds of thousands of acres of waving grain at one view, ready to be garnered to feed the hungry poor of your over-crowded Eastern cities and the old world—not waiting for the sickle, for that would be waiting too long, but for the 'reaper and mower combined,' to speed them on their eastern flight.

And I have seen wealth—some enduring, honestly acquired estates—some "Jonah's Gourds," the product of a night and the victim of a day; the one contributing to the permanent good of its possessor—the other equally productive of mischief. All these and those and much greater variety have I seen, on a large scale, in the great and growing West; and yet, who that is not ambitious for great wealth, would not prefer a neat, rural home, in the pure air, politically, morally, socially, and physically, of "fair New England," *my first home*?

Yet I would advise all who are not well provided for, to come and buy cheap, rich, easily-tilled land, and make themselves *homes of their own*. Nor need they fear the lack of those educational advantages without which man is a "dull ox, that treadeth out the corn." The elements are all here and tolerably well combined for moral culture, as well as the enterprise which has carpeted the floors, painted the houses and built the railroads of Vermont within the last twenty years. As to Vermont in conclusion, so long as she has an Allen in history, and a Collamer in Congress, we will welcome her sons to Wisconsin.

FRANK.

Greenfield, Wis., Aug. 3, 1860.

We would not prefer that Vermont home to one in Wisconsin, that's sure!—ED. FAR.

MORE TESTIMONY FOR SHEEP IN WISCONSIN.

FRIEND POWERS—*Dear Sir:*—In perusing your valuable paper, I notice that many of the best farmers who keep sheep have reported the amount of wool clipped from their flocks this season, and some have also reported their average, which is good, and is good evidence that wool can be grown in Wisconsin at a profit, by men that know their business, or are willing to learn; I, for one, have been trying to learn. I have kept sheep for nine years, and I learn something new every year. I commenced with 100 common grade sheep, and their average was 3 lbs. the first year; and I have since kept from 200 to 300, and now they average very well. My flock this season consisted of 225 at shearing, exclusive of lambs; of that number there were 175 ewes, of which 135 had lambs. I raised 103 lambs, the balance were lost on account of coming in the winter. I sheared from my flock 1,182 lbs.—an average of 5¼ lbs. per head.

I sold the wool for 45 cents, and could have gotten 47½ cents if I had held on five minutes longer. I keep my sheep in summer principally on what is called here low land, which I

have seeded down to redtop, without breaking the land, which makes excellent pasture for any stock; one acre seeded this way will keep more stock than three in its natural grasses, as the redtop will predominate. After pasturing a few years two horses will break it, then sow it to millet or Hungary grass, and keep my sheep on it in winter, and then to oats without plowing, and your land is in good condition for seeding down again to timothy in the fall after the oats are gathered. I never miss seeding in this way.

I spare no pains in procuring good bucks, I have used for my flock some of the best in the State. I have been using, for the last two years, a splendid buck bred by Mr. Knox, of Whitewater, and is a good stock sheep, only 100 lbs., he is Spanish merino, and I assert that he can't be beaten. I will give the weight of his fleece for three years, of washed wool, washed the same as the whole flock:

July 1, 1858, 2 years old, his clip was	15 lbs. 8 oz.
June 8, 1859, 11 months 18 days,	15 lbs. 8 oz.
June 20, '60, 12 months 12 days,	20 lbs. 8 oz.
Total, ...	51 lbs. 8 oz.

He has run with part of my flock in summer, through all the storms, and has had no grain, except in winter; his wool went in with the clip, at an average of 45 cents per lb., which would be in dollars and cents, $23 17½ in three years. He was used last year by over 150 ewes.

H. E. Coon.

Palmyra, Aug. 12, 1860.

INSURANCE—THE MUTUAL PLAN.

The system of Mutual Insurance Companies is becoming very general in our Eastern cities —or that which amounts to the same thing.— It is a system upon which the profits of assurance are divided among the stock hloders and policy holders. The last number of the New York *Independent* has an excellent article on this subject, giving the results of several large companies in that city, and showing great success. It says, that ten companies in New York city alone, have adopted this participation system with eminent advantage to themselves and the public. The *Independent* says the plan *"must gradually supersede all other systems, and compel the older companies to adopt it."* The oldest insurance company in the United States, is upon the mutual principle—being the Worcester Mutual, in Massachusetts; and one of the oldest is the Vermont Mutual. Both of these companies present clean a record, having never failed to meet their engagements promptly. These are only fair specimens of many mutual companies in the country, and the only difference between these old mutual companies and the ones referred to by the *Independent*, is, that the old *mutual* companies receive but a small portion of the premium in *cash*, leaving the larger portion to remain uncalled for unless absolutely needed; while the New York companies receive the entire premium in cash, with the promise of paying back a part if not needed. A brief examination of the two systems will commend the old *mutual* to favor. It makes the burden of the insured parties light at the commencement; and a company would be much more likely to find use for money *when* collected, leaving none to divide, than it would to call in upon assessment, that left with the policy holders. The argument seems to be entirely in favor of the *mutual* system, and upon this subject the *Independent* takes ground in its favor in the following emphatic language:

"The mutual companies must inevitably obtain the best business, and are the only reliable ones for all times and circumstances."

Some mutual companies have failed, but it has been from a disposition to grasp too much —to extend business beyond limits over which they can control. Those companies that have confined their operations to their own State, and dealt honorably and promptly with their patrons, have always met with success. The Madison Mutual pursues this course. It is now doing the largest home business among the farmers, of any company in the State. Its directors have no desire to expand its business beyond the limits of its own State, and its present success gives ample evidence that its efforts for good are becoming appreciated by the people of Wisconsin. With as strong a backer of the principle as the New York *Independent*, and with the same honest and economical management of its affairs that it has heretofore pursued, it is bound to do the principal home business of the farmers of Wisconsin.—*State Journal.*

Remarks.—We fully endorse the foregoing opinions upon the soundness of the principle of mutual insurance companies. In point of economy, when well managed, they are much ahead of even the best stock companies.

Even the old Ætna, and other crack stock companies, that boast of insuring farmers *exceedingly low*, will, on comparison, be found to be charging from twice to three times as much as it costs to insure the same property in the Madison Mutual. This makes a vast difference indeed. Farmers should not be fooled by the stories of their agents, but compare the figures between them and the Mutual.

Those rich eastern nabobs have made about money enough out of us already.

"Roberson Rich," a pure-blood Spanish Merino Buck, owned by H. Hemminway, Whitewater, Wisconsin.

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY.

"*Roberson Rich*" is a pure Spanish buck, six years old last spring; he was bred by J. T. and V. Rich, of Shoreham, Vt., who are very successful breeders of fine wool sheep. Facts will show that they have sold ewes to men from Western New York, of the same stock as the above buck, for $100 to $150 per head, (see *Rural New Yorker* of June 16th, or thereabouts, for an account of "A Shearing."—They sold thirty ewes, of their own selection, which are kept for breeding ewes, last spring, to one of their townsmen, for $30 per head.—After using him four years they offered him for sale, and, by my instructions, he was purchased expressly for me in the spring of 1859, to be kept in connection with "Matchless," for the improvement of sheep in our State.—During the four years he was owned by the Messrs. Rich, they took in over $700 for his services to other ewes besides their own. He has usually clipt from 15 to 18 lbs. of unwashed wool; weight of carcass, 100 lbs.. He gets heavy shearing stock.

Messrs. Rich and Bush each selected 11 ewes, one year old, both lots from the above buck, fed them after their own manner of keeping; sheared them the same day, unwashed; Rich's clipt 11 lbs., and Bush's 11¼ lbs. per head. Mr. Bascomb, of Orwell, sheared a flock of ewes, 2 years old, from his stock, that yielded, on an average, 7½ lbs. of washed wool per head.

We have none of his stock here, except lambs, which show much of his excellence. I think I could easily take in 400 ewes at $1 00 each, if he could do as much.

PEDIGREE.

"Roberson Rich" was sired by the celebrated "Roberson Buck," one of the purest bred bucks that ever Vermont produced, being bred under the careful management of the late Erastus Roberson, of Addison co., Vt., from the Andrew Cox importation, of Long Island, being pure Spanish sheep.

"Roberson Rich's" dam was also bred by the Messrs. Rich, in a direct line from the Atwood Stock of sheep, making a combination of two strains of blood from the most noted importation of pure Spanish sheep.

H. HEMMINWAY.

Whitewater, Aug. 20, 1860.

We made Mr. Hemminway a short call recently, and examined his fine sheep, not only *Roberson Rich* and *Matchless*, but some of his fine ewes and lambs; they really strike us as very good, and for aught we can see fully up to anything we have ever met with in any country. *Roberson Rich* is indeed a noble fellow, not extraordinarily large, but finely modeled and well proportioned, and with wool as nice as need be. He will doubtless be on exhibition at the State Fair. See Mr. H.'s advertisement.

ANOTHER WISCONSIN CLIP OF WOOL.

EDITOR WIS. FARMER;—Having been frequently solicited to give you a statement of my success in sheep raising I have concluded to comply, for the reason that all should know whether sheep raising is profitable in Wisconsin or not, and what breeds are most profitable. I will only give you my this year's experience:

My flock consisted of six Spanish merino bucks, which yielded severally 15 lbs. 10 oz., 13 lbs., 19 lbs. 12 oz, 15 lbs. 12 oz., 16 lbs. 8 oz., 12 lbs. 2 oz.—total 92 lbs. 12 oz; twenty breeding ewes, over four years old, which sheared 113 lbs. 12 oz.—averaging per head 5 lbs. 11 oz.; twenty ewes two years old, sheared 144 lbs. 7 oz.—averaging per head 7 lbs. 4 oz. These last were out of Hemminway's buck "Young Matchless." I have raised from my ewes this year forty lambs, one of which has been valued, by good judges, at $20. All my this year's lambs are out of Hemminway's buck "Roberson Rich." The wool shorn from my sheep sold, on an average, for $3 30 per head. This, I think, is hard to beat in the State—the bucks, the ewes, the lambs, or the crop of wool. If it is beaten this year I will try again next year.

Yours in haste,
ASAPH PRATT.

Lima Center, Aug. 15, 1860.

NOTE.—How many who will read the foregoing could do the same thing if they tried? who would not be pleased with such a flock? And who still doubts that well managed sheep keeping will pay as well, or better, than almost any other branch of farming?—ED. FAR.

THE WISCONSIN FARMER.—We improve the occasion of the reception of the August number of this magazine, to again commend it to such of our agricultural readers as do not already take it. One of the editors, to our knowledge, is a practical Wisconsin farmer. It serves as a focus for bringing together the results of the experience and reflections of farmers in our own State, and cannot fail to be worth much more than its cost, to any man who tills the soil. We have taken exceptions to some remarks in it in one or two instances, but only in exceptional cases. We commend it to the attention of those interested in agriculture.—*Oshkosh Democrat.*

DOG LAW.—Since the passage of the dog-law, there has been over $50,000 worth of common, besides a large number of blooded sheep, brought into this State from Ills. and Mich.—Most of the sheep find rest in Eau Claire and Black River valleys.—*La Crosse Union.*

EDITOR'S TABLE.

State Fair!

The work of preparation still progresses finely, and all will have been completed in a few days, to the entire satisfaction of Committee and people. Handsomer grounds or better temporary fittings cannot be found in the United States.

The Exhibition, too, promises better and better. From all quarters of the State the cry comes up, "Make room for us at the Fair!"—We know of no county hitherto represented which may not reasonably be expected to fully maintain its *fair* reputation, and certainly the spirited *eleven*—Pierce, St. Croix, Waukesha, Winnebago, Jackson, La Crosse, Sauk, Dodge, Waupaca, Racine and Kenosha, will contribute as never before. Indeed, it is reported that from some of the above counties in competition for the Banner, the whole people, men, women and children, are intending to turn out, bringing with them the best of their productions, Agricultural, Horticultural, and Mechanical. This is right. We have been blessed with such wealth of crops as had scarcely been dreamed of by even the most hopeful; and it is meet that the industrial portion, at least, nay, the people of every class, occupation, and profession meet together and enjoy one *grand harvest home jubilee.*

OF ENTRIES.

Our friends will not forget the importance of making as many as possible of their entries for exhibition *before the Fair*, as thereby they diminish the liability to mistakes, and, moreover, save themselves a great deal of vexation necessarily attendant upon the reception and filing of thousands of applications within a few hours.

OF TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE FAIR.

When the Premium List was issued it was understood that all the railroads in the State would cheerfully comply with the arrangements for transportation therein named; nor have we believed, until within a few days that the two roads—La Crosse & Milwaukee, and Milwaukee & Chicago—which had declined to transport freight as published, would persist in their refusal. The best terms that can be made, however, with those roads are the following:

The La Crosse & Milwaukee railroad will carry passengers at half fare, and *freight* at the

usual rates; the Milwaukee & Chicago railroad, *passengers and freight* for full rates *to* Madison, and return the same *free of charge.* We regret that any exceptions should be made to the general rule of "*passengers at half fare —freight free,*" but on the other hand have pleasure in knowing that but comparatively few who are intending to exhibit will find it necessary to pass over those roads, whose mistaken policy has chosen for them a distinction not enjoyed by any other road either in Wisconsin or any other State in which Agricultural Societies are in active operation.

Nothing can be clearer than that the prosperity of the railroads is chiefly dependent upon the development of the Agriculture of the State; and when the managers of all such roads shall have opened their eyes to that other truth not less palpable to any but a blind man, that the Agricultural Societies of the State are the great efficient agencies for the furtherance of this work of development, then there will be a willing and hearty co-operation on their part for the success of these most interesting and useful exhibitions of the industry of the State.

A WORD TO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The Secretaries of the County Societies, will not forget that they, as the General Committee of the State Agricultural Society, are expected to use all reasonable effort to make the Fair of 1860 A TRIUMPAANT SUCCESS. Posters, handbills, &c., will be forwarded to their care immediately, and we earnestly hope that they will cheerfully and promptly discharge their duty of giving them the widest and most judicious circulation.

We shall constantly be at our post and will have great pleasure in giving immediate response to every inquiry that may be made.

TO THE FRIENDS OF INDUSTRY IN GENERAL,

We would say, remember the best interests of the noble cause in which the State Agricultural Society is engaged, and then, so far from allowing political excitement, or anything else, to interfere with its interests, earnestly and persistently endeavor to turn the roused enthusiasm of the people into the more rational industrial channel. Be faithful to your duty, as citizens of the Republic, but do not forget to be equally faithful to the prosperity of your own noble Wisconsin. H.

The Wheat Crop—Prices—Other Crops.

The yield of wheat is said to be extraordinary, on being threshed, often going as high as thirty and forty bushels per acre; and what is still better, being very superior in quality; we have seen samples that equaled good white winter wheat in appearance and plumpness.

It is also said to overweigh on measure; thus turning favorably at every point. No doubt the crop will prove all it has been estimated, in quantity and quality.

How prices are going to range through the year is, of course, all conjectural; for the present, as was natural to expect, they rule low, and probably will for some time to come; the amount that will be rushed into the market renders this almost certain.

European crops, on the whole, are turning out about an average, except, perhaps, those of England, which, undoubtedly, are somewhat below an average; still, we think, not enough to ensure a large demand from this country.—France, notwithstanding its vast population, seems able to supply England cheaper than we are willing to; perhaps she will not the coming season.

On the whole, we cannot but believe that after a little, something will turn up to enhance and maintain fair average prices for our present crop, abundant as it is; at least $1 00 per bushel as an average at the lake ports.—When it brings that price perhaps those who have got to sell early had better improve the chance.

CORN is also promising famously; with a favorable autumn for ripening, it will be the best crop ever raised in the State, as well the wheat.

ROOTS, that were early planted must also be doing exceedingly well, and making a big crop. Thus everything in the line of farm products bids fair to be much more than ordinarily good. It never could have been more opportune. Let us be glad, and get ready for thanksgiving.

☞ The officers of the Hammond Farmer's Club, in St. Croix county, Wis., for the present year, are as follows:

President—E. P. Scribner,
Vice President—A. G. Peabody,
Secretary—Geo. Spaulding.
Treasurer—John Thayer.

☞ The population of Oshkosh is 6,100.

A Word with Our Patrons, Old and New.

The summer is gone and the harvest is ended, (we mean the wheat harvest,) and such a harvest who ever saw; and how glad we are, yea, and for more reasons than one. But prominent among them is the fact that there will be no good excuse, hereafter, why we should not be paid up all arrearages on subscriptions. Despite of our fully intended prepay system, we find from two to three thousand dollars due us on past years, and considerable of it from parties that we personally know to be perfectly good, and able to pay.—Mere negligence is at the bottom of it with many; while sheer indifference, bordering upon dishonesty in a small way, explains the action, or, rather, want of action, of many others. Were times easy and money plenty with us, we would not care so much, but being absolutely behind to our printers and paper makers, to a large amount, and for a long time; and simply because we have not received money enough from the *Farmer* for the last two or three years to pay up; saying nothing about many weary hours of our own labor, by night and by day, for which we have neither asked nor received a penny. We now feel as if, during the present fall, we must and should look up and crowd all old arrears as hard as circumstances may require, and with a determination to realize all we can out of them, as well as to make an end of them.

Those who owed us previous to this year have already been dunned direct, by printed notice, at least once; hence they understand it perfectly well. In the closing numbers of this year we intend to publish all arrear subscribers, in a list like forfeited school lands; not with a view to selling them if they do not pay, but of apprising both them and their neighbors of their way of doing business.

These remarks are, of course, not intended to apply to such of our present year's subscribers as are still behind, by understanding, *until harvest*, or to any who have paid, but are emphatically intended for all the rest.

The State Fair will furnish an excellent opportunity for those who attend, to call in and pay. We shall probably have an office upon the fair grounds, duly indicated, where all who can thus more handily call can be accommodated. Gentlemen, be on hand, one and all, and clear the track for a new year. It will soon be upon us, and then we both hope and mean to have a list again that will pay its way, as in the good old times departed.

A Visit to the Agricultural College of Michigan.

During the efforts of 1857 and '58 for the establishment of a similar institution in Wisconsin, we had frequent correspondence with President Williams as to the details of the plan of the Michigan Agricultural College, and were led to believe its main features logical and feasible. It was natural, therefore, that the reports of partial failure should occasion a great anxiety to visit the College, and learn by personal observation whether such reports were correct, and, if so, whether the failure was inherent in the principle on which the Institution was established, or whether it was not dependent upon circumstances that ought to have been avoided or controled. And with this view we arranged a visit for the pleasant month of June, when the farm and garden would speak for themselves, and when the regular progress of the instruction would enable us to judge correctly of its adaptedness to the wants of the pupils in attendance.

After a delightful voyage across Lake Michigan in one of the splendid ocean steamers which connect that great thoroughfare of travel, the Detroit & Milwaukee Railway, with the several railroads of the North-West, a pleasant ride of some hours over the said railway, to St. Johns, and some 22 miles by stage over a rather rough road, we arrived at the new city of Lansing, the capital of the great "Wolverine State," and within two hours thereafter found ourself on the steps of the Agricultural College, surveying the buildings and farm with mingled feelings of regret and pleasurable disappointment.

The buildings, which are all of brick and consist of the College Edifice, the Boarding Hall, three handsome Cottages for members of the Faculty, and a small barn for horses, are well located, and make a rather imposing appearance, They are commodious, moreover, and pretty well designed.

The Farm, though consisting of 776 acres of very good land, well-watered by a beautiful stream, was, nevertheless, unfortunate in its location, since the amount of labor requisite to clear off the heavy timber and reclaim some of the low and wet lands, must discourage the pupils, who are expected to do the principal part of the work, and hence prove a serious drawback for a number of years, and that during the very period when it is important, above all other times, that everything should conspire to its success. This is one great rea-

son why this College has not had so triumphant a career as was predicted for it. The Farm is being subdued, however, and, at the time of our visit, large and well-arranged fields were clothed with fair crops of wheat, oats, corn and grass. Though badly managed in some respects, heretofore, it is now in charge of a thorough-going, scientific, and practical farmer, and will redeem its credit.

The Garden, now under the supervision of Prof. Holmes, formerly Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, comprises several acres, and promises well for the future.

The Faculty appear to be competent, earnest, self-sacrificing and resolute men, determined to make the institution a success; and should they be so fortunate as to secure such a modification of the charter as will place the general management and control in the hands of a board of competent agriculturists, instead of the State Board of Education, who are, of course, unable to judge of its real wants, there is little doubt but that the Agricultural College of Michigan will yet nobly fulfill its appointed mission. There are at present about fifty sterling young men in regular attendance and the number will soon be increased. So far as we can see there is no good reason why other organizing institutions of this class should be disheartened, though it would be well for them to profit by this first signal experiment. Our investigation of the history and condition of the institution was pretty thorough, and we left Lansing, and the gentlemanly and hospitable professors, with largely increased hope.

Wisconsin Fruit Growers Association.

We are indebted to O. S. Willey, Esq., the Secretary of the above Association, for a complimentary ticket of admission to their exhibition to be held in conjunction with the State Fair, 24th to 29th September. That the present fruitful season will enable them to make a large and superior show, we have no doubt, one that will not only be creditable to them, but highly encouraging to all growers of fruit in the State.

We advise all who would become growers of fruit in the West, to make it a point to visit this exhibition and take lesson of instruction and encouragement thereat.

Acknowledgments.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Starin, of Whitewater, have our thanks for two fine boxes of apples during the last month; several specimens of very choice varieties of early apples were among them, and all were good. We hope, and doubt not they are getting better paid for their long and careful toil in fruit growing than during the recent past. Perseverance wins at last, in all good works, even in fruit growing in Wisconsin.

A. G. Hanford, Esq., of Waukesha, also has our thanks for a nice little box of nice little apples, as rich, almost, as peaches. We had no trouble in disposing of both lots—not any.

National Teacher's Association—Annual Meeting at Buffalo.

On the 10th of August we had the honor of addressing this distinguished body of American Educators, and in the next number of the *Farmer* we will give a brief account of the meeting and of our tour through Canada, Western New York, and Ohio.

List of State and District Fairs.

National Horse Show, Springfield, Mass,	Sept.	4– 7
New Jersey, Elizabeth,	"	4– 7
Tennessee, Nashville,	"	10–15
Wheeling Island, Va,	"	11–13
Muskingum Valley, Zanesville,	"	18–21
Vermont, Burlington,	"	11–14
Illinois, Jacksonville,	"	11–14
Kentucky, Bowling Green,	"	18–22
St. Louis,	"	24–27
Nebraska, Omaha,	"	19–21
California, Sacramento,	"	19–26
Wisconsin, Madison,	"	24–29
Pennsylvania, Wyoming,	"	24–27
Ohio, Dayton,	"	25–28
Maine,	"	25–26
Minnesota, Fort Snelling,	"	27–29
Alabama,	Sep. 29	Oct. 2
Iowa, Iowa City,	Oct.	2– 5
New Hampshire, Manchester,	"	2– 4
Michigan, Detroit,	"	2– 5
New York, Elmira,	"	2– 5
Oregon,	"	9–
South Carolina, Columbia,	"	13–16
Indiana, Indianapolis,	"	15–20
Mississippi, Holly Springs,	"	16–
Georgia, Atlanta,	"	23–26
Maryland,	Oct. 30	to Nov. 3

County Fairs for 1860.

Badax, Viroqua,	Sept.	10–12
Dodge, Juneau,	"	11–13
Pierce, Prescott,	"	12–13
Waupaca, Weyauwega,	"	13–14
St. Croix, Hudson,	"	18–19
Jackson, Albion,	"	18–19
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac,	"	18–19
Rock, Janesville,	"	18–20
Columbia, Cambria,	"	18–20
Winnebago, Oshkosh,	"	19–20
Sheboygan, Sheboygan Falls,	"	19–20
Waukesha, Waukesha,	"	19–21
Green, Monroe,	"	20–22
Monroe, Sparta,	"	26–27
Iowa, Dodgeville,	Oct.	3– 4
Marquette, Westfield,	"	4– 5
Waushara, Wautoma,	"	10–12
Portage, Stanton,	"	16–

Fruit and Ornamental TREES.

FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1860.

ELLWANGER & BARRY invite the attention of Planters, Nurserymen, Dealers, &c., to the great stock of

Fruit, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, and Plants,

which they now offer. The season has been exceedingly favorable, and consequently the stock of all kinds is of the finest description.

Fruit Department.

Standard Apple Trees, for Orchards, 3 to 4 years old from bud and graft.

Dwarf Apple Trees, for Gardens, on Paradise and Doucin Stock, 1, 2, and 3 years from bud.

Pears, *on Pear Stock*, 2 to 3 years from bud.

Pears, *on Quince Stock*. 1 to 4 years from bud.

Cherries, on Mazzard stock, 2 years from bud.

Cherries, on Mahleb stock, 1 and 2 years from bud.

Plums, Standard and Dwarf, 1 and 2 years from bud and graft.

Peaches, Nectarines, and Apricots, 1 year from bud.

Quinces, Orange, Portugal, Rea's Seedling.

Filberts, Spanish Chesnuts, Madeira Nuts, (English Walnuts.)

Hardy Grapes, for the Garden and Vineyard, including *Delaware, Diana, Concord, Rebecca*, and all others of value.

Foreign Grapes, for Vineries, 1 and two years from eyes. Strong, well ripened plants, in pots, of all the best old and new varieties, including *Buckland's Sweetwater, Muscat Hamburg, Golden Hamburg, Lady Downe &c.*

Strawberries, all the best sorts in cultivation, old and new.

Blackberries, *New Rochelle or Lawton, Dorchester*, (the largest stock in existence)

Raspberries, A general collection, including those fine, new, everbearing sorts, *Belle de Fontenay*, and *Merveille de Quatre Saisons*.

Gooseberries, The best English sorts, and an immense stock of the American Seedling that bears most profusely, and never mildews.

Currants, *White Grape. Cherry. Victoria. Black Naples.* and all other valuable old and new sorts.

Rhubarb, including *Linnæus, Prince Albert, Giant Victoria*, and many others.

NOTE.—No pains are spared by the proprietors and their assistants, in the Fruit Department, not only to ensure accuracy, but also to adapt the stock, as regards varieties, to the wants of the various portions of the country as far as practicable.

Ornamental Trees.

The stock is immense, all well grown and in perfect health and vigor. Nurserymen, Dealers, Landscape Gardeners, Park and Cemetary Companies, and gentlemen about to improve their Grounds, are all invited to examine it.

Deciduous Trees—Elms, Maples, Cypress, Catalpas, Horse Chesnuts, Larch, Laburnums, Lindens, Magnolias, Mountain Ash, Tulip Trees, Salisburia, Poplars, Thorns, &c., of all sizes.

Weeping Trees—Ash, Birch, Elm, Linden, Mountain Ash, Poplar, Thorn, Willow, including the American and Kilmarnock.

Evergreen Trees—Arbor Vitæ, (American, Siberian and Chinese,) Red Cedar, Common Juniper, Balsam Fir, European Silver Fir, Norway Spruce, Red American Spruce, African or Silver Cedar, Japan Cedar, (Cryptomeria,) Pines, (Austrian, Scotch, Benthamiana, &c.,) Yews, (English and Irish,) Tree Box, Mahonia, Washingtonia, or "Big Tree" of California, and many other California Evergreens.

Flowering Shrubs, including all the finest new varieties of Althea, Calycanthus, Flowering Currant, Deutzia, Loniceras, Lilacs, Syringas, Spiræas, Viburnums, Wiegeleas, &c.

Climbing Shrubs—such as Honeysuckles, Bignonias, Aristolochia (Pipe Vine,) Clematis, Ivy, &c.

Roses—A great stock, both on their own roots, and budded on the famous Manetti stock. This cultivation is the largest of the kind in the Union, covering 6 to 8 acres of ground annually, and forming a speciality of itself. All the fine new sorts are annually imported, and poor ones discarded as soon as proved.—The best only are grown in large numbers.

Pæonies—(Herbaceous,) a superb collection of upward of 80 varieties.

Phloxes—A collection of 140 beautiful varieties in 3 sections.

Chrysanthemums—Fifty selected best sorts of the Large and Pompone classes.

Carnations, Picotees and Monthly Carnations, a fine stock.

Hollyhocks—superb double varieties of all colors.

Dahlias—a select assortment of the best varieties, the prize varieties are annually imported.

Hardy Border Perennial Plants—Over 500 species and varieties. During the past four or five years we have given this class of plants special attention, one of our most competent men has had charge of it and we have been constantly adding such desirable plants as we could find.

Hardy Bulbs—such as Hyacinths, Tulips, Crocus, Crown Imperials, Jonquils, Lilies, &c, imported annually from Holland, ready to send out in September

Summer and Autumn Flowering Bulbs—such as Gladiolus, Japan Lilies, Amaryllias, Tigridas, Tuberoses, &c., by the dozen, 100 or 1000.

Green-House and Bedding-Out Plants, of all the popular classes grown extensively and sold cheap.

Stocks for Nurserymen.

Pear Seedlings, 1 year from seed bed.

Mazzard Cherry, 1 year, strong.

Mahleb Cherry, 1 year, strong.

Comewell Willow, to graft the weeping sorts on.

All parties interested are solicited to examine the prices and stock

The following catalogues are sent free, post-paid, to all who apply and enclose one stamp for each.

No. 1, *Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits*, new edition, 1860.

No 2, *Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees* new edition, 1860

No 3, *Green-House and Bedding-Out Plants*, Spring of 1860.

No. 4, *Wholesale or Trade Catalogue*, just published.

ELLWANGER & BARRY.

Mount Hope Nurseries,

11 1] Rochester, N. Y.

DRAINING TILE.

MILWAUKEE TILE WORKS

Manufactory, 4th Avenue, near Lapham Street, 8th Ward.

THESE WORKS have recently been erected, with new and improved machinery, and are capable of turning off 75,000 Tile per month. The clay used gives a tile of unsurpassed hardness, strength and durability. Affording the cheapest and most perfect draining material in the world.

Arrangements will be made with the different roads, to transfer them at the lowest price at which any freight is moved. Farmers who cultivate clay lands, or who have wet or retentive soils, either uplands or valleys, can make no more profitable investment than Tile Draining. The effects are immediate and telling at once, in early maturity and enhanced production. Frequently sufficient to repay the outlay the first season.

To cultivate Fruit successfully in this State, underdraining is an absolute necessity.

L. W. WEEKS, Proprietor.

GEO. STRONG, Superintendent.

PRICES:

1½ inch Round Tile, $8 per 1000.
2 inch Sole Tile, $10 do
3 inch do do 18 do
2½ inch Horse Shoe Tile, $10 per 1000
3½ inch do do do 15 do
4½ inch do do do 18 do

They will be delivered free of drayage to cars or boats.

Milwaukee, August, 11 tf

TO SHEEP OWNERS.

THE Subscriber wishes to purchase, or take on shares **100 Sheep.** Any one having more sheep than they wish to keep, will do well to write me, at Boscobel, Grant Co., Wis. 1* JOHN TUFFLEY.

EVERY FAMILY WANTS
A Sewing Machine!
DOUBLE THREADED.
SEND ON YOUR ORDERS!
Prices: No. 1, $25; No. 2, $30; No. 3, $35. Manufacturing Machines, $35 to $40.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, at prices within the reach of every family, and adapted to all kinds of coarse and fine work. Agencies wanted in all counties thro'-out the Northwestern States, by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES Which have the highest testimonials and certificates in their favor from families and the public press. They will run backward or forward, making a smooth and elastic stitch on all kinds of fabric, by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES Our Machines run with a rubber friction wheel, doing away with the stretching and annoyance of a belt or band—a desideratum which has long been sought for. Our Machines have a straight needle and a guard to prevent breaking, thus requiring not more than one needle in six months common use. Made by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES So simple in their construction that a child of twelve years can work them with ease. We warrant the seam secure tho' every third stitch be cut; they make 96 stitches per inch, stronger and handsomer than any sewing done by hand. Sold by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES That will Hem, Stitch, Fell, Gather, Embroider, and make two different stitches on the the same machine; embodying all the improvements of the age at prices varying from $25 to $40 each, made and sold by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES Our Machines are used throughout the country, giving satisfaction to all who use them, and are, undoubtedly, the most economical, best made, and cheapest in use. A person thoroughly acquainted with the construction and operation of all kinds of Sewing Machines will always be in attendance, and ready to serve all who wish information in regard to our machines, at

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES We will furnish circulars with full and explicit directions for using, also, explaining their mechanical construction, and giving the most satisfactory evidence of their superiority in many respects over all other Family Machines.

PATENT UNIVERSAL HEMMER. We have the "Universal Hemmers," adapted to all kinds of machines. Price $5. They will be sent by mail to any one on the receipt of the above amount.

NOTICE TO AGENTS. **We offer a liberal discount** to parties wishing an **Agency** or **Right of Sale** of our Machines. With a small investment of capital a profitable business can be readily established. All sales to Agents, with discount, must be invariably for CASH.

N. B.—Our Machines all stand on a table, and are worked by a treadle.

☞ On remittance of $25 we will send to any family a machine per return of express.

Address,

C. A. COOK,
Agent Sewing Machine Co.
OFFICE—124 LAKE STREET, (up stairs,) CHICAGO.

Genesee Valley Nurseries.
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

FROST & Co., Proprietors of the *Genesee Valley Nurseries*, Rochester, N. Y., offer for sale for the Autumn of 1860 and Spring of 1861, one of the largest stocks of *Standard and Dwarf Fruit Trees, Small Fruits and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Plants, &c.*, in the United States. The grounds at the present time contain over

Three Hundred and Fifty Acres,

devoted entirely to the cultivation of Trees and Plants.

The stock is so extensive in its different departments, that they are enabled to furnish the entire orders of their correspondents of the different kinds, of the best quality, and at the lowest market prices. Trees and Plants are packed in such a manner that they will reach the more distant parts of the United States in perfect condition.

Orders from Nurserymen, Dealers and others, who may wish to purchase in large quantities, are executed with care and despatch, as well as those who may favor them with the smallest orders.

Catalogues.

The following Catalogues contain full particulars of the stock in the different departments, and will be furnished gratis to all applicants who enclose a postage stamp for each:

No. 1—*Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits.*

No. 2—*Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c.*, for the Autumn of 1860 and the Spring of 1861.

No. 3—*Catalogue of Dahlias, Verbenas, Green House, and Bedding Plants.*

No. 4—*Wholesale Catalogue or Trade List*, for Nurserymen, Dealers and others, who may wish to buy in large quantities, for Autumn of 1860.

No. 5—*Catalogue of Flowering Bulbs.*

Address, FROST & CO.,
11 2] Genesee Valley Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

SMALL FRUITS.

WE have an immense stock of Small Fruits for sale during the Autumn of 1860, and Spring of 1861.

In addition to the common sorts of **Native Grapes**, we have over 25,000 plants of such desirable sorts as *Delaware, Concord, Diana, Rebecca, Hartford Prolific, Early Northern Muscadine, Logan*, and 20 other sorts for outdoor culture. Of **Foreign Grapes** we have 35 sorts, one to two years old, for hot or cold vineries, or for fruiting in pots.

An extensive stock of each of the common sorts of **Currants**, one or two years old, and fine one year old plants of *White Grape, Victoria Cherry, &c.*

Fine and well-grown **Gooseberry** plants, of the *American* and *Houghton Seedling*, which never mildew, as well as the best English sorts most suitable for this climate.

A great stock of **Raspberries**, such as *Red Antwerp* (Hudson River), *Yellow Antwerp, Orange, Franconia, Knevitt's Giant, &c*, including several thousand of the Autumn bearing kinds, *Belle de Fontenoy, Marvel of 4 Seasons*, and others.

Strawberries—The most extensive stock of salable plants and varieties—comprising over 60 sorts—in the Union.

Fine **Blackberries**, *New Rochelle* and *Dorchester*, in large quantities.

Also, **Figs, Filberts** and **Mulberries.**

Orders from Nurserymen, Dealers, and others, who may wish to buy in large quantities, as well as those who may favor us with the smallest orders, will be executed with care and dispatch.

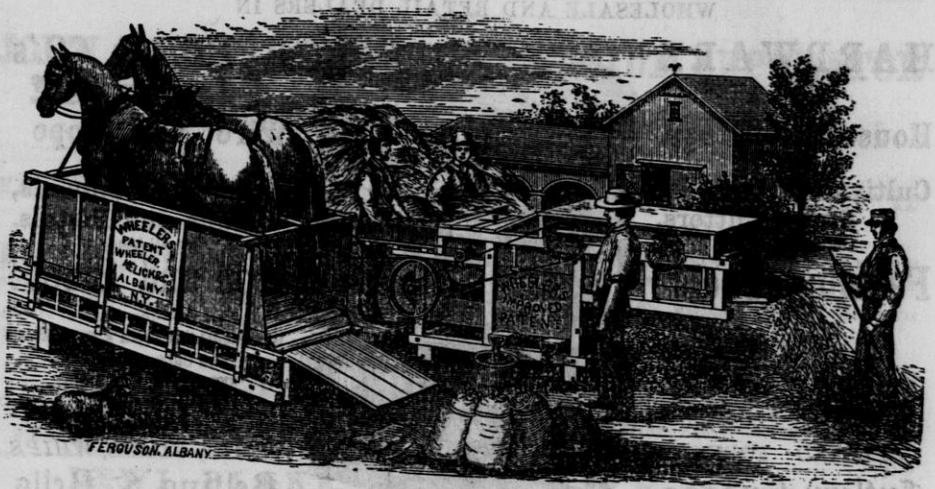
Catalogues containing description, with prices at retail, and No. 4 Catalogue, offering Plants in large quantities, sent on application containing a postage stamp for each.

FROST & CO.,
Proprietors of Genesee Valley Nurseries,
11 2] Rochester, N. Y.

J. A. Carpenter & Co.,
FINE STOCK BREEDERS.

HAVE for Sale Devon Cattle, South Down Sheep, Essex and Suffolk Hogs, Dorkin Fowls, &c., &c. South Pass, Union Co., Ill. [11 1.

WHEELER'S PAT. RAILWAY HORSEPOWER



W. D. BACON, WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN,

Is constantly receiving and will keep for sale

Wheeler, Melick & Co.'s valuable Railway Improved Combined Thresher and Winnower, for two horses.

SINGLE HORSE POWER THRESHERS, with Straw Separators.
STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS
WOOD SAW MILLS.
FEED GRINDERS.

WHEELER'S FOUR AND SIX HORSE LEVER POWERS, ready to use for general purposes for Cutting Straw, Grinding Feed, Sawing Wood, as well as built expressly to drive all the different sizes of Threshers by them made, enabling the purchaser to choose a Tread or Lever power. Also—

Pitt's Eight and Ten Horse Power Threshers and Separators,

With Latest Improvements, with or without Trucks, Straw Stackers, &c. Also,

Felton's Improved Feed Mill,

Capable of Grinding Corn in the Ear, or the smallest of shelled grain. Will grind Meal or Flour for domestic use; can be easily operated with one horse; will grind coarse or fine, according to the wish of the operator; is self-sharpening, and can be worked on any barn floor. Four years use prove it to be the *most durable*, as well as the best FARMER'S MILL offered to the public, and will be sold at greatly reduced prices.

WHEELER'S THRESHER'S are built with special reference to economical threshing, and can be used on any ordinary sized barn floor—and with late improvements can be as well-worked in the field; can be worked with from three to five hands and to adapt them to more special convenience, Wheeler, Melick & Co. have built two sizes, one with 26 inch Cylinder, more particularly for home use, to be operated with little help; and one with a 30 inch Cylinder, to accommodate neighborhood wants; and the same snug, compact form (enlarged) is retained so that in addition to neighborhood threshing it can be economically used for home wants, and worked on any ordinary sized barn floor—and the attention of Farmers is called to this particular feature in the Tread Power, for with a Tread Power threshing can be done in cold and stormy weather, by the farmer in his barn, and with *moderate elevation*.

Testimonials can be given from numerous farmers of the perfect ease and safety with which horses can be worked on these Tread Powers; yet to obviate the objection of an occasional customer Wheeler has built a light, strong made Lever Power, to be worked with four or six horses, admitting customers to choose according to taste and judgment. ☞ Machines will be sold invariably at **the lowest shop prices of the Manufacturer,** adding transportation charges at Milwaukee, where orders will generally be delivered.

These Machines will be kept for sale at

My Residence,	Waukesha,
My Place of Business, No. 158 East Water street,	Milwaukee,
H. & J. F. Hill's Warehouse,	Milwaukee,
J. F. Kirkland's Pier,	Sheboygan.

Where responsible and reliable agents will always be on hand to attend to the requests of customers.

☞ The subscriber keeps constantly on hand **Castings at cost** to repair all breakages that can occur. ☜

9tf] **W. D. BACON, Waukesha, Wis.**

JOHN NAZRO & Co.,

Nos. 121, 123, and 125 East-Water street. Milwaukee,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE

AND

House Trimmings.

—:o:—

Cultivator Teeth,

Straw Cutters,

And all kinds of

Farming Tools!

—:o:—

All kinds of

TIN PLATE

SHEET IRON,

COPPER, &c., &c.

—:o:—

PLATED FORKS,

Cutlery, Spoons,

R. HOE & CO.'s

Saws!

Wire and Rope

—:o:—

Axes, Hoes, Shovels,

Guns and Pistols.

Also all kinds of

Iron and Steel!

—:o:—

Blacksmith's, Cooper's, Carpenter's and Cabinet Maker's

TOOLS.

Of all kinds

—:o:—

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS,

Belting & Bells.

PATENT
SUGAR CANE MILLS.
FOR THE CROP of 1860.

ARE NOW BEING MANUFACTURED AT THE Mendota Foundry; of several sizes, of *entirely new patterns*. They will be warranted superior to any other pattern in the country, not only for convenience of use, but for *STRENGTH*, and also for cheapness.

Every point that the experience of the past has demonsonstrated as too weak, has been strengthened, until the fullest confidence is now entertained that they will prove

Just precisely what is wanted!

Our upright three-roller mills will cost from $50 to $75, depending upon size and weight.

Our Horizontal double-geared Mills from $60 to $100.

The Patent Lever Safe-Guards are used to compress the Rollers upon all the larger, and upon the smaller Mills, when desired.

This apparatus renders it impossible to break a Mill without the grossest carelessness, a highly important consideration to all buyers, of course.

Those wanting mills will do better to buy of us than from the East, as new pieces can be so much more easily obtained when needed.

☞ Address all communications on the subject to Mendota Foundry, Madison, care of

12-10] D. J. POWERS.

MENDOTA FOUNDRY

Madison, Wisconsin,

IS IN A SHAPE TO DO ALL SORTS OF REPAIRS on Agricultural and other Machinery, on short notice.

All work will be done well and at reasonable rates.

Castings of all kinds made weekly. **Patterns of almost every description** can be found at the Foundry.

Old Castings bought at the highest market price.

Extra *Gearing* for Reapers and Threshers, usually on hand. ☞ Located on Lake Mendota, near Marston's Store.

☞ *GOOD SECOND HAND THRESHING MACHINES* for sale at the Mendota Foundry, at bargains that will suit those wishing to buy cheap machines.

Address Mendota Foundry, care of

12-10] D. J. POWERS.

THE SPRING TERM OF THE

EVANSVILLE ACADEMY,

Will commence on **Wednesday, March 21st, 1860,** at 9 o'clock, A. M.

IN ADDITION TO WHAT IS REQUIRED TO PREpare young men for College, provision has been made to furnish instruction in the FRENCH and GERMAN LANGUAGES, PRACTICAL SURGEYING and CIVIL ENGINEERING.

☞ Special attention will be given to Stndents in the NORMAL DEPARTMENT.

BOARD, including rooms, fuel and lights, can be procured in good families at $1 75 per week. A large number of students boarded in clubs during the last term at an average expense of less than $1 00 per week.

TUITION ranges from $4 00 to $7 00 per term of eleven weeks.

For further information inquire of

D. Y. KILGORE, *Principal.*

Evansville, Rock Co., Wis., Feb. 28, 1860.

☞ N. B.—School District Officers are informed that a few of the members of our Normal Class, who design to teach the coming summer, have not yet engaged schools, and any communication giving full particulars of wants, compensation, etc., directed to the principal, will receive prompt attention. [12 6 4] D Y. K.

J. T. MARSHALL,

Importer and Dealer in

FINE DRUGS & CHEMICALS

Also Manufacturer of Chemical Preparations, French Cosmetics, Fine Perfumery, &c.

No. 32, City Buildings, New York.

☞ Price list supplied to the trade on application. ☜

The subscriber will send (*free of charge*) to all who desire it, the Recipe and directions for making a simple *Vegetable Balm*, that will, in from two to eight days, remove Pimples, Blotches, *Tan, Freckles*, Sallowness, and all impurities and roughness of the Skin, leaving the same—as Nature intended it should be—soft, clear, smooth, and beautiful. Those desiring the Recipe, with full instructions, directions, and advice, will please call on or address (with return postage,)

JAS. T. MARSHALL,
Practical Chemist,
12-10-3] No. 32 City Buildings, N. Y.

THRESHING MACHINES.

JOHN A. PITTS' IMPROVED PREMIUM SEPARATOR
—AND—
DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWER.

MANUFACTURED AT BUFFALO, N. Y., BY JOHN A. PITTS, THE ORIGINAL INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

THESE MACHINES STAND UNRIVALED FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN, AND ARE acknowledged to be SUPERIOR to any other Thresher in the World, in its *operation, finish and mechanical construction.*

The Shoe is hung so as to shake alike at both ends. Other *improvements in the Machines* for 1860, make it far superior to any heretofore made.

THRESHERS of different Sizes are Manufactured, from Two to Ten Horse Power; also,

PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES, from Three to Twenty Horse Power.

These Machines are sold here at from $25 to $75 less than other Treshing Machines. Call and examine our machines before purchasing elsewhere. ☞ Terms made easy. ☜

P. L. CARMAN & CO., Agents for John A. Pitts.

Office and Warehouse near M. & M. R. R. Depot, Madison, Wis. xii-9

LEWI BLAKE,

JOBBER AND RETAILER OF

MILLINERY & FANCY GOODS,

EMBROIDERIES, LACES,

ALEXANDERS' KID GLOVES,

Dress Trimmings, Straw & Silk Hats,

&c., &c., &c.

NO. 23, WISCONSIN STREET,

MILWAUKEE, - - - - - WISCONSIN.

Childs' Engraving Rooms.

117½ Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

DIES FOR MEDALS; POLICE, MILITARY, and Firemen's Badges; Metallic Letters; Notarial and other Seals and Presses; Stencil Marking Plates; Binders Stamps; Door Plates; Baggage Checks; Views of Buildings and Machinery; Wedding and Calling Cards; Drawings for the Patent Office. Address,

xii-8-12 CHILDS' & CO., P. O. Box 83.

UNDERGROUND
OR
MOLE DRAINER.

For Reclaiming Swamp, Low, or Clay Lands.

For Underdraining Orchards, or Producing Stock Water.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS PREPARED TO DISPOSE of Territory in Farm or Town rights, and to furnish machines or fill orders for jobs of ditching on short notice. For information, address

E. W. SKINNER,
Ag't of the Wis. Land Draining Company.
12 MADISON, WIS.

GEO. V. OTT'S
LEATHER & HARNESS STORE

Wholesale and Retail

Upper, Sole, Harness, and Belting Leather,

FRENCH CALF AND KIP SKINS,

Shoe Findings, Tools and Lasts, Plastering Hair.

☞ Harness made to order, and Repairing done, &c.

GEORGE V. OTT.

In Basement of Bruen's Block, under Dane co. Bank, Madison, Wis. 12-7-12

J. S. BROWN,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Ag't for obtaining Patents

IN THE

United States & European Countries.

DRAWINGS AND PAPERS OF ALL KINDS REquired in securing, obtaining, extending, defending or selling patents, prepared; and all business connected therewith, attended to.

Copies of drawings, illustrations, specifications, records descriptions, and information relative to inventions and the arts, both in this country and abroad, promptly furnished.

Inventors are advised to have preliminary examinations made at the Patent office, to ascertain if their inventions are probably new, bdfore proceeding to make applications for patents. By doing so, disappointment and expense will often be avoided. After making such an examination and deciding that an invention may be patented, he very seldom fails in any case he proceeds with. The fee for this examination is generally five dollars. It is necessary, however, to except brick machines, churns, looms, grist and saw mills, plows, pumps, sewing machines, steam engines, stoves, threshing machines, washing machines, and water wheels; the very great number of patents already granted in each of which classes, requiring a double fee to be charged for a thorough examination; and in the case of stoves, it would generally cost less to make application at once than to make a previous, reliable search. But, when desired, he will make as careful an examination in these classes as he can afford, for the ordinary fee, and in most instances would discover it, if the device should be old. To enable him to make an examination, a model sent to him would be best. But a rough sketch of the invention, accompanied by a description referring to the sketch by letters or figures, is generally sufficient.

REJECTED APPLICATIONS receive special attention. Many patentable and very valuable inventions now lie buried in the Pateet Office, because the applications were imperfectly prepared or unskillfully prosecuted. If, after examination, a rejected case is believed to be patentable, he will undertake to prosecute the application for a contingent fee previously guaranteed, charging nothing for his services unless he succeeds in obtaining a patent. A long and successful experience in this branch of his business warrants him in offering so favorable terms to inventors. Or, if the inventor should prefer, a stated fee will be charged independent of the result.

Models sent by express, should be directed to his office 451, 7th street, Washington, D. C. 1

THE

Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Office S. E. Corner Main & Wisconsin Streets,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wis. and Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT THAT A Policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provisions for one's family," and since his day, EXPERIENCE has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generaly practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms. It is a HOME COMPANY. Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly scared character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies.

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

TRUSTEES:

S. S. Daggett,	Dr. E. B. Wolcott,	H. L. Palmer,
Lester Sexton,	Sam'l Marshall,	M. Steever,
Geo. B. Miner,	A. H. Scoville,	H. L. Dousman,
J. A. Barber,	Ezra Miller,	J. A. Dutcher,
C. P. Illsley,	A. C. Wilmans,	D. B. Whitacre,
J. C. Johnson,	James Neil,	Andrew Proudfit,
J. B. Martin,	A. Eldred,	J. Bonnell,
D. Newhall,	H. A. Nichols,	M. S. Scott,
D. Nash,	S. C. Hall,	J. Hackett,
J. H. Rountree,	B. F. Pixley,	A. Graham,
O. Alexander,	M. C. Darling,	Carl Shurz,
L. G. Fisher,	J. H. Earnest,	S. C. Spaulding.

S. S. DAGGETT, *President.*

A. W. KELLOGG, *Sec'y.* E. B. WOLCOTT, *Vice Pres't.*
C. D. NASH, *Treas'r.* S. C. BENEDICT, *Agent,*
12 1 24] Madison, Wis.

HOWE'S IMPROVED

Hay or Cattle Scales.

THE BEST IN USE.

FIRST PREMIUM OVER FAIRBANKS AT Vermont State Fair, 1857, and 1858.
First Premium and no competition in 1859.
First Premium at 13 different State Fairs.
Silver and Bronze Medals at the American Institute Fair, New York, 1859.
Howe's Scales for all use, hbve great simplicity, wonderful accuracy.
REQUIRE NO PITT; may be set on top of the ground or on a barn floor, and easily removed.
No Check Rod; no friction on Knife edges; all friction received on ball. Weigh truly if not level.
Delivered at any Railroad station in the Union or in Canada, set up and warranted to give entire satisfaction or taken back.
Send for Circulars and Price Lists, with account of trial of scales between Howe and Fairbanks, at Vermont State Fairs, to JAMES G. DUDLEY,
General Western Agent, 93 Main street,
12 3] Buffalo, N. Y.

HERRING'S PATENT

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,

WITH HALL'S PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS, HAVE NEVER FAILED in more than three hundred disastrous Fires.

THE SAFEST AND BEST SAFE IN USE.

Delivered at any Railroad Station in the United States or Canada, at the very lowest rates, by
JAMES G. DUDLEY, Sole Agent,
12 3] at 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

JOHN P. ROE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN PURE BRED Durham Cattle and Southdown Sheep, offers for sale, at prices to suit the times, a few superior young Bulls and Rams of the above breeds, from animals of my own importations. P.O. address, Union Church, Racine Co. Muskego, Waukesha Co., Wis. [12 9 3

For Sale.

FOUR SUGAR MILLS at $35 each, to close out a lot. A. MENGES,
Madison, June 22. [12 9 2] No. 2 U.S. Block.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE DIRECTORS OF THE DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmer's) INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *large, prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra hazardous risks. Its character as a well-conducted, reliable and prompt paying institution has become well established *shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmer's* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY,	Director.	GEO. B. BLY, President,
LOGAN GRAVES,	do	E. BARKER, Vice Pres't
MATTHEW L. COE,	do	EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER,	do	JOHN WARE, Treasurer.

L. B. HILLS, Acting Director, E. BARKER, Gen'l Ag't.
12 3 12v]

WALDO J. ELMORE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

China, Glass and Earthen Ware,

House Furnishing Wares,

LAMPS, AND CORNELIUS' GAS FIXTURES,

And Manufacturer of Looking Glasses.

No. 163 East Water-St., Milwaukee
11 6]

Chicago and Northwestern Railway.

COMPLETED THROUGH TO OSHKOSH, Wisconsin, for Oshkosh, Green Bay, Fond du Lac, Horicon, Ripon, Berlin, Sparta, La Crosse, St. Paul, Prairie du Chien, Watertown, Madison, Janesville, Beloit, Freeport, Galena, Dunleith, Dubuque, &c., &c., &c.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, APRIL 9TH.

TRAINS LEAVE GOING NORTH.			
Chicago,	9.45 a. m.	4.00 p. m.	9.30 p. m.
Janesville,	6.45 a. m.	1.50 p. m.	.....
Arrive at Osheosh	7.00 a. m.	7.90 p. m.	.....
TRAINS LEAVE GOING SOUTH.			
Oshkosh,	9.30 a. m.	6.00 p. m.	.....
Janesville,	12.30 a. m.	7.15 a. m.	2.45 p. m.

Arrive at Chicago, making close connections with Trains for the East. xii-8 GEO. L. DUNLAP, Supt.

CAST STEEL BELLS,

For Churches, Academies, Fire Alarms, Factories, &c.

FROM SHEFFIELD, ENG.,

HAVE BEEN TESTED IN ALL CLIMATES, EUROPE and America. Weigh less; cost less per pound; have better tones; can be heard further than any other bells. They cost fifty per cent less than

THE BEST COMPOSITION BELLS.

Which are also sold by me at maker's prices.

BROKEN BELLS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE,

Or re-cast on short notice. Such bells will nearly pay for Steel Bells of the same size.

Send for Circular. Bells delivered in all parts of the United States or Canada, by
JAMES G. DUDLEY,
12 3] 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

HURRAH FOR THE STATE FAIR of 1860!

$50,000!

Fifty Thousand Dollars Worth of

FALL AND WINTER STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS!

AT THE NEW FIRM OF

MENGES & BARTELS,

No. 2, United States Block,

MADISON, WISCONSIN.

OUR PRICES

ARE

FIFTEEN PER CENTUM LOWER

Than those of any other Dry Goods Firm this side of the City of Chicago.

Our Goods are mostly Purchased for Cash direct from the Manufacturers.

OUR WHOLESALE DEPARTMENT

Is as Well Selected as any in Milwaukee or Chicago and

COUNTRY MERCHANTS & FARMERS

Will find our figures as low as at either of the abovplaeecs.

We also keep on hand a Good Assortment of

Yankee Notions!

MENGES & BARTELS,

No. 2 United States Block.

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE
MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapter 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations,..	$39,080 95

ASSETS.

Premium Notes of policy holders,...	$35,462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,..	2,986 02	
Amount due, secured by mortgage and in judgment,.....	332 47	
Office furniture and fixtures,.....	300 00	
		$39,080 95

Whole number of Policies issued,.....	4,807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$2,009,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,....	None.
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,.	None.
Number of policies issued in 1859,.....	1,187
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$1,140,076 00
Amount of premium notes receiv'd thereon	17,109 82
Amount of cash premiums receiv'd thereon	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid, (12 in number,)....	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents,.....	3,317 70
Amount of expenses paid, including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,.....	3,317 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madison Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President,
D. J. POWERS, Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do
WM. DUDLEY, do
JAMES MORRISON, do

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860.

T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

February 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	$10 00
February 28—Loss of J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland County,.....	10 00
April 22—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau County,.....	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane County,.....	15 50
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson County.....	690 38
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co.	650 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge County.....	68 00
Nov. 25—Loss of Jas. K. Main, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	403 57
Nov. 25—Loss of Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha County,.....	27 00
December 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison Dane County,.....	20 00
December 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth County,.....	400 00
December 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha County,.....	100 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $2,986 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance in a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in this Report.

The Officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS:

N. W. Dean,	D. J. Powers,
B. F. Hopkins,	Geo. F. Hastings,
James Morrison,	William Dudley,
C. C. Washburn,	G. F. Taylor,
J. W. Boyd,	H. H. Giles,
S. H. Vandercook,	David Atwood.

L. W. Hoyt.

OFFICERS:

N. W. DEAN,.....President,
D. J. POWERS,.....Vice President,
DAVID ATWOOD,.....Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS,.....General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin Institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and the State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expenses; while stock companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refund to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1 50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged, not exceeding the amount insured.

10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary,
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

Madison, January 7, 1860. [12 2

☞ OFFICE IN PORTER'S BLOCK, MADISON. ☜

WISCONSIN FARMER.

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D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

THE OTHER GREAT NEED OF WISCONSIN.

Next to Agriculture, which is, and ever must be, the great leading business and reliance of the State, Manufacturing and Mechanical operations must take their rank. Mining and Lake Commerce, though great interests, and bound to be, especially the latter, must rank behind the Mechanical for all time to come.—This is the more emphatically true since the world, and everything else, has got to running entirely by machinery.

Wisconsin, from now on, with its millions of acres of rich and tillable soil, is going to produce an abundance of the very elements of wealth, and, but for divers and sundry reasons that we shall shortly reach, would soon become absolutely rich, not only in acres of real estate, but in cash. But the trouble with us is, that we buy too much from other States and other countries. Our constant and heavy purchases from abroad, of about everything we eat, drink and wear, or use about our farms and houses, literally drains us dry of all our agricultural resources, however great they may be. In proof of what we have been saying, let every man and woman look about their establishment and enquire where this and that article of farm, household, or personal use came from; full nine out of ten, both large and small, will be traced directly to the East, or to a foreign country. Well, some may say, this is all natural enough, for a new State. Perhaps it has been both natural and proper, thus far; but has not the time at length come when it should in a measure, at least, and as far as possible, be discontinued.

It is calculated by the knowing ones, that the farmers of Wisconsin will have bought the present year, hard as the times have been considered, not less than $2,000,000 worth of implements and machinery alone, and full 7-8ths of it made out of the State; that still larger amounts will be annually wanted cant be doubted, of course; and much of it of a character that could just as well be made here at home, in our own villages and cities. We know that not a few of our people have got the idea stereotyped upon their minds that all such things to be good, must be made East; but this is all, or nearly all, a mistake. Just as good threshing machines, reapers, and mowers, and all like machinery, can be made here in almost any locality, as at the East. But some one is ready to say that we have not the timber; we reply that we have the timber as handy and cheap as the State of New York, or New England. It is a fact that may, or may not be known generally, that the New York reaper makers mostly buy their lumber in Michigan and Indiana, thus shipping it much further than we should have to. The best white ash, white wood, white oak, &c., can be delivered to order in Milwaukee and Chicago, at as low or lower prices than in Buffalo, or Albany. What, then, is the difficulty in this respect? None, whatever. Then, as to iron and coal, the next great items in manufacture—they can also be had, even in the interior of Wisconsin, for a fraction over Eastern prices. We understand that some of our foundries are using the Ironton iron for machinery purposes, and finding it not only cheap, but good.—Thus there is no material impediment in this respect either.

A want of capital is somewhat of an impediment, beyond a doubt; but a want of confidence to invest such capital as might be spared for the purpose, is really the greatest impediment in the way. It has been so customary for all of our men of means to invest all their money in some other direction, that it

seems almost impossible to work a change. A two-penny store, when there are twice as many as are needed already, seems a good enough investment, and quite respectable; or if, by some lucky chance, there is the ability, by borrowing, or otherwise, to start a BANK! Ye gods, what a word! how much of all that is great and glorious!! yea, rich and powerful, is wrapped up in it!!! a Bank!!!! What is it? Why, verdant reader, it is not unfrequently, in this country, some seven-by-nine room, which has a showy counter grated up like a cage for wild beasts, behind which there is, perchance, a very little wildcat paper money, and little or no specie; but *Jupiter Ammon!* what a great man (in his own conceit) is the *banker*, and greater still his subordinates.—Do you think these demi-gods would give themselves any concern about so ordinary and shabby a matter as mechanical and manufacturing developments? not often, we ween. In the vulgar acceptation, they have got up in the world, and are not unfrequently the envied of all (who do not know any better) *below them.*

But really, setting joking and the stupid notions of the age aside, who does not see that a well-ordered manufactory, or a first class mechanic shop, is as much more useful, and consequently, more respectable than another store, or a bank as good, sound, practical common sense is ahead of brainless stupidity.

But we are allowing the paltry whims of the age to lead us into digression; to go back to the subject—we would say, that we wish to impress upon the minds of our good mechanics, that they can start the manufacture of many more of our every-day articles than they have hitherto attempted, especially if they can interest their more wealthy business men to afford them temporary aid; and, in fact, oftentimes without it, by beginning in a more humble way.

One of our Wisconsin manufacturers, who has grown to wealth and local eminence in the manufacture of threshing machines—having made three hundred the present year, out of which he will probably realize a profit of from $40,000 to $50,000—has told us that he commenced some years ago in his back kitchen for a shop, and without means. That man has done no more than hundreds of others might, if they only had the courage to try, and the *pluck to persevere.*

Wisconsin will buy from New York and Ohio from 600 to 1000 threshing machines the present year, at prices ranging from $400 to $475—150 of them will be sold from Madison alone. Say the whole number is 800, at $430 on an average, amounting in all to $344,000, nearly one half of which sum is profit to somebody outside of the State. Now, can any one tell us why Madison could not make the 150 machines they sell for Buffalo manufacturers, yea, and three hundred a year, as well as Racine? We can tell; it is because her men of means had rather sit idle, or invest in some more *genteel* speculation. Had she a CASE, who would turn his means and his energies in such a *humble* direction, and clear his $50,000 a year, and at the same time employ and feed, directly and indirectly, a thousand laboring people, then the thing could be done, and the profits and employment of such a business would refill our empty houses, and build fine edifices upon our *lonesome looking* corner lots, instead of building them in Buffalo, and Canton, Ohio.

What Madison could and ought to do in this matter, any other city or town in the State could do as well in proportion to its size and means.

Whitewater, Beaver Dam, Portage, Berlin, Menasha, and numbers of other towns of that class, that might be mentioned, could turn out their one or two hundred threshers per annum. They have the mechanics among them who could do it in the very best style, for it is really no greater *trick* for a good mechanic to make a good thresher, than to make a *good* wagon. They would simply need a good model to work after, and to be good constructing mechanics, that's all!

What is true of threshers, is also equally true of reapers; a hand raking reaper (and for most farmers they are the best,) is in reality a very simple thing to make, *and make well*; any good mechanic of any gumption, with a good machine for a model, and the patterns to work with, can build one, two, or a hundred, yea, and it could be done in any little village, if it happens to have a *big enough man or men* in it to take hold and guide the matter. Why then, we ask, in the name of common sense, continue to buy from 5,000 to 10,000 reapers per annum, from every where else but home manufactures. Good business men can make reapers and supply the home demand, if they did but think so, just as well as to keep the

shops of New York and Ohio in a hum, making them for us, and at enormous profits, or what would be enormous to home manufacturers, on home sales.

But, says some one, there are too many patents in the way of all these matters, so that nothing could be done with safety. In reply to that we would say, that all the patents worth having, can easily be purchased for a sum that manufacturers can afford to pay, so that constitutes no particular impediment. The main thing in making any of these machines, is to undertake none but good styles, such as will work the first time, in the field, and give good satisfaction; try no doubtful experiments on a large scale, especially in new or patent machinery; it is usually one of the worst lotteries ever invested in; in such things take the beaten track, usually at least.

Those villages and cities among us that have got these manufactories well started, are the ones alone that are growing and prospering; yea, they are the only ones that will grow or prosper *hereafter*. The present census will tell the story in relation to all our towns.—those in which manufacturing is carried on have held their own, while those that rely upon *gas* are slightly collapsed.

We know that the last two or three years have not been the times in which to do these things; but the present is a good time for every locality to take them up and start them for the now promising future; not merely thresher and reaper making, but for such as prefer it, a host of other lesser things equally important and necessary among us.

It may be safely assumed that Wisconsin buys annually at least $2,000,000 worth of such various implements and machinery as she could just as well make, and, in doing so, only employ her idle population; and this amount will rapidly increase up to $5,000,000, and even $10,000,000 per annum, with the growth of the State. Let us set ourselves promptly and intelligently to work to stop this vast drain upon our resources. Give us the village or city that shows the most steam chimneys—two at least to every store, and ten if possible to every saloon or grog shop. Where shall our manufacturing towns be? that's the question. We say in our own State, instead of out of it! Who says amen?

☞ The Minnesotians claim a yield of 33 bushels of wheat to the acre.

WHO CAN BEAT THIS.

Messrs. Editors.—A gentleman by the neme of Joseph Dibley, residing in the vicini- of Oak Creek, Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, has raised from three and three-fourths rods of ground, one bushel and five quarts of wheat. It was sowed about the last of April, upon land where potatoes were raised last year, the method of sowing was in rows drawn with a small hoe; about half of the rows were one foot apart, and the grain dropped in at intervals of six inches; the other half the rows were nine inches apart, and the grain dropped in every five inches. A half-pint of seed was used, and the yield was at the rate of 49 bushels, one peck, two quarts and one-third of a quart, to the acre, the seed being one peck, two quarts, one pint, and one third of a pint. The kind was the Scotch Club. Mr. Dibley received two heads of the wheat from Manitowoc county two years ago; he sowed it last year and got half a pint; that he sowed this year and you have the result.

A peruser of your paper.

Oak Creek, Aug. 23d, 1860.

A BOY INVENTOR.

Mr. F. Steber has, at his jewelry store, a clock which is decidedly the most ingenious piece of workmanship we have seen for a long time. It is made entirely of pine wood (with the exception of the cogs, which are of hickory,) and was whittled out with an old jackknife by John Muir, a farmer boy of the town of Buffalo, Marquette county, who had no knowledge of the interior works of a clock or watch, with the exception of the movement of the pendulum, upon which he commenced and worked backwards until the entire clock was completed. It indicates the seconds, minutes, hours, days of the week and month, upon the different wheels, the hands being stationary. It also strikes the hour, and has an alarm attached to it; it keeps time, is easily regulated and does all that a well regulated clock ought to do.

It is well worth an examination, and shows plainly that young Muir's mind runs in a different direction from farming. This is not the only invention of his; the others are a self adjusting and feeding sawmill, a thermometer, and barometer. His sole wish now is to engage in some establishment where his talents and inventive genius can be fully developed.—We wish him success.—*Portage City Record.*

☞ The present wheat crop in New Hampshire is the best raised in the State since 1825—say the most observant farmers.

RABIES OR HYDROPHOBIA.

The term Rabies, says Dr. Dunglison, is more appropriate for the aggregate of the symptoms resulting from the bite of rabid animals, than Hydrophobia, which literally signifies a 'dread of water,' and therefore applicable to one of the symptoms of the rabies, rather than to the disease itself—a symptom which occasionally appears in nervous affections. Rabies is susceptible of spontaneous development in the dog, wolf, fox and cat, and may be transmitted to other animals and to man; but it has not been satisfactorily proved that it can supervene—without having been previously bitten—in animals of other species; or that the latter, when bitten, can communicate it to others.

Many facts induce the belief, says Dr. Dunglison, that the saliva and bronchial mucus are the sole vehicles of the rabid virus, the effect of which sometimes appear almost immediately after the bite, and at others are apparently dormant for some time. The chief symptoms are a sense of dryness and constriction of the throat—excessive thirst—difficult deglutition—aversion for, and horror at the sight of, liquids, or brilliant objects—red, animated countenance—nervous irritability—frothy saliva, grinding of the teeth, &c. Death most commonly occurs before the fifth day. Hydrophobia has resisted all therapeutical means. Those which allay irritation are obviously most called for. In the way of prevention the bitten part should always be excised, where practicable, and cauterized.

The French have paid great attention to this terrible disease, and their investigations concerning it have just been published in the *Annales d'Hygiene Publique* of 228, cases in which reference is made to the species of animals by which the hydrophobia was communicated. One hundred and eighty-eight were stated to have been produced by the bite of a dog, 26 of a wolf, 13 by that of a cat, and 1 by the bite of a fox. In two cases in which the bite of a cat produced the disease, one animal is reported to have become rabid in consequence of an excessive burn, another owing to its having been robbed of its young. These cases are of considerable interest, as they tend to resolve the still doubtful question of the spontaneous development of hydrophobia in other species of animals than the canine.

Nearly two-thirds of the whole number of cases occurred during hot weather, and only about 60 persons out of the 100 who were bitten were subsequently seized with hydrophobia, and the remaining 40 experienced no ill-effects. Numerous adventitious circumstances such as the interposition of an article of clothing to which the saliva of the rabid animal might adhere, the state of the patient's mind or health after the injury &c., would considerably influence the results in this particular. The disease is more rapidly developed in very young persons, than at any other age, and the length of time between its development and its fatal termination is usually quite brief. Out of 161 cases, 158 died within a week, more than one-half of that number dying within four days, even, from the time when the malady first manifested itself.

Upon the important subject of the relative effect of the means employed to prevent the development of hydrophobia, Dr. Tardieu, the eminent French phsician who prepared the official report, observes, that the fact cannot be too strongly insisted upon, that the only hope of security from the fatal effect of this dreadful disease consists in immediate cauterization with a red-hot iron, and that every other method only compromises the future safety of the patient by the irreparable loss of the only moments during which the preventive treatment is applicable. After epitomizing the returns from the different departments of France and giving the full accounts of the cases, Dr. Tardieu makes the disheartening statement, that of all the remedies which have as yet been suggested (chloroform included) for the treatment of hydrophobia when fully developed, he has found none to have been attended with sufficiently promising results to enable him to definitely say that it will effect a cure.

☞ It is one of the besetting sins of young men, in this extravagant age, to endeavor to get rid of work by seeking easy and lazy employment, and the consequence is, that many of them turn out worthless vagabonds.

☞ "Go ahead" is an Americanism; it is written on everything from a plow to a telegram. We are not always "sure we're right," but nevertheless we go. A little faster, a little longer, a little further, but all wrapped up in the word "go."

☞ The cranberry marshes in the section of country about Hudson, says the *Star*, present a cheering appearance—the cranberry bushes being loaded down with berries. The Minnesota papers report a large yield throughout that State.

☞ A new gunpowder is announced in England, which is said to be less dangerous than ordinary powder, produces very little smoke, and that of a less pungent kind than usual, not only enabling the miner to work in close places without the delay consequent on smoke, but greatly diminishing the unhealthy effects in the mines.

☞ The crops in Kansas have almost entirely failed, and the farmers are very seriously embarrassed.

☞ Cincinnati has paid this year for over 2400 dog scalps. Good! Keep doing so.

THE WHEAT CROP IN SAUK COUNTY.

The yield of wheat this season in this county, will not fall much, if any, short of three times that of last year. Instead of twelve bushels on the average, as was the case one year ago, twenty-four bushels are now confidently reckoned as the average crop per acre, by those who from past experience and extended observation this year, are well qualified to judge. Not far from 50 per cent more acres have been put under wheat this year than last, so that instead of the 220,000 bushels, or 160,000 surplus of last year, we shall have about 660,000 or 600,000 surplus. As Sauk county contains about one-fiftieth of the inhabitants, and the same portion of the land, in the State, it seems fair to suppose that Wisconsin will raise some 38,000,000 bushels of wheat, instead of 22,000,000 as estimated by the officers of our State Agricultural Society. It is quite probable, however, that this county makes a larger gain upon her last year's crop than most other counties, in which case our estimate of the yield this year for the State at large would be somewhat too high.

It would be impossible, we think, and we derive our opinion on this point from Mr. P. A. Basset, proprietor of the Baraboo Flouring Mills, for any set of men to sit down and plan out weather for the season which should, with our great variety of soil, produce better and more wheat than the present. While on stiff clays the wheat is a good deal lodged, it is not so badly down but a long harvest of fair weather will save all; and on the sandy loams it is just in its perfection, being scarcely lodged at all.

But if the quantity is so large, the quality is enhanced in the same degree. Last year the wheat crop was small, but its quality remarkably uniform and good. This season there is equal uniformity, with an increased plumpness of the berry, and from its slow ripening, it has reached such perfection on all soils that the item of shrinking will be almost nothing. From specimens brought to his mill, Mr. Bassett unhesitatingly pronounces the quality far superior to that of former seasons for many years past.

Owing to the heaviness and extent of the crops, and to the lodging of the straw, as well as to a scarcity of field help, the work of harvesting is not yet completed. Up to the time of writing, however, (Aug. 16th,) we have had with occasional exceptions of a day at a time, as fine weather for harvesting as could be desired, and the indications are that, with a slight loss from over-ripeness, the harvest will be as large as has generally been reckoned upon. Should present prices continue, this year's wheat crop will put most of the farmers firmly on their feet, free them from debt, and render them independent. The $450,000 thus to be distributed in Sauk county will brighten up every branch of trade to an unprecedented activity, and through the good fortune and skillful labor of the tillers of the soil, benefit every class. Thank God for the bounteous harvest. —*Barraboo Republic.*

Amen!—Ed. Far.

THE LUMBER TRADE.

While the lumber trade of the St. Croix valley will not be so heavy the present as during some previous years, yet it will be a source of immense revenue to the valley, and especially to this city, the present season; and as wages have been low, and supplies cheap, operators ought to be able to realize handsome returns for their enterprising labors.

Mr. Surveyor Winship informs us that up to this time he has scaled over 15,000,000 feet.—This is independent of the logs scaled and placed in booms of the mills for home manufacture. The former amount is what has already been rafted and started for market. Mr. W. thinks he will scale 40,000,000 of feet during the season. This is below the productions of former seasons; but at $8 per thousand, which would probably be the average price commanded in the Southern markets, here is a revenue directly tributary to this city and valley, during the present season of $320,000. The greater portion of this amount will immediately pass into the hands of other parties when realized, in payment for labor, supplies, &c., and will pass from hand to hand in liquidation of old indebtedness. Even one-fourth of this sum put in circulation would make everything jingle, and give a high pressure tone to every kind of business, besides making every countenance raidiant with joyous hope.

Add to this the enormous crops that will soon be harvested in the North-west, and we think the long-promised "good time coming," will be upon us.—*Stillwater Messenger.*

Recipes.—*For a fit of Idleness.*—Count the ticking of a clock; do this for one hour, and you will be glad to pull off your coat the next and go to work.

For a fit of Extravagance and Folly.—Go to the work-house and speak with the inmates of a jail, and you will be convinced that—

> Who makes his bed of briar and thorn,
> Must be content to lie forlorn.

For a fit of Ambition.—Go into the church-yard and read the grave stones; they will tell you the end of ambition. The grave will soon be your bed-chamber, the earth your pillow; corruption your father, and the worm your mother and sister.

For a fit of Repining.—Look about for the halt and the blind, and visit the bedridden, and the afflicted, and the deranged, and they will make you ashamed of complaining of your lighter afflictions.

HOUSEKEEPING AT A PREMIUM.

At the anniversary commencement of the Mount St. Vincent's Academy, New York, Archbishop Hughes delivered an address to the young ladies, in which he made some very sensible remarks and suggestions, which it would be a great blessing if they were put in practice at some of the academies which assume to give the young ladies an education in this State. After distributing the premiums he said:

"Now, my children, it is necessary that you should have a good education, and that, also, you should have those accomplishments which beautify and adorn life. Next year, however, I mean to introduce here—and I wish I had propounded it before in all the schools under my care—a new science. Do you know what it is? Well, there is no word in this weak English language which exactly expresses it. (The Archbishop here repeated some Irish phrases, which provoked great laughter.) I mean the *science of keeping the house.* Every young lady ought to understand this science, whether she practices it or not. If she is obliged by circumstances to use this knowledge, what an invaluable blessing it is to her! If not, she may have a servant whom she calls cook; but even cooks need a little overseeing. And then, what if some one should come in for 'pot luck' during the cook's absence? or what if the cook should dismiss her? I shall arrange then, with the Sisters, and I hope to see the idea adopted throughout my diocese, that *every young lady, over the age of thirteen years, shall have the privilege, if she desires it, during the next year, of spending three or four days, say every month, in the kitchen.* We shall have then theory, science, and a little practice combined, and, not to be wearisome, for I see that our friends are anxious for the 'Grand March,' I shall have next year, a gold medal, worth fifty dollars, for that young lady who shall write the best dissertation, not to exceed five pages of foolscap, upon that new science which I have introduced."

☞ The gentleman is still alive (in his 92d year) who, in June, 1790, cut the first tree ever cut on the town plot of Gallipolis, Ohio. At that time there was a small settlement at Marietta, and another at Cincinnati; the balance of Ohio was a wilderness; there were not then probably 1,000 white people in it altogether; now it contains near 2,500,000 inhabitants, and has been changed from a wilderness to one of the best agricultural States in the Union. Who ever, before, in a single life, witnessed such a change?

☞ Say nothing, do nothing, which a mother would not approve, and you are on the certain road to happiness.

WISCONSIN IRON.

Near Black River Falls village, in Jackson county, Wisconsin, is an immense amount of ore, thrown up by the upheaval of the primitive rock. The most wonderful deposit is that known as the Iron Mountain. Of this the *State Journal* says:

Passing over the minor deposits of ore which have been found, and which so charge the whole surface of the country that no line can be run through it the distance of a mile, any where within six miles of the falls, with the magnetic needle; we come to the Iron Mountain of Wisconsin, lying five miles east of the falls. This single bed of ore covers about 700 acres of land, and rises above the surrounding plain to the height of 300 feet, and in one vast solid mass of the finest grained red oxyd of iron, giving a yield of at least 60 per cent. pure malleable iron. These iron ores, not surpassed if they are equaled by the iron beds adjoining the shore of Lake Superior lie here in the very heart of Wisconsin, as yet untouched and unknown to the world. Some of them are yet the property of the United States.

NIGHT AIR.

An extraordinary fallacy is the dread of night air. What can we breathe at night but night air? The choice is between pure night air from without, and foul night air from within. Most people prefer the latter. An unaccountable choice. What will they say if it is proved to be true that fully one-half of all the disease we suffer from is occasioned by people sleeping with their windows shut? An open window most nights in the year can never hurt any one. This is not to say that light is not necessary for recovery. In great cities night air is often the best and purest air to be had in the twenty-four hours. I could better understand the shutting of windows in towns, during the nights, for the sake of the sick.—The absence of smoke, the quiet, all tend to make night the best time for airing the patient. One of our highest medical authorities on consumption and climate, has told me that the air in London is never so good as after ten o'clock at night. Always air your room then, from the outside air, if possible. Windows are made to open, doors are made to shut—a truth which seems extremely difficult of apprehension. Every room must be aired from without—every passage from within. But the fewer passages there are in an hospital the better. *Florence Nightingale.*

☞ God has placed a judgment seat in every heart. Carry everything foreign there, and let it be weighed; if it agrees with your own unprejudiced opinion, then accept it; if not, lay it one side; time may determine what the present cannot unravel.

From the Scientific American.

SCIENTIFIC VS. CLASSICAL EDUCATION.

We see that New Haven, following the examples of Providence and Cambridge, has established a school for teaching the physical sciences, in which the scholars will not be required to go through the ordinary course of classical study. How much Latin and Greek shall be taught in our colleges is a question of more importance, perhaps, to the permanent well-being of the republic, than any of the political questions that are agitating the community, and it seems to us that the answer is not difficult. The English language is so largely derived from the Latin and Greek, that some knowledge of those languages is necessary to a thorough mastery of our own. It is important that a scholar should know the meaning of the roots from which our own words have come, and this is especially important for the student of natural history. The names of the several genera being almost all derived from the ancient languages, and being descriptive of the peculiarities of the genera, a knowledge of the meaning of the roots is absolutely necessary to enable most minds to remember the names. We believe the shortest way for a person to acquire a knowledge of zoology, botany, and geology, is to devote a few months of preliminary study to the Greek and Latin tongues. The amount of knowledge of the classics sufficient for this understanding of the derivations is just about the amount which is now required for admission into our universities.

If our lives lasted a thousand years,it might be very well to devote four of those years to acquire a minute and critical knowledge of the language that was used by the ancient Greeks, and of all that was said, done, thought, believed, or imagined by that peculiar little people. Three hundred years ago, this might have been rational matter for instruction. But at the present time,it can only be acquired at the expense of other information. The accumulation of the knowledge of the universe possessed by our race has now become so great that it cannot be acquired by any individual, either in four years or in forty. A choice must be made between different kinds of learning, On the one hand there is this minute knowledge in relation to Greeks, who were certainly a very intellectual people, and who produced many fine works on architecture, sculpture,oratory and poetry. But the gods whom they worshipped had no existence, except in their own imagination; their history consisted to a large extent of incredible fables; their knowledge of the universe was of the most superficial, meager, and unreliable character; and a very large part of all they believed was a mass of delusions. Is it better to devote a given number of years to learning all these delusions and the language which was the vehicle of their communication, or to bestow the same time in acquiring a portion of that vast mass of positive and accurate knowledge which has been accumulated by the patient and laborious research of the last twenty centuries?—Since the directors of the Cambridge and Oxford seminaries first determined the course of studies there, how changed is the condition of the problem! Then a mastery of the classics comprised a considerable portion of the learning which it was possible to teach. But since that time, chemistry has grown to its enormous and constantly spreading extent. The primitive elements have been discovered, their course has been tracked through their innumerable groupings, and finally, the great law of chemical combination has revealed itself in its simple and beautiful proportions to the long labors of successive investigators. An invisible universe, swarming with living beings, a thousand times more numerous than those which are to be seen by the naked eye, has been discovered, spreading about us on every hand, filled with strange, wonderful and multitudinous life. The long history which nature had contemporaneously written and laid away in the rocks, has been cautiously, patiently, faithfully, and correctly interpreted. The vast globe on which we dwell has been weighed and measured. And not it only, but its sister planets also, and the great sun himself, notwithstanding the unapproachable distances at which they move in the depths of space, have all been subjected to the measuring rod, and laid the balance, by human intelligence. The great problem of the sun's path, as he sweeps along with his attendant worlds on his long journey among the stars, has been grappled with, and is in fair way of being resolved.—By his superior knowledge of the properties of light, the modern student has discovered, deep sunk in the abyss of space, myriads of worlds, the existence of which was undreamed of by the ancients, and the distances of which almost confound even those great minds which have been enlarged by the study of modern science.

Is not a knowledge of these actual truths of the universe more valuable than the mastery however perfect, of the language and literature of the ancient Greeks? We should like to see all our colleges, while they require the same progress in the classics for admission that they do at present, abandon all further teaching of these in the college walls. The colleges are the proper places to teach the natural sciences; these absolutely require expensive apparatus, oral instruction and experiments,which can only be obtained by the combination of large numbers of students.

By one of the universal sentiments of human nature, we are all disposed to place a high value on the things which we possess; and this is especially true of our possession of knowledge. The sailor despises the man who does not know that the "sheets" are ropes, and the farmer looks with contempt on the one who mistakes growing wheat for barley. Our college

professors and presidents are not free from this common weakness of humanity, and, having acquired much knowledge of the classics, it is natural for them to regard this as the most valuable knowledge of all. We rejoice to see that, under the lead of Dr. Wayland, one of the broadest and greatest minds in the country, so many of these professors have broken through the trammels of this prejudice, and are exerting themselves to introduce a more rational course of instruction. We hope that, in this great and noble effort they may receive the support of the press and the people.

Let us hope as much from the Universities and Colleges of the West. This is an age and country of facts and realities; not of shadows and imaginings.—Ed. Farmer.

VALUABLE RECIPE.

Take one pound of sal soda and half a pound of unslacked lime, put them in a gallon of water and boil twenty minutes; let it stand till cool, then drain off and put it in a stone jug or jar. Soak your dirty clothes over night, or until they are well wet through, then wring them out and rub on plenty of soap, and to one boiler of clothes well covered with water, add one teaspoonful of washing fluid. Boil half an hour briskly, then wash them thoroughly through one suds, and rinse well with water and your clothes will look better than the old way of washing twice before boiling. This is an invaluable recipe, and I do want every poor tired woman to try it. I think with a patent wash tub to do the little rubbing, the washerwoman might take the last book and compose herself upon the lounge, and let the washing do itself. The woman who can keep a secret has known this for a year or two, but her husband told it while he was on an electioneering tour.

PEAS.

In the lower portion of Pierce county, in the town of Pleasant Valley, the raising of peas is carried on to a considerable extent, a fact, we presume, that is not generally known. In one locality in particular, known as Pleasant Ridge, almost every farmer, each year, raises a crop of peas—some ten, some twenty, and even some as high as one hundred and fifty bushels. While visiting through that section of the country we stopped all night at John O'Brine's, who told us he had planted nearly four acres, from which he expected a yield of forty bushels to the acre. In the cultivation of peas it requires but little labor, while for fattening hogs they are a much cheaper crop to raise, and more reliable than corn. They sell readily for $1 a bushel.

We notice there is no premiums set down on the Agricultural Fair list for this production, which we should think would be worthy of notice. No doubt it was an oversight of the officers.—*Prescott Democrat.*

BE CAREFUL WITH THE MACHINES.

Every season we hear of more or less painful, and not unfrequently fatal, accidents caused by negligence or inexperience in handling or using agricultural machines—such as reapers, mowers, threshers, straw cutters, &c.—Young and able bodied men of great promise and bright prospects, are often maimed for life, by being deprived of legs or arms, hands or feet, almost instantly, through ignorance or carelessness, in operating labor-saving machinery. The serious accidents, and even the destruction of life, which occur from this source, are annually augmenting, and should admonish all who have occasion to use reapers and mowers, and threshers, to exercise great care, remembering that "caution is the parent of safety." The surgeons and manufacturers of artificial limbs may be incidentally benefitted by these sad calamities, but we submit that it is far better to be prudent and save the members and muscles invented by the Almighty in preference to being compelled (by wilful neglect) to use even the best of human "patents" and "improvements" in that line. As this is the season for operating threshing machines, we would caution all, and especially the young and inexperienced, to guard against accidents.—*Rural New Yorker.*

HOW TO TREAT THE BITE OF A DOG.

Dr. Stephen Ware, of Boston, in his testimony in a recent case which grew out of the injuries from the bite of a dog, furnished the following valuable advice:

In the case of a bite by dog where the teeth of the animal penetrated the flesh, whether the dog was known to be mad or not, he should use the same precautions. We would wash the wound with warm water, extract all the virus possible by sucking the wound with his lips, and then cauterize it deeply with the caustic most readily obtained, but should use potash if it could be procured at once. The time in which the effects of the bite of a mad dog would be seen, varied from two to three days to as many years, but if no effects were felt after two or three months, as a general thing the patient might consider himself safe. Bites made through clothing are seldom productive of much harm, as even if the dog is mad the clothing absorbs the virus before the teeth reaches the flesh.—Most of all the fatal cases are where the person was bitten on some naked part. Concerning the possibility of a cure in a real case of hydrophobia nothing was said.

☞ Truth-telling, in its highest sense, requires a well-balanced mind.

INVENTIONS WANTED IN TEXAS.

The great want of Texas is sufficient water. The only means of obtaining it in this section of the State is by making cisterns and by boring wells with an auger. The bored wells are about five inches in diameter and from one hundred to three hundred feet deep. The water rises in the well to from fifty to eighty feet of the surface. To draw the water we use a tin tube five or six feet long, with a valve in the lower end. Now these tubes are easily broken and frequently leak, and this leaking from the bucket keeps the water muddy. I wish to know if you cannot suggest some better method of raising the water. Are there any pumps, simple and durable, that will pump the water from a depth of 100 feet? What we want is a pump that is simple and will not get out of fix; for we have no shops to take them to if they need repairs. The price of boring these wells is 40 cents per foot for the first 100 feet, and 75 cents for the next 100 ft., and so on. So, if any of your readers have an improved apparatus for boring, they might do well with it here. And you may tell your inventors that this is the place for their steam plows and windmills. There is a million of dollars lying waiting here for the first man who will bring us a steam plow that will turn over our prairies cheaper than our oxen; and another million to the man who can furnish us with a windmill, strong, durable, and controllable, that will do our grinding and threshing cheaper than by steam. I know there are many professing to do this, but give us one that will stand the test of actual experiment.

I have been taking your paper for ten years —its chief excellence, in my opinion, is its perfect *reliability* and the total absence of *claptrap and humbug*. I do not believe that you can be bribed to say of somebody's fly-trap, that it will catch more flies, and bigger flies than anybody else's fly-trap. A. H. S.

Springfield, Texas, Aug. 7, 1860.—*Scientific American.*

A first rate opening, sure, for those who take the chances of being hung or shot by a mob, because they come from the North and do not believe in niggers. It is, perhaps, undecided whether Texas is to become another Algiers, or a civilized State. The kinds of pumps and windmills desired abound here at the North, but niggers could not keep them going.—Ed. Far.

☞ No man has probably ever had a keener, realizing sense of genuine "inner life" than Jonah when he was making a submarine voyage between Joppa and Tarshish.

☞ Don't locate yourself on the back of a wild horse, unless you want to be dis-located.

CLEAN YOUR WHEAT.

A great many farmers seem to adhere to the idea that foul wheat not only helps to fill the bushel, but that they get paid for the chess, straw, chaff, and other stuff that is mingled with their wheat when they offer it for sale.—They labor under a grievous error. They do not get any pay; on the contrary, as a general rule, they themselves pay a forfeit for permitting such stuff to be among the grain they offer in market. In the first place, they must recollect that a wheat buyer is just as smart as they are; where a large number of parcels of wheat is passing under his eye every day, he is far more accustomed to decide what is clean wheat than the seller, and the moment the bag is opened that he may inspect, he judges at once what is the value of the parcel, or load, and makes his offer accordingly, generally at rates from two to five cents below the highest prices. Where he cuts off three cents a bushel on a load of thirty bushels, it will be seen that a loss of 90 cents is sustained, that would have paid handsomely for the time and labor of giving the load another turn through the fanning mill, whilst probably not over a bushel of foul stuff, weighing not more than thirty pounds, would have been extracted. A commission merchant, on the dock at Detroit, during a winter season when business was dull tried the experiment of cleaning over a large quantity of the wheat that was offered in market, and which he bought in the streets. He found that it paid him well, and waiting till he got a large quantity of wheat, which he bought at low rates on account of its foulness, he procured a fanning mill and two men, with which he first cleaned the grain, and he afterwards sold the same wheat at an advance of five cts. per bushel, selling at the same time the screenings, and thus realizing a difference in the value that wheat growers might just as well have had the benefit of. The quantity of foul stuffs that depreciated a bushel of wheat in appearance proved to be very small. The Board of Trade have graded the wheat which comes to this market now, so that it needs the samples to be very free from all foul stuff to have them pass inspection as No. 1.—*Michigan Farmer, Aug.* 25.

☞ In the village of Saxton's River, Vert., a large boot and shoe factory is now being completed. The work for all parts of the shoes is to be made in the factory, and principally by machinery of the best description and latest improvements, among which are to be two pegging machines, each capable of pegging five hundred pairs of shoes per day.—*Scientific American.*

Good! That little village is the first one that our childish eyes ever rested upon, from a high Vermont hill-top; it looked much larger to us than New York would now. Let them peg

by machinery, if they choose to,it is all right; we will step in and see them some day.—Ed. Farmer.

TIMOTHY MEADOWS.

Timothy grass is chiefly valuable for hay; and the meadows should never be pastured while kept for mowing. In the South and West, Timothy meadows are liable to great injury, after the crop has been cut, by exposure to the burning rays of the sun in dry weather, and the injury is much increased by allowing the aftermath to be cropped by cattle and horses; and the injury is greater in the climate alluded to than it is in the cooler and more wet regions of the country where other grasses are more or less mixed with the Timothy as natural products. The roots of Timothy differ from any of the common grasses that constitute our pastures. At the base of each stool there are numerous little bulbs which lie near the surface of the ground which, when pastured by stock, are liable to be crushed by the animals' feet, and when the aftermath is eaten off the roots, are exposed to the sun in the summer and fall, and to the frosts of winter, when in ordinary seasons the growth will not be greater than is required for the protection of the roots. All the pasturage afforded by Timothy meadows is not equal to one-quarter of the damage the succeeding hay crop sustains by allowing stock to run over them. Meadows that are never pastured will last much longer than those that are pastured, because the exposure of the roots by cropping the grass and poaching the surface of the ground, not only kills out the Timothy, but after being injured in its growth and partially killed out, weeds and inferior grasses come in and increase the evil already sustained. If, in a very favorable fall the aftergrowth becomes so heavy as likely to interfere with the mowing machine the following season, sheep may be allowed to trim the surface, causing comparatively less injury than cattle and horses.

Blue grass, and other pasture grasses, generally, are furnished with long fibrous roots,that run to a surprising depth, and hence these grasses are not liable to the same injury by being pastured.

In order to sustain a Timothy meadow in health and vigor, and expect large and increasing crops from it, a surface dressing of old, well-rotted stable manure or rich compost should occasionally be applied in the fall. This will afford protection to the roots during winter, and the rains and melting snows will reduce the manure to a situation which will enrich and increase the subsequent growth much beyond the cost and labor of manuring.—*Valley Farmer.*

☞ It matters not whether a man be mathematically, philologically, or artistically cultivated, so he be cultivated.

MECHANICAL.

From the Homestead.

THE CALORIC ENGINE.

This hot-air motor, invented by Ericsson, and brought so prominently before the public a few years since, in connection with its failure to answer the purpose of oceanic navigation, seems to have passed through its experimental period as a cheap and safe power,adapted to the wants of a large proportion of the the mechanical pursuits of our people,and now takes its proper place as a reliable and economical force, applicable to any place or purpose where ordinary power is to be applied.—It is no longer an experiment, but a success. We believe it to be destined to take the place of the steam engine, certainly in one half the places where steam is now used; for while it can never rival steam as a power in the *extent* of its applicability to any and every purpose, yet, within a certain limit, it is beyond rivalry the best and most reliable mechanical motor. Say within the range of five horse-power—though engines are built rated as high as fifteen horse-power—and we include as much motive force as is employed in three-fourths of the mechanical establishments in the city or country. Now, within this range, the caloric engine is the cheapest known mechanical force as it is undoubtedly the cheapest in the extended applications of its power. But, as our purpose is not to set forth its extended advantages so much as its more limited uses, our remarks will be confined to its superiority to the steam within the scope of five horse-power; leaving the reader to a just inference that it may have the same superiority to the utmost limit of its power.

It is *cheapest*, because it takes only about one-third as much coal as the steam engine, and in the winter it can be driven with less fire than is generally used to warm the room where its power is needed, while the warm, or hot air that is made to propel the machinery, is immediately thrown into the room to render it comfortable; thus reducing the cost of power, in the winter, to the wear of the engine and the cost of lubricating oil.

Then, again, it is cheapest, because it does not require the oversight of an engineer at a cost of a dollar or two dollars a day—a boy who can build the fire and oil the bearings being competent to attend to the machine in connectien with his other duties.

In the third place, it is cheapest,because no extra rates of insurance are required, as in the case where steam is used. Steam is a *dangerous* motor—hence the necessity of a trained engineer to take care of it, and constant watch against explosions—hence the insurance offices are chary of risks wherever it is used; and if they take them, they charge a premium proportionate to the increased liability of danger. This extra premium is thus saved; and plac-

ing it to the credit of the caloric engine, reduces the cost of running the same in comparison with steam, to as much less than nothing as the cost of wear, oil, and summer fuel falls inside of that extra price paid for insurance* alone—or as much above nothing as these items exceed the extra cost of insurance.

That the above statement of the cost of running the caloric engine and its connection with insurance is affected by steam, is a reasonable calculation, is seen by the following statement of facts:

A friend of ours has a three horse power steam engine for driving his printing presses; he pays to the insurance companies eighty-dollars *extra* insurance upon the whole block for putting it in the building; and a one horse-power would do just the same. The cost of running a caloric engine of two horse power, (which would do twice his work well), would be, for fuel, 60 pounds of coal per day at $10 per ton, twice nearly what it costs him—30 cts. per day. For 300 days in the year this would be *ninety dollars*—exceeding the cost of insurance by *ten dollars only!* But he does not run his engine on an average more than half the time; so that his

Extra insurance is	$80 00
The cost of running a caloric would be	45 00
Leaving as gain	$35 00

Thus he could run a caloric for as much less than nothing, *as his expenses are now calculated*, as the wear and oil fall short of $35. It would seem to us that there would be a handsome overplus to pay interest upon first cost and machinery.

This power, it seems to us, must prove in a thousand instances just the motor the agricultural community have been waiting for—one that will pump, thresh, churn, turn the grind stone, grind the provender, wash the clothes, and do many other necessary things where power could be made available about the farm house in summer; and in winter it could cut the hay, slice the roots, saw the wood, and furnish a steady motive-power for any little mechanical business the farmer or his boys might choose to pursue—all this without danger to man or beast, house or shop. It may be left to the care of the "women-folks" with perfect security, for the worst that could befal it under their management would be stoppage from want of fuel, or wear for want of grease—there can be no explosions.

For purposes of irrigation for land having no natural flow of water, it would be a *sine qua non*, and in a season of drought would undoubtedly pay for itself, if used for this purpose alone.

It being a machine of compactness—complete in itself as a fan-mill—it can be transported on a stoneboat, already for use, to any place where its unceasing and untiring labors are needed, and put to work as speedily as a fire can be kindled. It is not too much to say that it would prove a protection to the farm buildings in its vicinity, if connected with a good force pump for throwing water; and might, in a single hour, save its owner from a conflagration that would bring him to penury and want.

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DESCRIPTION.

The caloric engine is single acting, working the expanded air only on one side of the piston—the motion being kept up by the momentum of the fly-wheel, one half of which is loaded. The engine has two pistons working in the one cylinder—the outer piston being the working piston, and the inner the supply piston. When the supply piston makes its back stroke, the working piston stands still three fourths of the time—the supply piston creating a vacuum between the two pistons, the pressure of the atmosphere on the valves in the working piston causes them to open, when the vacuum or space between the two pistons is filled with air; then the working piston makes its back-stroke, forcing the cold air, just taken in, back into the heated chamber which surrounds the heater or fire pot, where it is expanded and drives the two pistons out to the front or open end of the cylinder. Both pistons move outward at the same time and with the same velocity; at the moment when the supply piston commences its back-stroke, a cam on the main shaft opens the exhaust valve, allowing the hot air to escape. Thus at each revolution of the fly-wheel the cylinder is filled with cold air, the air expanded giving the power, and then passed out of the cylinder. It will be seen from the foregoing, that the power *is created at each* revolution of the fly wheel. When the engine is stopped the exhaust valve is open, *and the engine has no power in it. Hence the impossibility of an explosion.*

The other end of the cylinder—we have been speaking of the working end—has in it a cast iron heater, shaped like a pot, the pot being smaller in diameter than the cylinder. Around the edge of the pot is a flange; this flange is fitted and bolted fast to a flange in the end of a cylinder, making an air tight joint. In this pot is made the fire, and around it is the space in which the air is heated and expanded.—Thus it will be seen that one half the cylinder may be considered the engine, and the other half the boiler, though no water is used, but only air.

SIZE AND AMOUNT OF COAL USED IN 10 HOURS.

Size of cylinder.	No. of horse power.	Coal used.
12-inch	1	30 lbs.
18-inch	2	50 to 60 lbs.
24-inch	4	75 to 90 lbs.
32-inch	8	100 to 125 lbs.
40-inch	16	150 to 200 lbs.

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*It will be borne in mind that the extra insurance is not only laid upon the cost of engine, but upon the building, and everything insured in it, and also upon contiguous buildings and their contents.

A friend of ours has just put an 18-inch cylinder Ericsson engine into his printing office, made by Nourse & Caryl, South Groton, Mass., which, at an expense of less than fifty cents per day, in care, fuel, oil, etc., (as he says,) drives three power-presses to his abundant satisfaction, with unreckoned probable power to spare. After a two months' trial of the machine he is as jubilant as ever, and more so, over his invaluable motor. A visit to him and a close examination of the machine, has turned our thoughts towards its use for farm purposes.

INVENTIONS BY WOMEN.—The last number of *Le Genie Industriel* (published at Paris) has an illustrated description of an improvement in a complicated machine for stamping dies, invented by "Madame, the widow De La Chaussee." Almost every number of the French mechanical papers contains some account of inventions made by women.

Good! We have often wondered, in this teeming age of invention by the other sex, to the tune of 5,000 a year, that ladies did not turn more of their attention to the subject.—This certainly is a field for first class enterprise, that is nearly as open to them as to their fellows.

OUR SEWING MACHINES IN EUROPE.

Sewing machines of American manufacture are getting rapidly into general use in Europe. The subject is just now attracting a good deal of attention, especially in England. The English admit that they are distanced, bewailing the short sighted policy of the patentees and manufacturers, who have quarreled among themselves, giving no heed to the rapid advances of their commercial enemy, the Yankee.—The prospect now is, that in the next year 20,000 or more American machines will be sold in Great Britain. Of our capacity to turn off these machines, the London *Mechanics' Journal* makes the following amusing admission:

"One American factory is said to cover four acres, and to send out every week nearly 1000 machines. The proprietors of another American manufactory boast of their ability to supply 130,000 machines annually, yet fully believe this immense number will be made greater to meet the demand. Making every reasonable reduction from these numbers on account of Yankee exaggeration, we have no doubt that American manufacturers will be prepared to supply 200,000 sewing machines during the year 1861. That a large number of them, probably as many as from 10,000 to 20,000 will be imported in this country is certain.—Yet, to meet this competition, to supply even our own market, we do not know of a single factory in all England which is devoted exclusively to the manufacture of sewing machines."

MILKING BY MACHINERY.

Not exactly by a steam engine, nor by a water power; though that is in favor with milkmen; but by a machine driven by hand-power. In short, a hand pump, moved by two handles like the hand-bellows, and performing the operation by the principle of an air-pump suction. The machine is attached to a pail, and set under the udder, the four teats inserted in four tubes, and the pump operated, and the milk drawn and conveyed by a conductor into the pail; the inventor says, in a marvelously short time, say three minutes for an ordinary cow; milking entirely clean, and without injury to the cow; in fact, he says, to her advantage, as it is beneficial to have the work done quickly; and the machine is intended to do it quicker than is possible by hand. It is said also that cows stand this machine milking more gently than by hand. At any rate, the contrivance is an ingenious one, and we have no doubt will work. Its practical utility we can't vouch for. We only chronicle the fact of the recent invention of a milking machine. The manner of its construction is simple enough It consists of two diaphragm pumps made of tin and India rubber, so arranged as to be easily taken apart for washing. The teat-cups are made tapering to fit any size, and attached by flexible joints so as to be spread apart to suit wide-spreading teats, or those more contracted. It is possible that it will prove a very useful invention.—*Kentucky Farmer.*

We doubt it!—ED. FARMER.

From the Ohio Cultivator.

MACHINERY FOR WOMAN'S WORK.

Right glad am I that Laura Lovell has touched that matter of machinery for women. Would have liked it better without that sarcastic fling at somebody else. Surely it needs discussion and thought. Why are we doing our work, friend Laura, in the same ways of our grandmothers? Is it not because we cannot, or will not bestir ourselves in the matter of inventions, and learn to invent for ourselves or train our sons to invent for us? Half the women I know are, to use a popular phrase, "down on machinery." They don't want a sewing machine, would not have a washing machine if you would give it to them, and a carpet-sweeper could not get house room.—They hate machinery as they do "Woman's Rights;" and what is more, have not the slightest idea what a woman, born to the privilege of baking and brewing, pickling and stewing, can want of more education and intellectual culture. It's no use putting the cart before the horse. You must culture women into a knowledge of their actual needs, before you can make them appreciate time or education. We are told a good story in St. Croix. A merchant who owned an estate, seeing all the packing and carrying done on the heads of

the people, thought he would relieve them by a Yankee notion, and took over a ship load of wheelbarrows and put them on his fields.—When he came back the next year and inquired how they liked them—"Oh, they liked them well enough, but they would as lief carry cane the old way." He looked, and behold they all had the wheelbarrows on their heads!

I notice a large proportion of those who now have sewing machines, have no more time than of old. There is so much stitching, hemming, ruffling, so much extra work, such a desire for abundance, that it becomes, like the creole's wheelbarrow, only an additional weight on the top of the head. One lady showed us the other day three dozen pairs of white pants, made for one three-year-old. "Why, she had a sewing machine, and it was so fascinating, she done it for very pleasure." So they live!

I have never yet seen a really good washing machine—one that I would myself like to use for a half day. When I had boys to turn them I always kept one; but something better has yet to be invented than has fallen under my eye, to be of much desire. Man puts the might of steam to his effective machinery, while nearly all our machines are moved by our own bones and muscles. By and by some one will get up a whole apparatus for us, something like a portable wood saw, or migratory threshing machine; and we will have one great depot for soiled linen, and a whole neighborhood have their hard work got off their hands by steam and chemical preparations, as they do now in steam laundries in cities, only we will see that it is better done. There are chemical preparations that cleanse clothes without injury to the cloth, and with much less wear and tear than is now made by the hard rubbing upon zinc washboards, or turning them through rollers, or crushing them with balls in washing machines. I am using such a fluid now, and have been many weeks, which is a great help—neither yellows the clothes nor wears them, and saves its cost in soap weekly. But I have no right to give it to the public without a fee of fifty cents for the recipe, because it is the property of an excellent widow who has children to support.

Three times a day, too, all the year around, a quantity of dishes have to be washed and wiped by hand, in every family, by somebody. It would be a task no more difficult to make steam do a part of this work, than to make steam print and fold newspapers. But I hear some one exclaim, "Who could afford it?" I only answer, what manly man, who can afford to save his own bones and muscles by patent plows, wagons, mowers, threshers, corn and cob crushers, drills, corn planters, and so on, can afford to see "the presiding deity of his household," "the queen of the parlor," "the angel of the nursery," "the mistress of the kitchen," "the repository of all his hopes and all his joys," (ahem!—I am only quoting epithets from the great lights of the world)—using plain English—what man can afford to see his *wife* wash the dishes by hand, one thousand and ninety-five times a year, for thirty, forty, fifty years in succession, if she happen to live and keep her health that long?

But it is not worth while to talk of these things without preparing the way for them.—As long as woman's labor can be obtained any where, one half cheaper than men's, she will be expected to do the work. When she avails herself of the rights which "pale, faded maidens in spectacles" are trying to make her believe belong to her, in common with other human beings, and learns to get her living in the easiest possible way, whether it be as a physician, professor, merchant, mechanic, or inventor—when she grasps employment suited to her taste and capacity, and, by doing her work well, proves her fitness for it, and by so doing enhances the price of woman's labor, and worth of woman's time, then we shall have machinery; then woman's time will not be, as I heard a gentleman say a day or two since, like "goose's time,"—worth nothing. It will be worth something, but it will cost more talking, and, mayhap, some annual meetings, to bring all this about.

FRANCES D. GAGE.

Carbondale, Ill., Aug. 1860.

REMARKS.—One of the dreams of our mechanical musings, as once before hinted, is a regular house-keeping machine—not of the crinoline order—but a veritable contrivance, driven by steam, or hot air, or by weights that can be wound up once a week, or every morning. The machine to be so constructed that my lady in her parlor, like a pilot in the wheel house, can simply touch a particular key to cause it to prepare breakfast, and bring it up; another to clear it away after eating, even to the shaking of the table cloth. Another touch upon the daily staff, sweeps out, dusts, and puts the house in order; the same for dinner and tea; also a key for spanking the children, and putting them to bed if they happen to be tired, noisy, or troublesome, and the routine from day to day, with variations of course; an especial department for washing and ironing, with a half-note for giving a gentle motion to the parlor rocking chair.

Who says by this time that the thing *can't* be done? So all said about the steamboat, and a thousand other things that have been done, nevertheless; we fear that we have been imprudent in so far disclosing our plans, lest some ingenious man or woman should take up the idea, and get ahead of us. We shall hereafter carefully watch the reports of patents to see what issues; and if no one gets ahead of

us, we may, perchance, bring out an experimental machine ere long. We want it, among other reasons, as a match for the steam plow, and rather think we shall get it to work successfully in the household about as soon as steam plows will come into common use.

To Keep tires Tight on Wheels.—A correspondent of the *Southern Planter* says:

"I ironed a wagon some years ago for my own use, and before puttidg on the tires I filled the fellies with linseed oil; and the tires have worn out and were never loese. I ironed a buggy for my own use seven years ago, and the tir s are now as tight as when put on.—My method of filling the fellies with oil is as follows: I use a long cast iron oil heater, made for the purpose; the oil is brought to a boiling heat, the wheel is placed on a stick, so as to hang in the oil, each felly one hour, for a common sized felly.

"The timber should be dry, as green timber will not take oil. Care should be taken that the oil be not made hotter than a boiling heat, in order that the timber be not burnt. Timber filled with oil is not susceptible of water, and the timber is much more durable. I was amused, some time ago, when I told a blacksmith how to keep tires tight on wheels, by his telling me it was a profitable business to tighten tires, and the wagon maker will say it is profitable to him to make and repair wheels, but what will the farmer, who supports the wheelright and smith say?"

☞ The following patents have lately issued to Wisconsin inventors:

B. W. Bruel, of Beloit; for an improved mop holder.

W. H. Churchman, of Janesville; for an improvement in furnaces for heating buildings.

Charles Marston, of Viroqua; for an improvement in grain harvesters.

Jackson Shannon, of Dakotah; for an improvement in cultivators.

☞ A miniature steam engine, complete in all its details, was exhibited at the California State Fair, of about one rat power, manufactured by Henry Rice, watchmaker of Sacramento. A steam attachment was formed with copper pipe, no larger in diameter than a common straw, connecting with the boiler outside from which it received its supply; and when under a full head, its fly-wheel performed over two thousand revolutions a minute. Nothing could be more beautifully accurate in its adjustment. The diameter of the cylinder is 3-16ths of an inch; stroke 7-16ths of an inch. —*Scientific American.*

STOCK REGISTER.

WOOL GROWING—Rock County vs. Dane.

I noticed in your daily issue of Aug. 24th, a letter from a Dane County farmer, answering a challenge from Mr. Stockton, of Rock Co., to Dane Co., to shear as large a fleece of wool as his, which weighed 11 pounds, 14 oz. I think the fleece is a very respectable one, but it seems that he is beat by Dane Co. Your correspondent reports 3 yearling bucks, the fleeces of which were as follows: 1st 12 lbs. 6 oz, 2d 12 lbs., 3d 15 lbs. He does not state whether the fleeces were washed or unwashed, nor the age of the fleeces; but I take it for granted that they were unwashed and were early lambs. However, the fleeces are creditable to the locality where they are raised and should encourage other localities to engage in the improvement of our breeds of sheep. Now, Messrs. Editors, as your correspondent wished to hear from Rock Co. again, I will take the liberty to report several fleeces of our own raising in the town of Lima, in the north part of the county, and as he stated "that the proof is at hand if wanted," I will state the same as regards my report. The fleeces were unwashed but were done up in good order and look very nice indeed.

Mr. Asaph Pratt, on the 5th of June, clipt from two bucks one year old last April, 35 lbs., 4 oz; one turning off 19 lbs. 12 oz., the other 15 lbs. 8 oz. of two year's growth. Mr. A. S. Edgerton, from one buck one year old, 14 lbs. 10 oz, also from a two year old, 16 lbs. 8 oz. B. B. Freeman from one buck 3 years old, 19 lbs. 8 oz, one year's growth. J. F. Goodhue from one buck 3 years old, 17 lbs.—S. L. Farmington from one buck 2 years old, 16 lbs. 12 oz. Messrs. Editors, I could mention a number more heavy shearing sheep in our county, but perhaps I have mentioned already enough to convince your correspondent that Old Rock stands at the head yet, if not, let us hear again.

Yours respectfully,
H. HEMMENWAY.

Lima, Aug. 27, 1860.—*State Journal.*

Vermont Horses for Napoleon III.—It is said that five superb Vermont horses have recently been purchased for the stables of the French Emperor, and will be shipped to Europe in one of the Vanderbilt steamers. They are of a deep bay color, fifteen hands high, and cost from $2,000 to $3,000 per pair. The Emperor's stud already contains several fine Morgans, purchased in this country two or three years ago, and a second importation indicates that the favorite American breed of carriage horses is appreciated in France.

☞ The trotting stallion "George M. Patchen," has been bought by Mr. Waltermire of New York city, for $25,000.

FATTEN HOGS EARLY.

A correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer* gives the following as his experience in fattening swine:

He first "hogged down," in Western parlance, forty acres of corn between the 10th of September and the 23d of October. By the hogs being weighed when they were turned in and when they were taken out, it was found they paid forty cents a bushel for the corn, estimating the pork at four cents a pound, and corn at forty bushels to the acre.

His next course was to take one hundred hogs, averaging 200 lbs. each, which were placed in nine covered pens and fed all they could eat of corn and cobs ground together, and given in allowances five times a day. In a week they were again weighed when, reckoning 70 lbs. of corn and cob as equal to a bushel of corn, and the pork as before, the hogs paid 80 cents a bushel for the corn. The weather was warm for the season.

The same experiment was tried again the first week in November, when the corn brought 62 cents, the weather being colder. The third week in November the corn only brought 40 cents, and the fourth week it brought but 26 cents, the weather continuing to grow colder. Another lot of hogs was fed through December, which only gave 26 cents a bushel for the corn. A part of the time the temperature was at zero, and then the hogs only gained enough to pay *five* cents a bushel for the corn, and afterwards, when the mercury went down to ten degrees below zero, the hogs *only held their own*.

The inference from the trials is, that in general it is not profitable to feed corn to hogs after the middle of November. The difference in gain is certainly surprising, and whether caused altogether by the difference in temperature or not, no person of observation can doubt that hogs gain much more in proportion to the food they consume, in mild than in cold weather. It seems that the hogs gained much less by helping themselves to corn in the field than when the corn was ground and cooked, and fed to the animals in pens, under equal advantages of weather.

A HARFORD CO. OX.

Wm. B. Stephenson, Esqr., a well known citizen of Harford county, fattened the past winter an ox ten years old, which had worked six years, to the large weight of 2335 lbs.—within a fraction of 1400 lbs. *nett*, and sold him for $11 per cwt.—$154. Last year he fattened his mate, who nett 1300 lbs. The two cost six years ago, $130, and after doing five year's work, sold for something more than $300. This ox had a year's run on grass, and was fed moderately on grain from November to March. Is it not a very strong argument in favor of substituting oxen for horses in all the heavy work of the farm, that you may buy at three years of age or more, and work them at least four years moderately, with a certain increase in value, and often, as in this case, with a large increase.

A friend of ours has a fancy that on a grain farm his working stock should be composed entirely of Devon oxen and brood mares. The oxen should do the breaking up of his turf and all the heavy work; the mares, one half of which should breed each year, should work the corn and do all light, quick work of the farm, and raise colts.—*American Farmer.*

SPANISH FLEECE.

The following account of heavy fleeces of fine wool is from a correspondent of the Michigan *Farmer:*

I noticed in a late number of the *Farmer* a letter from R. Thompson of Grand Blanc, giving a statement of the produce of his own flock of sheep, also referring to a notice in one of the late numbers of the *Farmer* of some quite heavy fleeces of wool, as he terms it, weighing some 22 pounds each, accompanied by a desire on his part, to know the blood of the sheep, and whether the wool was of more than one year's growth, &c. Without a doubt those heavy fleeces Mr. Thompson refers to were shorn at a little neighborhood shearing match, which took place at my barn in Franklin, about four miles east of Tecumseh, the 2d of June last. Consequently I can answer his inquiries understandingly. The sheep are all of pure Spanish blood, and the wool was of one year's growth only. Five fleeces, among which was one ewe fleece weighing 13 pounds 4 ounces, weighed upwards of one hundred pounds. The heaviest fleece from the flock was twenty two and one-fourth pounds, the lightest twenty-one and one-fourth. I have a small flock of ewes of the same blood that average a fraction over ten pounds of washed wool, and there are others in this vicinity that will equal and perhaps beat mine. Mr. Thompson also expressed a desire if there were any Sapanish sheep in the State (his being French,) that could beat his, to hear from them; whether he is beaten or not he can judge by consulting the figures above.

Wool Trade.—According to the best information we can get, about 40,000 pounds of wool have been brought to this market since the season opened, at prices ranging from 25 to 45 cents. The largest amount has been brought by G. H. Stewart & Co., at the woolen factory, and this firm will be constantly buying till next January. Although there is a large amount of wool grown in this county, there seem to be no single individuals engaged in the business very extensively as in some other counties. The quality raised here, however, is very fine Spanish merino. As this has

been a very favorable season for the wool growers, the amount produced next season will be greatly increased. The farmers seem to be governed altogether by their luck in the attention pain to wool growing. Instead of following it up every year after year, as they do their wheat crops, a single failure discourages them and they kill off their sheep.—*Beaver Dam Citizen.*

WORKING CATTLE VS. HORSES.

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

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

Oxen are much better in many respects for working than horses; some of which advantages may be summed up as follows: They cost much less in the first instance, and are therefore more within the reach of men of moderate means. They are less liable to disease, and if an accident occurs which disables them from labor, they may be converted into food. If a horse should happen to break a leg, a bullet might as well be put through his head at once for he is worthless ever after; but if the same accident occurs to an ox, he can be converted immediately into beef, provided he is sufficiently in flesh; or, if this is not the case the wound can generally be so far cured as to enable the animal afterwards to fatten.

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

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

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

In this fast age, working oxen are too much ignored, by our farmers, and their value as laborious and willing servants is too much overlooked.

Remarks.—We are much pleased with the kind and sensible spirit of the foregoing article; and its reading brings to mind what we have often thought when looking around us in this new country; and that is that many farmers rely too much upon horses for their farm work; probably partly because they are quicker, and more because the horse is, on the whole, more of a favorite with man than the ox; owing, mainly, no doubt, to his superior intelligence. Still, to our minds, there is no mistake but what cattle, for much of the work of the farm, are much the cheapest. Oxen need no harness, no whiffletrees and eveners, little shoeing, seldom run away, kick, or bite. Sometimes hook; live plain and cheaply.—Good hay and a little grain, with stabling in the winter, is all they need.

On the other hand, horses must have a world of gear in which to work, and a world of feed to work upon. As a good farmer once said to us, he wanted 365 bushels of oats at least per annum for his horses.

Of course horses are all well enough when they really are the best; say for quick work and traveling on the road; but at least one

half of the work on every farm could be more economically done by oxen; we mean *oxen of good quality*, selected and trained to be handy and fast; always well fed, stabled and curried in cold weather; not fed on *old, tough* hay or straw of poor quality, but on good cut feed mixed with meal, and duly fixed and seasoned. That's the kind of feed working oxen want; especially at noon, and at all times when required to eat quick. Even at night, when there is plenty of time, it is probably a pretty hard extra labor, after a hard day's work, to grind out their feed of hay, much the same as it would be for the owner to grind parched or raw corn with his jaws for his own supper; and to go to the brook or mudhole to drink, when he could get there. That oxen are generally shabbily treated by their owners cannot be denied; in fact, we often see miserable brutes of men mauling their poor oxen about the streets and on the road in a manner perfectly shameful to behold. If such drunken vagabonds, and also those that sell them the whisky, are not damned, more or less, in the next world, then we would have the hot place abolished, as it would be a mere waste of wood to keep a useless fire. Again, those who use oxen often allow them to be half choked to death in the hot, dusty fields, during the long days; they send for drink for themselves perhaps two or three times during a forenoon, but Buck and Broad must stand it till the horn blows, however desperate their thirst may be, they cannot speak, and many stupid drivers do not think nor care for a *cussed* slow ox! he wants *hosses*.

Yea, many a poor new-beginner gets *hosses* to do his work, and they eat him out of house and home, when oxen would have done him just as well, and saved much money for other purposes.

Think of these things, brother farmers, and if they are sound, use oxen more, and treat them better.

WEIGHT OF HAY FOR SHEEP.

The question is often asked,—How much hay do sheep or cattle require per day? In reference to sheep of a given size, this question is well answered in letter of the noted sheep-breeder, Alexander Speck Von Sternburg, of Lutzschena, Saxony, to the Hon. Joseph A. Wright, American Minister at Berlin. He says—

"*One thirtieth part of the weight* of the live animal, in good hay, is considered necessary per day for its sustenance. According to the quality of the fodder, and its abundance or scarcity, this may be increased to one-twentieth part; but less than one-thirtieth part ought not to be given. Taking good meadow hay as the fodder standard, a ram should receive about 3¼ pounds per day, a ewe about 2¼ pounds, yearlings, &c., in that proportion—taking the average of a full grown ram at 110 pounds, of a ewe at 82 pounds, the weight of each varying, according to age, size, and condition, between 105 and 125 pounds, as regards the full sized rams, and from 70 to 85 pounds, as regards the full-grown ewes. The weight of a wether varies between 80 pounds in lean condition, and 110 to 115 pounds, if strong and fat for the butcher. One pound of good meadow hay is considered equivalent to one and two-thirds pounds of oat, pea, wheat, or barley straw, four pounds of turnips, or two lbs. of grains in the wet state, as delivered from the brewery in winter. When the time for stabling for winter arrives, the sheep-master has his supplies of straw, hay and turnips, allotted to him on the basis of the above calculation, and he is bound to make them serve out the proper time, under feeding being as much guarded against as over feeding and waste.

☞ THE CATTLE COMMISSIONERS of Connecticut still adhere to their decision in June last, not to admit cattle to cross the line from Massachusetts into that State. They have been ovorwhelmed with applications from butchers and drovers to withdraw this decision, since the cattle disease excitement has died out. There is still a fear among the border towns that the epidemic will re-appear on the approach of cold weather.

☞ The improvements in the manufacture of Flax Cotton have been so far perfected that the Boston Rubber Company have converted its buildings into a manufactory of flax cotton goods.

The machinery is being put into them to make "cotton flannels," half woolen goods, prints, &c.

The company expect to make a saving of 40 to 60 per cent in materials for all this class of goods.

It is said that flax cotton can be produced in the bale at 8 cents per lb., having a greater strength and longer staple than cotton.

The average price of cotton by the bale in New York and Boston, is fourteen cents per pound.

Prints have been made from flax cotton which are generally admired for their texture and fineness.

☞ Lamartine says that at the end of a century the only book possible will be a newspaper.

HORTICULTURAL.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WISCONSIN FRUIT GROWER'S ASSOCIATION—1859.

This little volume of ninety-five pages, has been lying upon our table for some time unnoticed; but it is not now too late to call the attention of the public to its contents, which may be of especial interest and value to those about planting new orchards the present fall; also in renovating old ones. We find that considerable space is occupied in the discussions upon diseases and insects, and their remedies, which not a tree grower in the State can fail to read with profit, and practice with more or less success, if he follows strictly to the letter the remedies prescribed.

The first ten pages of the book are devoted to the discussions of the fruit men of the State at their regular annual meeting in Whitewater, upon soil and site for an orchard, in which it is conceded by all, that it should be *high* and *dry*, and would plant in valleys only as the last resort. Next is aspect and protection, including protection to the *roots*, mulching in winter with litter, or raising a mound of earth, is the manner prescribed, and when the former is used, if left about the tree through the summer, will hasten the early growth, and not occasion a second one; and has also been known to facilitate the ripening of plums two weeks.

Age and proper time for planting is fully considered; young trees preferred, or those two to three years old from the graft.

Fall planting not spoken of very highly, but when done let it be *done very early*—last of September or the first of October.

Evergreen planting receives special notice; fall planting discarded in toto, but when removed from the nursery in *early* spring, more easily and safely done than most deciduous trees; distinctions between nursery and forest grown evergreens fully explained; this follows the articles on diseases and insects, with their modes of operation upon the trees, and the remedies, which are full of interest, but too long for our columns at present, and as it is not the season of the year for applying them, not of so much interest as some other subjects. Following this is the discussion upon the varieties of fruits, from which any one can make a list suited to almost every variety of soil and locality in the State.

The remarks upon fruit, as well as through all the discussions are concise and to the point, and by a faithful perusal of this small work, all the general information usually gained from a much larger "Fruit Book" will be received.

We presume copies can be obtained of the Secretary of the Association, O. S. Willey, Esq., '76 Nurseries, Madison, Wisconsin.

A New Wonder in the Horticultural World—A Perfect Apple and a Perfect Pear on the same Twig.

FRIEND POWERS:—I enclose to you a photograph of an apple and a pear, grown by Mr. Pardon K. Whitney, of this village, on Shropshirevine apple tree. The photograph represents them in full size, just as they grew on the parent twig. Mr. Whitney assures us that it is certainly a prodigy, as no innoculation, grafting, or budding, has been resorted to to produce it.

You will notice a black protuberance near the stem of the apple; this is a leaf which the artist did not feel at liberty to pluck off. The fruit is every way perfect. Please give the readers of the *Farmer* your explanation of the matter, and state if you know a parallel. We have been accustomed to point to the year 1855 as the great fruit season; but the year 1860 greatly surpasses that. In short we have had no such fruit season for fifteen years.—Connected with this fact, it is worthy of note, that the blossoms were never known to hold on to the trees with such tenacity as they did this spring. For over three weeks they seemed as much likely to be fixtures for the season as the foliage itself.

Crops of all kinds, grass excepted, never were better than they are this season, throughout this section. The drouth of the first part of the season injured the grass to some extent, but we now have rain enough, allowing us to be competent judges. The farmers of Vermont are raising much more wheat than they have done years past; but as we, like the parson whose parishoner had stipulated to pay wheat, but offered rye because he did not like the preaching, *have done taking rye*, we shall still take a little Western flour; so please let it all come branded "New Wheat," and all the clap-trap you can think of, to make it sell well—but let it be good we pray.

Yours &c., GEORGE P. HAYES.

Windsor, Vt., Aug. 23, 1860.

REMARKS.—We are wholly unable to give

any explanation of the foregoing singular freak. But for a thorough acquaintance with Mr. Hayes, and a full consciousness of his high and candid character, we should not hesitate long in pronouncing it a humbug of one sort or another; possibly it is so yet, through the agency of the parties back of him; still we do not regard him as a man very liable to be imposed upon in that manner. Under the circumstances we shall attempt no explanation, nor have we ever before heard of the like. We will exhibit the photograph in the Horticultural Hall of the State Fair, and perhaps some wiser, and with more faith in miracles can explain it.—ED. FARMER.

FRUIT IN MICHIGAN.—The quantity of fruit in Michigan is astonishing. All along the line of the Central Railroad the trees in the orchards are laden with apples, in most instances the bows bending to the ground with the weight of their golden colored burden. It is one of the best fruit seasons ever known in the State.

THE YELLOW LOCUST.

I observe several of your correspondents recommend very strongly the yellow locust for timber-planting. A few years ago it was all the rage here, too, on the prairies, and many early-planted groves proved small fortunes to their owners; but for the past five years or so the borer has nearly killed off all the larger trees, and even small ones, one or two inches in diameter, are frequently ruined, so that we can no longer depend upon it. There are some localities where they are not injured, but even in the East there are situations where the trees are similarly destroyed.

The best trees for planting on the prairies for timber, is yet an open question with us, and it is a very important one since the locust has failed. Hard-wood trees seem out of the question for general and extensive planting with speedy returns. A variety, to be eminently available, should be readily raised from seed, and that cheap and reliable. At present we know of nothing better than the wild cherry, butternut, elm, silver maple, *honey* locust, tulip tree or yellow poplar, and black walnut. Almost the whole poplar and willow tribe thrive luxuriantly West, and it would seem probable that something valuable might be furnished out of their multiplied varieties, as they are of easy culture and rapid growth. I have heard of a black willow grown in Chester county, Pennsylvania, which grew so fast and large, and withal so strait grained, as to make excellent and durable timber for rails.—Is there any such variety recognized here?

The shad bush, or June berry, grows well West, so do the birches, especially the American and European white. Will not Mr. Saunders, or other competent authorities, give us an article on these varieties of trees, including also the native mulberry and catalpa, with others available for timber. Of evergreens the white pine, red cedar, and American arbor vitæ, seem most perfectly at home on the prairies. The Scotch pine grows perhaps best of all, but we know not its timber qualities. The American chestnut will doubtless be planted to some extent in prairie plantations, but has never seemed so hardy as might be expected. The wild black cherry abounds in our western groves, grows easily from seed, and most superbly on the prairies, and from its hardihood and great timber value, would be worth *extensive* trial, although subject to worms on the foliage, and sometimes black knot on the limbs. It grows wild in Minnesota, as far north as 46°. In any case, for shelter to young plantations, the quick-growing willow and poplar tribes should be employed on the outskirts.

F. K. PHŒNIX.

Bloomington, Ill.

[We have seen it stated somewhere lately, that the Catalpa timber is lasting when used for fences. It is an easily raised tree, somewhat crooked in growth, perhaps, but this can be remedied by pruning. This is an important subject, and we hope to hear from correspondents further on the matter.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

WISCONSIN FARMER.—We have frequently commended this home magazine to the attention of our farmers, believing it to be one of the best that is published. The August number has just been received, and it contains reading matter of sufficient value and importance to every farmer to repay the cost of a year's subscription. Farmers, now that you are about to gather one of the best crops ever harvested in the State, you should invest the trifling sum of one dollar, and secure to your families an interesting monthly entirely devoted to the advancement of your own interests. Address, D. J. Powers & Co, Madison.—*Kewaunee Enterprise.*

CLAY FOR QUEEN'S WARE.—The geological examination of Texas, which is now going on, has revealed the existence, in great abundance in that State, of the finest clay, suitable for the manufacture of Queen's ware. Already steps have been taken to bring the discovery to practical use, and a Mr. Knox, having purchased the land on which a fine bed of this clay was found, has commenced the manufacture of delf. The few specimens which he made into bowls and burned, has turned out as white as snow and will ring as clear as bell metal.

☞ The average deaths per week in New York is 550; in London 1227.

HOME CIRCLE.

EDITED BY MRS B. O. SAMPSON HOYT.

FOR 'A THAT AND A' THAT.

Is there, for honest poverty,
That hangs his head, and a' that;
The coward slave, we pass him by;
We dare be poor for a' that!
For a' that and a' that,
Our toil 's obscure and a' that,
The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
The man 's the gowd for a' that.

What though on homely fair we dine,
Wear hoddin gray and a' that;
Gie' fools their silks, and knaves their wine,
A man's a man for a' that;
For a' that and a' that,
Their tinsel show, and a' that;
The honest man, be he e'er sae poor,
Is king of man for a' that.

A prince can make a belted knight,
A marquis, duke, and a' that;
But an honest man's aboon his might,
Guid faith he mauna fa' that!
For a' that and a' that,
Their dignaties, and a' that,
The pith o' sense, and pride o' worth,
Are higher ranks than a' that.

Then let us pray that come it may,
As come it will for a' that,
That sense and worth, o'er a' that,
May bear the gree, and a' that.
For a' that and a' that,
It's coming yet, for a' that,
That man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that.

—*Robert Burns.*

From the Ohio Cultivator.

MACHINES FOR THE WOMEN.

Farmers are fast rising in the world. Our city friends, who formerly recognized us only as purveyors of early vegetables for their tables, or unsophisticated customers on to whom to inflict their last year's unsaleable merchandise, are gradually expanding their minds to admit the idea that a man who tills the soil is not necessarily a mere clodhopper; that intimate intercourse with nature, and the opportunities for original thought which this affords may be as favorable to the development of great ideas as the measurement of tape, dispensing hooks and eyes, or weighing out sugar and tallow candles. When a man, in his primeval nobility and purity, was given an occupation by God himself, it was that of dressing and keeping a garden. Man has deteriorated, but nature has not; the occupation of farming is, therefore, we hold, as dignified as ever.

The right which farmers' wives and daughters may legitimately claim, and which no one, we are sure, would wish to withhold from them is that of lessening manual labor by the same methods of which men so freely avail themselves. Man claims a right to seize upon every labor saving invention. Every machine which, by doing the work of many men in many days, saves time and thus money, is adopted with avidity. Meanwhile, many a woman vainly wishes for equal facilities in her own department of labor. The farmer's wives and daughters, still wash, iron, churn, cook, and sweep as usual, and when they have a little leisure, amuse themselves with the healthy and entertaining operation of sewing. While the farmer is cutting down the tares with a mowing machine, the women are sewing up the tears in their dilapidated garments by the oldfashioned, tedious process.

* * * * * * * *

That farming may take its legitimate place among the occupations of mankind, let women have her rights, and among them all the facilities for lightning her toils. Let us have washing machines, improved churns, sewing machines, etc., where the latter may not be within the means of a single family, let a number of families or a neighborhood purchase one. The year's sewing of a dozen families could easily be done by an expert hand in a few weeks on a machine.

I have before me, as I write, a beautiful piece of furniture. With its highly polished mahogany case, bronze standards and glossy wheels, it claims and has received a prominent place as an ornament of my parlor. As I lift the mahogany top, which opens like a piano, you may see the shining silver arms and highly wrought workmanship of a Wheeler & Wilson. In those two little drawers are all the tools and appurtenances—guages, a hemmer, needles, a screw-driver, wrench, etc. While I am sewing in a few minutes garments upon which I should otherwise have spent days, and that by a process so easy and so fascinating that I can scarce leave the machine except to baste the work, which is sewn faster than I can baste it, I cannot help wishing that the care worn mothers of families, whom I see among my farmer neighbors, might have their labors, too, thus lessened.

Our grandmothers, it is true, spun, wove, made carpets, patched quilts, etc. They belonged to a robust generation; they rose early, lived simply, and dressed plainly. It would be well for us, in these respects, to follow their example. But with machinery for weaving cloth and carpets, with the reduction in price of all domestic manufactures, may not more time be employed in the cultivation of the mind, and less in the mere drudgery of household labor?

LAURA LOVEL.

☞ Miss Susan B. Anthony has accepted an invitation to deliver the address at the Dundee, N. Y., Agricultural Fair.

☞ Wealth does not always improve its possessor.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE LION'S RIDE.

The Lion is the desert's king; through his domain so wide,
Right swiftly and right royally, this night he means to ride.
By the sedgy brink, where the wild herds drink, crouches the grim chief;
The trembling sycamore above whispers with every leaf.

At evening, on the Table Mount—what see you? The Giraffe,
Majestic stalks toward the lagoon, the turbid lymph to quaff.
With out-stretched neck and tongue adust, he kneels him down to cool
His hot thirst with a welcome draught from the foul and brackish pool.

A rustling sound — a roar — a bound — the Lion sits astride,
Upon the giant courser's back. Did ever king so ride?
Had ever king a steed so rare, caparisons of state
To match the dappled skin whereon that rider sits elate?

In the muscles of the neck his teeth are plunged with ravenous greed;
His tawny mane is tossing round the withers of the steed.
Up-leaping with a hollow yell of anguish and surprise,
Away, away, in wild dismay, the Camel-leopard flies.

His feet have wings; see how he springs across the moon lit plain!
As from their sockets they would burst, his glaring eyeballs strain;
In thick, black streams of purling blood, full fast his life is fleeting;
The stillness of the desert hears his heart's tumultuous beating.

Like the cloud that through the wilderness the path of Israel traced—
Like an airy phantom, dull and wan, a spirit of the waste—
From the sandy sea up-rising, like the water-spouts from ocean,
A whirling cloud of dust keeps pace with the courser's fiery motion.

Croaking companions of their flight, the vulture whirls on high;
Below, the terror of the fold, the panther fierce and sly;
Hyenas foul, round graves that prowl, join in the horrid race;
By foot-prints wet with gore and sweat, their monarch's path they trace.

Reeling upon the desert's verge, he falls and breathes his last;
The Giraffe, stained with blood and foam, is the Lion's fell repast.
O'er Madagascar, eastward far, a faint flush is descried!
Thus nightly, o'er his broad domain, the king of beasts doth ride.

—*From the German.*

☞ One may be excused for being miserable in his feelings if he is careful never to be so in his morals.

YOUTH AT AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

At all large gatherings of people there are some who make it their business to obtain money by teaching youth foolish and ruinous practices. All should be on their guard. What appears simple and innocent at first, may be the first downward step. The *Sketch Book* gives the following account of a scene at the last Connecticut State Fair:

Outside the grounds, behind or within tents or booths, were many who gambled and led others to do so. Now, it is a very simple thing to gamble; so simple, and often it appears so fair, that many a boy is led to take the first step before he knows it.

There was behind one of the oyster stands a circle of men and boys; on the ground sat a poor, degraded, dissipated man, poorly clothed, and looking sick and weak. He held in his hand several iron rings, and before him was a board with large nails driven into it, which stood upright. A clear-faced, bright eyed, handsome little fellow stepped up to him. He was just such a boy as is prompt at day school and always has his lessons at Sabbath school. He showed this in his face as he stepped up to the man and said:

"What's that for?"

"Give me a cent and you may pitch one of these rings, and if it catches over a nail, I'll give you *six* cents."

That seemed fair enough; so the boy handed him a cent and took the ring. He stepped back to a stake, tossed the ring and it caught on one of the nails.

"Will you take six rings to pitch again, or six cents?"

"Six cents," was the answer; and two three cent pieces were put in his hand, and he stept off well satisfied with what he had done, and probably not having an idea that he had done wrong.

A gentleman standing near had watched him, and now, before he had time to look about and rejoin his companions, laid his hand on his shoulder.

"My lad, that is your first lesson in gambling."

"Gambling, sir?"

"You staked your penny and won six, did you not?"

"Yes, I did."

"You did not earn them, and they were not given you; you *won* them *just as a gambler* wins money. You have taken the first step in the path; that man has gone through it, and you can see the end. Now I advise you to go and give him back the six cents, and ask him for your penny; stand square with the world again.

He had hung his head down, but raised it quickly, and his bright, open look, as he said, "I'll do it!" will not be forgotten. He ran

back, and soon emerged from the ring, looking happier than ever. He touched his cap and bowed pleasantly, as he ran away to join his companions.

This was an *honest* boy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CROPS IN WISCONSIN.

The *Michigan Farmer* takes exception to the report of the Committee on Farms, estim ting the wheat crop of this State at 22,000,000 bushels. After speaking of the general tendency to over-estimate crops in all States, the *Farmer* makes reference to Wisconsin, as follows:

"A short time ago a committee from the inspection of the crops, came to the conclusion that they looked so well that the crop of wheat in that State might safely be set down at twenty-two millions of bushels. Well, we exposed the absurdity of such a statement, by showing that if Wisconsin grew that amount of wheat, then she must have three times the extent of land occupied with that crop alone, which was occupied by it in Michigan. It is a well known fact that a great portion of the crop of Wisconsin consists in spring wheat, which will not average as much by one-third per acre, as the winter wheat grown in Michigan; and when we say that the crop of that State will not average over twelve to fourteen bushels per acre. Now, it appears by the report of the State Agricultural Society, that the number of acres devoted to wheat last year was but 1,062,097, and giving to each an average of thirteen bushels, the whole produce of the State would be pretty close to fourteen millions of bushels of wheat, and if Wisconsin has actually grown this amount, we confess she has grown a very superior and abundant crop."

A Wisconsin man, on reading this extract, will very readily conclude that the editor of the *Michigan Farmer*, while he may be very wise about his own state, knows but precious little about Wisconsin. A man sitting in his office in Michigan, talking about exposing the absurdity of a statement made by an agricultural committee from actual observation, is slightly cool; but we must suppose that the man is governed by his own surroundings in Michigan, and, therefore, partially excusable. We must insist that the estimate of our committee is within bounds, and very much below the actual figure, notwithstanding it may lead our Michigan friend to conclude that we must "have three times the extent of land, occupied by that crop alone, which was occupied with it in Michigan." How it is with regard to the amount of land occupied, as compared with our neighboring state, we do not know, but that we shall have three times the amount of wheat in Wisconsin, that they will have in Michigan this year, is the most probable thing in the world. We believe our neighbor is mistaken in the assertion that spring wheat "will not average as much by one third per acre, as winter." Such is not the experience in this State. Then to talk about the average of "twelve to fourteen bushels per acre." Why, man, you can hardly find an acre of wheat in our State that has not produced nearly double that number of bushels this year, while much the largest portion of the wheat produces from *thirty* to *forty* bushels per acre, with many pieces considerably exceeding the highest figure.

The estimate of our committee was made before harvest, and was based upon an average of twenty-one bushels to the acre. Our grain is now harvested, and considerable of it threshed; and in no instance do we hear of a piece that does not exceed in its yield any estimate that was put upon it before harvest. The general result is, from five to ten bushels to the acre more than was anticipated. From all we can gather of the yield, we must conclude that the estimate of the committee referred to, must be at least 8,000,000 of bushels less than will be the actual crop of wheat in Wisconsin for 1860. *Thirty millions of bushels of wheat* is a large amount for a young State like ours to produce; but that amount, as large as it is, has been vouchsafed to us this year, beyond all question; and if our Michigan friend does not believe it, he has only to cross over the lake, and to consult with our intelligent, thrifty and happy farmers, to be convinced of its truth.—If he will attend our State Fair, we apprehend he will not again underrate the importance of our State; but will admit that Wisconsin has indeed *"grown a very superior and abundant crop."*

Our excellent crop this year is not confined to wheat. Corn, oats, barley, and indeed everything is equally large. There has been no failure, or even moderate crop. All are above average. Hard as the times have been in our State, the crops this year will bring our people out of their troubles. They will pay their debts and be happy. Wisconsin will again occupy a proud position, as among the first States in the Union, for her promptness in paying her debts. Her wealth is in her soil and cannot be taken from her.—*State Journal.*

NEW PROCESS OF REFINING SUGAR.

The *Scientific American* translates the following from *Le Genie Industriale:*—

Messrs. Perier and Pessoz—in view of the fact that the brown sugars of commerce generally contain calcium combinations, and always coloring matters, which lime methodically employed renders precipitable by carbonic acid—have been led by a series of experiment, to the following manipulation, which gives excellent results, and for which they have secured patents in Belgium.

They commence by dissolving the sugar in a quantity of water, variable according to the quantity of sugar to be refined and the mode of filtration adopted. A quantity of slacked and diluted lime is added to this brown sirup, the proportion varying with the impurity of the sugar, from 5 to 10 lbs. of quick lime to 100 lbs. sugar. This mixture is then carbonized either cold or warm; though the inventors prefer that it should have a temperature of from 100 to 140 degrees. The carbonization

is continued until the calcerous deposite separates from the liquid in the form of clots. At this phase of the operation, litmus paper strongly reddened, is restored to the blue color, by lime in solution in the sirup; at this moment the mixture is filtered or separated from the calcareous deposit by any known means.

The sirup deprived of this calcareous deposit is already well purified, and this treatment may be finished either by pushing the carbonization farther, or by carbonizing completely the sirup deprived of its first colored deposit. But as, ordinarily, at this first carbonization, the sirup is not sufficiently deprived of its soluble matters, there is added to it another dose of lime, feebler than the first, in the proportion of two or three per cent of lime to the sugar. This second addition of lime is carbonized completely, that is to say, until limpid lime water is rendered turbid by some drops of this filtered sirup, which denotes an excess of carbonic acid in the sirup, and consequently the saturation of all the lime which it contains. In this latter case it is necessary to subject the sirup to ebulition before filtering it, in order to precipitate the carbonate of lime held in solution by the excess of carbonic acid.

The carbonic acid which Messrs. Perie and Pessoz prefer to employ for this refining operation is taken from the sugar-house or other furnaces; it being one of the principal products of combustion. Before passing this gas into the sirup, it is partly cooled by washing it with care so that it will not soil the sugar in the least degree. This gas is easily obtained by drawing out the products of combustion at their entrance into the chimney, with a pump, at the same time using their caloric to heat either air or water; so that the carbonic acid not only costs nothing, but there is obtained from it an enormous quantity of heat which is ordinarily lost.

The second calcareous deposit is separated from the sirup by repose, filtration, centrifugal force, or by any other known means, and the sirup is concentrated to the ordinary point.—The less dense the sirup when first made, the more easily will the deposit be separated.

THE PIGEON TRADE OF MICHIGAN.—We learn from the Grand Rapids Eagle, that there have been shipped from that place alone—to say nothing of the large quantities shipped at other places in that region—588 barrels, or 108,555 lbs. of wild pigeons during the past season. The *Eagle* estimates the total number of pigeons shipped from that port of Michigan, at between one and two millions. The freight paid on pigeons at the Grand Rapids Express Office during the season, amounted to $3,488 97, and the pigeons sold for about $25,250 00.

☞ A fowl-breeder says of his Cochins, when eating corn, each takes a *peck* at a time.

THE LENGTH OF HUMAN LIFE.

What ought to be the length of human life? The Psalmist says that the days of our years are 'three score and ten,' but many of the patriarchs doubled, nay quadrupled, the given period; nay, at that time the sum of human life, on an average was longer, as now it is much shorter; and we would further answer, that to make an average fall below, is equally false with making it fall above the truth. If we fix the limit of life at seventy, old age must begin very much earlier than the time at which we have fixed it.

But is there a necessity that human life should end at seventy? History and experience say no. There be many gay seniors as lively at seventy as others are at fifty; many be stronger and better men. Is there any comparison to be drawn between the lives of the inferior animals and of men, by which we may judge of the average length of our own? Buffon has told us that all the larger animals live about six or seven times the space in which they continue to grow. Others, and those more scientific, follow after him, have reduced this to five times the length. But the true data are here found compared and arranged by other writers who have followed Buffon and Cuvier. The length of life is a multiple of the length of growth, thus—Man grows 20 years, lives 90 or 100 years; the camel grows 8 years and lives 40; the horse grows 5 years, lives 25; the lion grows 4 years, lives 15 to 20; the ox grows 4 years, lives 15 to 20; the dog grows 2 years, lives 10 to 12; the cat grows 1½ years lives 9 to 10; the hare grows 1 year, lives 8; and the guinea-pig grows 7 months, and lives 6 or 7 years. The multiple here is 5.

Thus, by physical analogy, we shall find that man grows for twenty years, and his natural term of life should never be less than one hundred. Great prudence in living, immense strength of constitution, and other circumstances, should secure for men even a longer period of existence. But then we go to bed late, and rise late; we strain our faculties, misspend our youth, distress our minds, crib, cabin and confine the body in the very narrowest limits, and then expect the body to endure all this, and when it suddenly grows old, or succumbs, we put down the fault at the wide door of nature. Was there ever so illogical an animal as man? There are those who doubt whether dogs cannot reason. When they do reason they will certainly do it better than we do.

The growth of man, or rather the termination of the growth, is very easily determined. The true sign of the term of animal growth is to be found in the re-union of the bones to their epiphyses. So long as this union does not take place, the animal grows. As soon as the bones are united to their epiphyses the animal ceases to grow. Any person of an inquiring spirit, when picking a chicken, can ascertain this truth. A certain substance like gris-

tle, of very elastic nature, will be found at the end of each bone, and in the very young is so far from being united, that it comes away with the greatest possible ease. This is not thoroughly united to the bones of any animal until it has ceased to grow. In man this is when he has reached twenty years of age, and the law is therefore not very wrong when it fixes the term of man attaining the rights and responsibilities of manhood at twenty-one years of age.

Poets have told us that a man may have lived a very long life in a very short space.—The value of time is relative. With our increased means of speed, our method of thought and our manner of acquiring knowledge, there is no doubt but that a man of thirty, who has at school, college, and business, well filled up his moments, has lived longer than the village patriarch who passed his bucolic existence quietly at home. "It may be," cries one hero of our modern writers, "by the calendar of years you are the older man, but 'tis the sun of knowledge on the man's dial, shining bright and chronicling thoughts and deeds, that make true time."

"Ay," says another, "we should count time by heart-beats; he lives longest who knows most, thinks the wisest, and acts the best."

Measured in this way, our poets and litterateurs have lived long; but in duration of time, as we shall see, they have found that an active earnest and sad existence has not conduced to its length. When Jacob was brought before Pharaoh, that monarch, no doubt struck by his appearance, asked "How old art thou?" And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years; few and evil have the days and the years of my life been, and I have not attained to the days of the years of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage." On looking back, Jacob found one hundred and thirty years a short life; he lived seventeen years after that.

Compare with these years and with those attained by other patriarchs, whom it would be superfluous to quote, the short days of our great thinkers. Spenser died aged 46; Thomson lived till he was 48; Milton till he was 66; Coleridge till 62; Shakespeare 52; Keats 24; Byron aged only 36; and Pope attained, with his poor emaciated, crooked, little body, '56; while Gray lived just one year less; and the meditative, calm, and religious Wordsworth lingered on till he was eighty. Yet he said—

> Oh, but the good die first,
> And we whose hearts are dry as summer's dust,
> Burn to the socket.

With due deference, with every tender recollection for those gone before us, we deny this. It is a poet's thought, and that only.—The really good, the hard working in brain and heart, often live till the end. Oftentimes the timid and tender-hearted turn to the wall and die, as the Frenchmen say, of chagrin, when they, could they have lived on, would have been a blessing to all around them.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

YELLOW SKIN IN THE WEST.—We call attention to the following from the Philadelphia *Ledger*. Although it is not universal in its application to the people of the West, it is worthy the attention of a large tribe of "Yellow Skins" found here:

If our Western friends can in any way teach their wives, daughters, or cooks, to keep the pearlash out of the bread, all the yellow people, especially the yellow children, who are supposed to be turned yellow by the fever and ague and billious fevers will soon be turned white. It is a great mistake to suppose that the yellow countenances of the West come from the bile, when it is only the enormous quantity of pearlash eaten in the bread that is reflected through the skin. Bread is the staff of life, it is said,—and so it is;—but it is the staff of death, too, in this country. Bad bread kills as many as bad rum. So many people eat poisonous pearlash for bread that they die by inches. Dyspepsia,—that great monster disease of the country, that deranges the liver, brings on costiveness, and thus finally kills the human victim,—is half the time "pearlash." Here, in the east, out of New England,—we have nearly driven off the pearlash-saleratus cooks, but not altogether.—Pearlash lives here yet in bread, but in cities and towns we have nearly wiped out the murderer. In the distant western towns beyond the good hotels of the lakes and rivers, pearlash, under the name of saleratus, is king. It is pearlash for breakfast, pearlash for dinner, and pearlash for supper. It is not any wonder then, that the people of the east turn yellow in the west, and sicken; not of fever and ague, and congestive fevers, but of pearlash three times a day.

Too true.—ED. FARMER.

CHEAP ROOFS.

The simple mode of roofing out-houses by nailing thin boards on light rafters, may be introduced to very great advantage, particularly in the country. It is only to subject the boards, before using, to the action of fire, by way of thoroughly seasoning them. Nail them on immediately, and cover them with sheathing paper and a dressing of tar; and a covering for almost a lifetime, may safely be calculated upon. The rafters 3 inches deep, 1¼ thick, straigntened on the edges and closely nailed.

The following composition, for covering such a roof was employed at Wickham twenty years ago, and is at this psesent time as good as when first laid. The roof is nearly flat, having a run of one inch only to the foot, the boards being securely nailed and covered with

a course of sheathing paper, such as is used under the copper sheathing of ships, made fast by small flat headed nails. To eight gallons of common tar, add two gallons of Roman cement, five pounds of rosin, and three pounds tallow; boil and stir well the ingredients, so as thoroughly to incorporate them, and lay on the roof while hot, with a brush, spread it very evenly; then sprinkle it with sand, and when cold, tar and sand as before; after which a single coat of tar once in five or six years will preserve the roof for an age.

To the above may be added an incombustible, impenetrable wash, prepared according to the following directions: Slake stone lime with hot water in a tub, covering it to keep in the steam; pass six quarts of it through a sieve, being in the state of fine dry powder, and add to it one quart of fine salt, and two gallons of water, boiling and skimming it. To every five gallons of this boiled mixture, add one pound of alum, half a pound of coperas, and by a slow degrees half a pound of potash, and four quarts of fine sharp sand. The mixture will now admit of any color-matter that might be preferred, and is to be applied with a brush. It looks better than paint, and is as durable as stone. It will stop leaks in the roof, prevent the moss from growing and injuring the wood, rendering it incombustible, and when laid upon brick work causing it to become impenetrable to rain or moisture.—*Farmer's Cabinet.*

TOO MUCH LAND.

We find much said in our exchanges on the comparative advantages of large farms and small farms. A writer in the *Homestead*, published in Connecticut, where farms are already small, compared with our Southern farms and plantations, says:

"I believe in a little farm well tilled; too much territory is the greatest evil farmers have to cope with. This truth is seen every day; let us mend the matter." We suppose that it will be hardly gainsaid that the desire of spreading out over more territory than they can properly occupy, is a national weakness of the American people. The wish to own *some* land is scarcely more universal than the desire to have more. While the Western pioneer is not willing to have a neighbor so near that he can hear his dog bark, the largest proprietor in the old States can see or imagine a reason to extend his borders on one side or the other. That this disposition has exerted an evil influence on our agriculture, there can be no doubt. Men will exhaust in the purchase of land, means, a portion of which could be more profitably employed in the cultivation of a less number of acres. The wear out their energies and lives in the heart-breaking business of working unimproved lands, with inadequate labor, insufficient teams, unsuitable implements, and no manure, and give the caviller additional arguments against agriculture a a pursuit not fit to be followed. Every right-thinking man will, therefore, set his face firmly against the temptation to work more land than he has the means to work well. He will by all the means in his power, so order his affairs, that the valuable capital in land shall not be comparatively idle for want of active capital to make it productive. As well may he expend all his means in the purchase of mines, rich in gold, and leave them year after year unworked.

It is a prevalent error, however, that it is necessarily wiser and better economy to cultivate a small than a large farm—that twenty acres can be worked to more advantage than a hundred, and a hundred than five hundred. It may be true, though we do not know that it is so, that small farms are more generally profitable than large ones. There are many men who are capable of managing a small business, who would fail with a large one—and many more who can command the necessary means to work a small than a large farm. But there is no reason, that we are aware of, why a man who has the capacity to manage a farm of five hundred acres, should be confined to one hundred acres, should be confined to one hundred except the want of means to work profitably the larges number. On the other hand, there are economical considerations on which they may extend his operations. There is, for instance, a certain amount of building required, implements, tools, horses, cattle, for almost any number of acres, however small, and the necessary expenditure for such purposes will be much less, comparatively, for a farm of two hundred, than for a farm of one hundred acres —while the skill and management of a good farmer will be a very little more taxed. It is not to be questioned, however, that the almost universal disposition to attempt to cultivate more than we are able to cultivate well, is a grievous evil, and one which every owner of the land should set himself diligently to abate. —*American Farmer.*

☞ A correspondent of the *Farmer and Gardener* asks: "Is there a good barn-yard lift and force pump in existence, durable, simply consructed, and anti-forcing? One capable of throwing water from a well forty feet deep, and of doing its duty without the aid of frequent repairs, or of a machinist to make such repairs?"

In reply to the above inquiry we would say that we have just been examining one of Cooley's double acting lift and force pumps, and can truly say that it appears to be one of the simplest and neatest things of the kind we have ever seen. One of them will be on exhibition at the State Fair, and we would advise all to examine it for themselves.—Ed. Far.

HOW THEY PIECE OUT FORAGE IN THE SOUTH.

We have no conception what the cost to the State would be to have an accurate knowledge as to the present growing crop for the next year—of corn, fodder, wheat, rye, oats, and pea vine—would cost, but aside from the information, we really believe the State would save ten fold the cost. Where there is a certainty that sections of our State has to be supplied with bread, a State commissioner could now go in the grain growing districts of the West, and purchase by wholesale, and have it brought down and stored at convenient points. Where supply can be effected by merchants, they without risk could purchase what would be demanded; the bountiful portions of the State would know where to send the surplus, and all could economize against the great need.

Even now, we fully believe want and starvation can be avoided, so far as horses, mules, and cattle may need, by sowing down largely of the Hungarian grass seed. We believe if sown on the first of September, if rain enough to ensure a rise, and a moderate rain or two after, the grass will make a ton of hay per acre before the 20th of October. Ours matured seed in sixty days; our hay was cut and housed in forty-five days after sowing the seed. The price asked us in Vicksburgh was $2 50 per bushel; we had sent to Nashville, where it was advertised at $1 50, but it cost over that there, and the expenses brought it up to near $3. Admit the cost to be three dollars, this is one dollar per acre for seed, plowing an acre with two mules, say two dollars, sowing and brushing in one dollar, amounting to four dollars per acre, and if cutting and housing be three dollars more, and we get a ton only, we are paid well for all labor, and the hay stands us in seven dollars per ton; worth in Cincinnati at least fifteen dollars. We have never tested full sowing, but having had three crops and cut this year's crop the second time, we think we can safely promise at least heads in bloom in forty days. Understand that our Hungarian grass was cut say 1st of July, and second crop cut and hauled in on the tenth of August—seed ripe and falling out on the cutting.

We propose also putting in largely of Hungarian grass, say April 20th next, or as soon as all fear of frost has passed and the earth warm enough to vegetate first crop of crab grass. Thus half feed of corn and abundance of Hungarian grass will enable us to economize largely of corn after the first of June.—Even a short crop of corn can be considerably patched up, by procuring Canada corn and planting first of March. We have had corn hard enough to grind the 1st of July, fit for feeding in May, and early enough by good plowing and manuring to make a second crop of our own corn. Admit, if necessary, the yield would be only fifteen bushels per acre, it will save an immense amount of money and anxiety. We have also had Adams' early, a very pretty white corn, and from field culture had full (to the point) roasting ears 22d of June, and the dry year of '55, no rain on it from planting to earing; planted about the 16th of April.—*Southern Rural Gentleman.*

HINTS ABOUT THRESHING.

Many farmers will, during the fall months, be threshing their grain. This work, however performed, is not very agreeable; a good machine managed by energetic and careful men, should always be chosen. Have a sufficient number of able-bodied men to assist so that none shall be obliged to labor unnecessarily hard. Persons not in good health, or those inclined to diseases of the throat and lungs, should not labor in the dust created by the threshing machine, as it is irritating to the lining membrane of the air passages, and may produce serious injury. A moistened sponge tied over the nostrils to prevent the entrance of dust, should always be used by those most exposed. All means for obtaining abundance of fresh air, and the removal of that which becomes loaded with impurities, should be taken. Furnish laborers with plenty of wholesome food and drink. If the weather is warm, nothing is more wholesome and grateful to the threshers than fruits which contain acids and water.

Take good care of the straw by neatly stacking, or what is better, placing it under cover that it may be fed out in winter, or used for bedding and mulching. Cut straw and meal makes the best of feed for all kinds of stock, and it becomes available much sooner for manure, when used in this way. See that your grain is well secured from rats, mice and chickens, as they waste much, and make what they do not waste more or less filthy. When you are through, take a good bath, to remove all dirt from the surface of the body, and allow the pores to act healthfully. If the nostrils are stopped up, snuff tepid water into them slowly and blow it away with force. If these hints are followed, threshing will not be so very unpleasant work.—*Ohio Farmer.*

CHEAP PAINT.

Take one bushel of unslacked lime and slake it with cold water; when slacked add to it 20 lbs. of Spanish whiting, 17 lbs. of salt, and 12 lbs. of sugrr. Strain this mixture through a wire sieve, and it will be fit for use after reducing with cold water. This is intended for the outside of buildings, or where it is exposed to the weather. In order to give a good color, three coats are necessary on brick and two on wood. It may be laid on with a brush similar to whitewash. Each coat must have sufficient time to dry before the next is applied.

For painting inside walls, take as before, one bushel unslacked lime, 3 lbs. of sugar, 5 lbs. salt, and prepare as above, and apply with a brush.

I have used it on brick and find it well calculated to preserve them—it is far preferable to oil. I have used it on wood, and assure you that it will last longer on rough siding than oil paint will on planed siding or boards.

You can make any color you please; if you wish straw color, use yellow ochre instead of whitening; for lemon color, ochre and chrome yellow; for lead and slate color, lampblack; for blue, indigo; for green, chrome green.—These different kinds of paint will not cost more than one-fourth as much as oil paints, including labor of putting on.—*Niagara Times.*

MONSTER PETRIFIED TREES IN CALIFORNIA.—Capt. J. E. Stevens, who conducted a silver prospecting expedition from Marysville to the Black Rock country, informs the Marysville *Democrat* of an extraordinary discovery which the expedition made of a petrified tree. The tree is lying in a desolate region about sixty miles north of Black Rock. Its length, so far as measured, the top being deep under ground, was 666 feet, and the general opinion of the company, looking at it was that it was 40 to 60 feet in diameter. Enormous tree! Capt. Stevens thinks it is of the same species as the trees of Mariposa. Fragments of other trees of the same kind, but smaller, are visible here and there—stumps and butts of thirty feet in length—all petrified. And it is more than probable that a little excavation would discover a vast primeval forest there buried.—This tree lies exactly where it fell centuries ago, for there are the upturned roots, in just the position they would most naturally be, and the prone trunk bears no evidence of having been disturbed. It seems strange that the remains of a great forest should thus be found in a country now wholly destitute of any sort of living growth whatever, except sage, brush and greasewood, for a hundred miles around.

SLEEP.

There is no fact more clearly established in the physiology of man than this, that the brain expends its energies and itself during the hours of wakefulness, and that these are recuperated during sleep; if the recuperation does not equal the expenditure, the brain withers—this is insanity.

Thus it is that, in early English history, persons who were condemned to death by being prevented from sleeping always died raving maniacs; thus it is, also, that those who are starved to death become insane; the brain is not nourished, and they cannot sleep. The practical inferences are these:

First. Those who think most, who do most brainwork, require most sleep.

Second. That time saved from necessary sleep is infallibly destructive to mind, body, and estate.

Third. Give yourself, your children, your servants, give all that are under you the fullest amount of sleep they will take, by compelling them to go to bed at some regular early hour, and to rise in the morning the moment they awake; and, within a fortnight, nature, with almost the regularity of the rising sun, will unloose the bonds of sleep the moment enough repose has been secured for the wants of the system.

This is the only safe and sufficient rule—and as to the question how much sleep any one requires, each must be a rule for himself—great nature will never fail to write it out to the observer under the regulations thus given. —*Dr. Spicer.*

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The Crops, &c.

The wonderful crops of the present year are theme of every tongue; the Northwest, as a whole, seems to have beaten itself. Wisconsin in particular, has gone far beyond, in her crop of wheat, what even her own citizens thought she could do.

When we stated in the August number, that the crop would come up to 25,000,000 of bushels, few thought it possible, and many treated it as an idle and extravagant editorial swell.—More particularly did people out of the State treat it in that light. Our brother of the Michigan *Farmer*, as will be seen elsewhere in this number, was particularly sure that he knew better about the amount of our crops, while cooped up in the dusty streets of Detroit, than did we when running over the actual prairies themselves, and viewing the crops every day. But we rather guess that the scales ere this have fallen from his skeptical eyes, and he has become convinced that Wisconsin actually can raise a big crop even if Michigan don't.

In speaking of the great grain growing States, hereafter, we think it will not be as common as in the past to put us in as fifth or sixth. Not but that we are now aware that this is a most extraordinary year; but we are equally aware, that a thorough and careful tillage of the right kind, will immensely increase our ordinary yields of wheat, and without exhausting the soil.

In our opinion no sane man should ever try to raise winter wheat at all, in Wisconsin; for even though he occasionally succeed, (and we

have seen it done,) still it is far too risky to waste money upon. But let those who would raise good crops of spring wheat every year, subsoil plow their fields say sixteen inches to twenty inches deep, to counteract the effects of our dry seasons, and it will effectually do it, no mistake; then, to prevent exhaustion, invariably sow clover with every crop, and pasture it with sheep during the fall and spring, before plowing for hoed crops, and also return all the manure made of the straw, corn and cornstalks to it, and it will not exhaust very fast. This course pursued very carefully, brother farmers, and you will rejoice annually in great and good crops, and without that pang that now clings to the thoughtful man, that while we are raising big crops we are ruining the soil in so doing.

The reports from every locality in the State go continually to confirm the enormous yield of the present crop. They range from twenty-five to fifty bushels per acre; we have talked with a great many threshers, all of whom put the yield at from fifty to seventy-five per cent higher than any previous year. Now this is all right; Wisconsin needs and deserves it, also; our sufferings have been long and painful, pecuniarily, and are still felt in our bones, like a departing rheumatism. Many have been sacrificed during the hard times, and among them not a few, no doubt, needlessly, by the pressing avarice of heartless and grasping creditors; parties who, with a little more indulgence, would have gone through all right, and have had a handsome property left after paying all debts. Among the two legged animals we utterly loathe and abhor, is the creditor who *could, and would not* wait, on such as were striving and hopeful; miserable sharks who swallow their prey without pity or mercy for their fellow man, or the poor wife and children; but we will leave such men alone; God or the —— will bless them, probably, in due season.

Corn has also matured probably as fine a crop, comparatively, as the wheat; and being so early must ripen of a remarkably sound quality.

If hogs are as plenty in the State as we hope they are, our farmers must make a very large amount of pork from such a powerful corn crop; and let us bespeak of all a careful consideration of the best modes of feeding. That from one-third to one-quarter of every corn crop we raise is *absolutely thrown away* is a fact beyond all dispute. Every one should look this matter up, brother farmers, and learn to do better.

Waste not of your abundance, but turn it to the utmost account, until the whole State is out of debt, and rich in money to let, and few or none to borrow. God speed that day, and couple wisdom and moderation with it.

The State Fair

Promises to be the finest exhibition ever held in the State. The products of the earth are so abundant, and so superior, that almost every farmer has a desire to show the miracles of his field and garden, and the return of good times enables them to do so without too great pecuniary inconvenience.

The competition by counties is awakening more interest than even the most sanguine have hoped. The State is being canvassed as never before. The agricultural societies in those counties which have entered for the Prize Banner have appointed agents to travel and urge the farmers up to the extreme of their ability, and from every quarter the cheering word comes, "Make way for our county! we shall be out *en masse!*" The remotest parts of the State are all astir with the activity of preparation; and when the time comes for these agricultural detachments to join the great industrial army at Madison, in the last week in September, there will be such tidal currents of the people of Wisconsin, towards the Capital City, as has never yet been witnessed in the Northwest.

The bountiful yield of all our crops in this State, is the admiration and envy of every other portion of the Union, and it is eminently fit that we who have been so signally blessed should meet together for a grand harvest-home jubilee.

THE GROUNDS

are now finished, and present a most inviting appearance, as may be judged from the following editorial notices by disinterested parties:

The people of the State who propose attending the State Fair, to be held in this city on the 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th days of the present month, will doubtless feel an interest in knowing what has been done by the State Agricultural Society in fitting up the grounds for the occasion.

The grounds selected are the same which were occupied by the Fair two years ago, except that the enclosure is considerably larger, and are one mile west from the State House. They now include 40 acres, and are surround-

ed by a tight board fence eight feet in height. We need not inform those who were here at the previous Fair how finely the spot is adapted for the purposes of such a gathering and display.

The railroad runs within three rods of the north side entrance, so that passengers, are landed there without any additional trouble or expense. The main entrance for carriages is on the east. The whole north-east portion of the grounds is nearly a perfect plain. This plain extends from North to South through the enclosure, and is wide enough for the trotting course at the narrowest point, which is in the form of an ellipse, the circumference being precisely half a mile.

The north-west quarter of the grounds is a smooth slope of easy grade, and was occupied two years ago for the military encampment for which it was finely adapted, the ascent being sufficient to enable persons from any part of the enclosure to observe all the evolutions. This year it will be reserved for such agricultural implements as are usually exhibited out of doors.

The whole western half of the enclosure slopes toward the centre, but at the point midway between the North west and South-west corners the acclivity is very slight, and nearly on a level with the trotting course. Midway between this point, and the south-west corner the ground rises into a hill or mound fifteen or twenty rods in diameter from North to South at the base, and thirty feet or more in height above the level of the trotting course. From the sides and summit of the mound the whole enclosure can be overlooked. It seems formed on purpose for the occasion. Fifty thousand people could be seated around its sides so as to witness whatever spectacle might be given on the plain below, or to listen to a speaker, yet no one interrupt the view of another.—Here seats will be arranged for the ladies at least, and the stand for the annual address will be erected at the foot.

On the summit of this mound is a structure denominated the Temple of Art, 100 feet in length by 50 in breadth. It is formed of boards, put on longitudinally and battened.—It is to be neatly painted with colored wash, and will present a very handsome appearance. This structure will be devoted to the exhibition of painting, needlework, and all articles of fancy work. It is divided into six alcoves, forming a very large wall surface, and is well lighted and ventilated from the roof.

A few rods North-west of the Temple of Art in a grove, is the Ladies' Reception Hall. It is 40 by 24 feet, and is designed for ladies exclusively.

Directly North of the Temple of Art, about twenty rods, is a building, 40 by 20 feet, which is divided into three rooms, viz: The Office of the Executive Committee of the Agricultural Society, the Superintendent's Office, and the Editorial Hall. The latter will be fitted up with seats and desks for the editors and newspaper correspondents who may be present.

The Operative Machinery Hall is some distance North of the last mentioned structure, and is 100 feet in length by 50 in breadth.—Here there will be a large steam engine in operation to drive such machinery as may be on exhibition.

One of the most attractive features will be the Green House, which is not yet completed. This will be a large structure with glass roof and sides, for the exhibition of green house plants, as well as to furnish an illustration of the proper manner of constructing conservatories.

There will also be a large enclosure, 80 by 40, partially roofed, in which Wiard's Ice Boat will be exhibited.

Three large tents will occupy the space between the Temple of Art, and the office of the Executive Committee, for the exhibition of fruits and flowers, agricultural products, and manufactured articles. In the rear of these, separated from them by about the width of a street, will be six refreshment stands, where the multitude will have abundant facilities for appeasing their hunger and thirst.

The other buildings are the Secretary and Treasurer's Office, situated upon a rise of ground nearly opposite the Temple of Art, on the eastern side of the enclosure, by the principal entrance, 36 feet by 25, and two small ticket offices, one at the north and the other at the south side, each eight by twelve. There is also a Judges' Stand on the east side of trotting course.

Ample provision has been made for live stock. There are 82 stalls for horses; 170 for cattle, many of them double; 60 pens for sheep; 40 for pigs; and about 50 feet of coops for poultry.

The trotting course is enclosed with posts and a rail, and within it are two elliptical enclosures, for the exhibition of cattle and horses, each containing about half an acre.

There has been used in erecting the several buildings, stalls and fences, 225,000 feet of lumber.

The Society have also had four wells dug upon the grounds in which pumps will be placed affording abundance of water both for the people and stock.

It may be safely assumed that the arrangements for the accommodation of the people are much more complete and extensive than at any previous Fair, and with the harvest, bountiful beyond all precedent which has this year rained wealth into the pockets of our farmers and filled their homes with abundance, the exhibition will be the most successful, both in the number and quality of the articles entered, and in the multitude of people who will attend, it, of any ever held in the State.—*State Journal.*

We have frequently said that the locality

and arrannements of the State Fair grounds were very handsome and complete, and a critical examination that we made last evening has only served to confirm our previous impressions.

The prospects are that this Fair will be the best and most satisfactory ever held in Wisconsin. The eleven spirited counties that have entered as contestants to the prize banner, are making active efforts, and the interest of their residents will undoubtedly cause them to attend almost *en masse*. The banner is being manufactured from costly materials, by Messrs. Chambers & Dubois, of Chicago, and their noted skill and taste will not be wanting.

Mr. Hoyt, the indefatigable Secretary, is attending to having the main streets leading to the Fair, put in good condition, and has taken care that the four wells on the grounds shall be kept in order, and supply from pumps an abundance of water for all purposes.

The last week of September, from the 24th to the 29th inclusive, will be an interesting time to the farmer, mechanic, and every public spirited resident of Wisconsin, and it should be borne in mind that the exhibition, while affording an opportunity for observation and improving enjoyment, should be used by the agriculturist as a means of finding a prime market for his surplus produce, be taken advanrage of to secure a supply of new seeds and improved stock, and be viewed as one of the greatest institutions which the civilized world has yet discovered, in stimulating enterprise and encouraging trade.—*Patriot.*

THE ENTRIES

Are already pouring in, and there is reason to hope that the jam and confusion almost always inevitable, because of a neglect to enter *before* the Fair, will be in a good measure avoided this time.

Should any have prepared to exhibit articles or animals which they do not find mentioned in the Premium List, we hope they will bring them up to the Fair, nevertheless. The Discretionary Committee are faithful men, and we will ourself try to see that nothing is neglected.

We have spent day and night since the season of preparation began, in planning and working to make the Exhibition a perfect success, and earnestly hope that any omissions or errors that may appear when the Fair shall have put those plans to the test of actual trial, will be charitably and generously regarded. There are no doubt a thousand little matters the provision for which requires that wisdom which comes of actual experience in the management of an Exhibition. It will be but natural, indeed quite inevitable, therefore, that some things of practical importance should be overlooked. There are several members of the Executive Committee who have had large experience in the affairs of the Society, and the heartiness and faithfulness of their co-operation furnishes good ground for confidence in the general result.

The citizens of Madison have lost none of their old hospitality, and are ready to do all in their power to make the occasion one of unmingled pleasure and profit.

Again, and in conclusion—for this is the last opportunity that we shall have, before the Exhibition, to urge upon the minds of the people of our State, the importance of an earnest practical interest in the success of the Society—we would say to the farmers and mechanics of Wisconsin, and to everybody else, Come to the Fair—not empty-handed, but with numerous products of your industry and skill—not alone, but accompanied by family and friends. H.

Scarcity of Fodder the Coming Winter.

With all the luxuriant crops that have been grown the present season, it would not seem possible that a scarcity could arise during the coming winter. Still many stranger things than that have occurred. It is an old and a true proverb that in abundance we should always look out for scarcity.

We understand that much less hay than usual has been cut in many neighborhoods; on account of the scarcity of help, together with the vast harvest to attend to. Straw, to be sure, is abundant, but much of it is coarse and rusty—far from being of the fine quality of last year; and on account of the amount of it it is being but poorly stacked and saved. On the whole we apprehend that a hard winter, coupled with all the foregoing causes, together with the wastefulness that follows a consciousness of abundance, might bring many farmers into the short rows, with their stock, before grass will grow green again. Therefore, we would repeat to all, look out in season, save all and waste nothing; too much will not hurt you—too little will be found both uncomfortable and unprofitable.

Cornstalks that were not cut before the frost will be worth but little for fodder. While those that were well and early saved will well pay for cutting and feeding. Stock well fed, and kept up in good flesh until winter, will be found practically half wintered, while animals

that range about uncared for until snow flies, and get poor, are badly injured thereby.

Could the millions of bushels of corn that will be wastefully fed in the ear to stock and hogs, all be properly ground, and properly fed, what a vast saving would thereby be effected. Enough in a single season to buy every farmer in the State a good feed grinding mill for all after use.

It is a literal fact that our Western States waste more annually from bad feeding of hay and grain than the New England farming States ever did or can raise, per annum; but still there is no sense in it; a tolerable economy in saving is just as important to prosperity and wealth in our country as in any other.

Agricultural Machinery at the State Fair.

A large and fine plat of ground is assigned upon the Fair Grounds for the exhibition of the abovs class of machinery, and we are led to believe, from what we hear that it will be well filled.

A portion of the ground is to be plowed for the purpose of allowing a trial, on a small scale, of such machines as require it, and do not want to go to the larger fields of the plowing match.

All the farmers who are interested in labor-saving machinery (and who is not now-a-days) should attend the Fair for the purpose of its especial study, if nothing else could be seen.

Of how much more real interest is the careful study of such machines as one uses and wishes to purchase, than the mere idle matching of fancy horses, even with lady riders upon them.

NEW MACHINERY ON EXHIBITION.

There will be several new machines on exhibition of decided interest and economy, among them an Improved Combined Grain Drill, one of the most perfect going, and in connection with it a complete and first class *Wheel Horse Rake*, also a *Double Check-row Corn Planter*. In five minutes' time the machine can be converted into either of the foregoing forms, and is as perfect and uncomplicated in each as if made for either and nothing else. No special complication, no *lumber* about it whatever, and what is better, not costing much if any more, all complete, than is now charged for mere grain drills alone. We speak more confidently of this machine, because we are helping to get it up, and, consequently, are able to judge of its complete practicability and working. It will be on exhibition in working order throughout, and all should see it.

Also, a Combined *Feed Grinder, Feed Cutter*, and *Corn Sheller*, for horse power. A very perfect and cheap machine for all heavy farmer's use. This will also be in actual operation, cutting at the rate of a ton of fodder per hour, or grinding its ten to twenty bushels of feed, also shelling corn as fast as you can put in the ears.

Also, the Climax Hand and Horse Power Machine, has, in combination with its feed cutting apparatus, a first class corn sheller, both unequaled by any single machine. Look then at all of the foregoing machines upon the grounds, all farmers who propose buying *Grain Drills, Feed Mills*, or *Feed Cutters*. It will pay you for your trouble.

Address at State Fair.

The Annual Address at the approaching State Fair will be delivered by Gen. James A. Nye, of New York, a gentleman of marked ability as a speaker and of large interest in Agricultural affairs. He will deliver a most eloquent and valuable address, and the announcement of his name cannot fail to add a new and strong attraction to the programme of the Exhibition.

State papers please notice.

Suffolk Pigs.

J. V. Robbins, Esq., has a fine stock of Suffolk pigs and hogs. The younger stock are of his own raising from the choicest imported stock. We doubt if there are better Suffolk hogs in the West.

They will be exhibited at the State Fair undoubtedly, and all who desire anything of the kind can examine them. There is no question about their purity of blood.

Arrearages to the Farmer.

As we stated in our last issue we shall expect as many of our friends who are in arrears to us on subscription to call in and pay up during the Fair. We shall have an office upon the Fair ground for such as can more conveniently call there.

Look us up gentlemen and help us out as fully as possible. We shall not refuse arrearages nor new subscriptions either, call in and call around. D. J. POWERS & CO.

Admission to the State Fair.

There seems to have been a misunderstanding as to the terms of admission to the State Fair, arising from the regulations to protect the Society against impositions heretofore practiced, and to correct this we give place to the following letter from Dr. HOYT, the attentive Secretary of the Society:

STATE AGRICULTURAL ROOMS,
Madison, Sept. 10, 1860.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Inasmuch as there appears to be some misapprehension in the minds of interested parties as to the terms of admission to the approaching State Fair, I trust you will make room for the following statement in relation thereto:

Life members and their families will be admitted free to all the privileges of the Fair, except as competitors for special premiums, but will be required to pay the same rates of carriage admission as others.

The payment of one dollar entitles the person so paying it to the privileges of Annual Membership, viz: a voice and vote at the regular annual meeting of the Society—to the privileges of exhibiting anything he may wish, except for special premiums, as for instance on trotting horses, or anything else requiring an extra entry, as seen by the Premium List, and to six single admission tickets. But if he be *not* an exhibitor, then, the one dollar so paid shall simply entitle him to the privileges of annual membership and to *four* admission tickets.

"*Helper's Tickets*" will also be given to such persons as are necessarily required to take care of animals on exhibition, and the Superintendent of the Horse Department may give to any exhibitor in his department one exit ticket each day of the fair; which shall entitle the holder to one exit and one admission of horses, carriage and driver.

Single admission will be, as heretofore, 25 cents. Children under fifteen years, half price; under ten, *free*, if accompanied by parent or guardian.

The *Family* tickets which were formerly in use have been discarded, on account of the wholesale frauds of which they were the occasion—one ticket often being used for the benefit of half a dozen families, each comprising an unlimited number of individuals. The present system of requiring every one to pay for what he gets, may prove in some instances a little inconvenient and unsatisfactory, but it certainly has the merit of being just and equal, and for this reason, has been adopted by nearly every State Society in the Union.

Private carriages will be admitted during the fair at $2,50; single admission for carriages, 50 cts.; but in every case, all passengers, except the driver, will be required to have tickets of admission.

J. W. HOYT, Sec'y W. S. A. S.

[State papers please copy.]

Why do Onions grow to Scullions?

A friend of ours who has raised a large bed of nothing but scullions the present season, is anxious to learn the reason of it, and how to avoid it in future. Who among our horticultural friends can tell him?

☞ *Oats in the bundle*, well cut up, straw and all, are a capital kind of feed for either horses or stock; in many cases it is much better than threshing them. For heavy teams hard at work, a little ground corn meal mixed wet with them, makes a feed that cannot well be beat; it is a highly economical and satisfactory way of feeding, both to man and beast; try it, one and all.

Market for our Breadstuffs.

There can be little doubt but there will be sufficient foreign demand for our breadstuffs to ensure good prices in all our markets. In England the harvest has been bad in consequence of bad weather, and though, since the 24th day of August the weather had been favorable, yet it came too late to save the wheat crop.

In France the harvest, though not as bad as in England, has not been good; and the fact that Napoleon has issued a decree allowing breadstuffs to come in free of all duties, proves that France must buy largely of wheat.

The harvest in Spain has been an excellent one, and her surplus will go far to supply the necessities of France, but will offer no competition to us in the British markets.

In Southern Russia the wheat harvest has been bountiful, but the quality has been damaged by storms, and the ravages of the locust has shortened the crop in some portions.

While, therefore, through the false policy of our own country in neglecting to foster domestic industry, we are compelled to depend upon foreign demand for a good market, we are permitted to rejoice that we have such a demand, though we would not exult in the misfortunes which create it.—*State Journal.*

Attending the State Fair.

We would say to our numerous friends that we purpose attending the State Fair this year if nothing happens to prevent. For the last five years we have had so much to do at the Fairs, in our official capacity, that we have neither seen nor heard anything except that pertaining to our business, and hardly had time to bestow a look or a pleasant word up-

on our best friends. But this year the scene is changed, our time is all our own, thank God, and we intend using it for our own benefit and enjoyment to the fullest extent; and we hope to meet a few thousand of our friends to help us. We anticipate a pleasant season. So may it be. P.

List of State and District Fairs.

Alabama,	Sep. 29	Oct. 2
Iowa, Iowa City,	Oct.	2- 5
New Hampshire, Manchester,	"	2- 4
Michigan, Detroit,	"	2- 5
New York, Elmira,	"	2- 5
Oregon,	"	9-
South Carolina, Columbia,	"	13-16
Indiana, Indianapolis,	"	15-20
Mississippi, Holly Springs,	"	16-
Georgia, Atlanta,	"	23-26
Maryland,	Oct. 30	to Nov. 3

County Fairs for 1860.

Iowa, Dodgeville,	Oct.	3- 4
Marquette, Westfield,	"	4- 5
Waushara, Wautoma,	"	10-12
Portage, Stanton,	"	16-

AS ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN IN WELL REGULATED families, it is very desirable to have some cheap and convenient way for repairing Furniture, Crockery, etc.,

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE

meets all such emergencies, and no household can afford to be without it. It is always ready and up to the sticking point. There is no longer a necessity for limping chairs, splintered veneers, headless dolls, and broken cradles. It is just the article for cone, shell, and other ornamental work, so popular with ladies of refinement and taste.

This admirable preparation is used cold, being chemically held in solution, and possessing all the valuable qualities of the best cabinet maker's glue. It may be used in the place of ordinary mucilage, being vastly more adhesive.

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Country Merchants should make a note of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE, when making up their list. It will stand any climate. [xii 12 5

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FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH

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DRY GOODS

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Our Mr. B. has just returned from New York and Boston, where he has purchased the most extensive stock of

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS!

EVER SEEN IN THIS CITY.

All our Domestic Dry Goods were purchased for cash, direct from the Manufacturers, and our

DRESS GOODS

direct from the importers, which enables us to sell them

Fifteen Per Cent Lower

than any establishment this side of Chicago.

Our Wholesale Department

comprises the very best brands of Domestics, such as

Sheetings,
Shirtings,
Checks,
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Flannels,
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TOGETHER WITH

Thirty thousand Yards of the best styles of

PRINTS

Ever offered for sale in this or any other city.

COUNTRY MERCHANTS

would do well by giving us a call before going to Milwaukee or Chicago to purchase goods, as we are determined to sell them at rates equal to those of the above named places. Call and examine.

MENGES & BARTELS.

No. 2, United States Block.

Madison, September, 1860. [xii 12 tf

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THESE SCALES are offered to the public as the

BEST SCALES IN USE!

☞ They have always taken first class Premiums wherever exhibited.

They require no pit; and have no check rods; will weigh when out of level; receive all friction and wear on balls, instead of knife edges, as in other scales. No jarring of platform affects the working of the scales.

Call and examine our *Improved Union Grocer's* and *Family Scales*, weighing accurately from one half an ounce to 240 lbs.; also a *New Post Office Balance*. Constantly on hand a large assortment of *Platform Scales*, from 400 to 3,500 lbs. capacity, all resting and working on balls. Apply to

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No. 5, Wholesale Vegetable and Tree Seeds.
No. 6, Descriptive Catalogue of Strawberries, 160 varieties.
No. 9, Bulbous Flowers—*Pœnies, Dahlias, &c.*
No. 10, Wholesale Price of same.
No. 13, Green House Plants.
No. 14, Grapes of 320 Native and 120 Foreign Varieties.
Strawberries, 250,000 *Scarlet Magnate, Imperial Scarlet, Wilson's Albany*, &c. *Fruit Trees, Small Fruits, Ornamental Trees, Evergreens Roses, Stocks for Nurseries, Bulbous Roots Dahlias and Seeds*, an immense stock of all kinds, in the finest condition and at lowest prices. [xii 12 1

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Is as extensive and thorough as that of the best Commercial Colleges in the country. Special attention will be given to

Single and Double Entry Book Keeping,

embracing every department of business accounts, to commercial calculations, practical penmanship, &c.

There will be two courses of lectures during the season before the school: one on *Political Economy*, by John Y. Smith, Esq., and one on *Commercial Law*, by several members of the Madison Bar.

The school will be open for Ladies, for whom a separate room is provided.

In addition to the daily sessions, the school will be open four evenings in each week from October to April.

Students are instructed individually and can enter at any time. The usual time required by an industrious student to complete a course, is from eight to twelve

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Ful lcourse, time unlimited, in advance for gent's. $25
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For further particulars, address
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adison, Wis., Sept. 1860. xii 12.

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FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, at prices within the reach of every family, and adapted to all kinds of coarse and fine work. Agencies wanted in all counties thro'out the Northwestern States, by

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FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Which have the highest testimonials and certificates in their favor from families and the public press. They will run backward or forward, making a smooth and elastic stitch on all kinds of fabric, by

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FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Our Machines run with a rubber friction wheel, doing away with the stretching and annoyance of a belt or band—a desideratum which has long been sought for. Our Machines have a straight needle and a guard to prevent breaking, thus requiring not more than one needle in six months common use. Made by

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FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — So simple in their construction that a child of twelve years can work them with ease. We warrant the seam secure tho' every third stitch be cut; they make 96 stitches per inch, stronger and handsomer than any sewing done by hand. Sold by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — That will Hem, Stitch, Fell, Gather, Embroider, and make two different stitches on the the same machine; embodying all the improvements of the age at prices varying from $25 to $40 each, made and sold by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Our Machines are used throughout the country, giving satisfaction to all who use them, and are, undoubtedly, the most economical, best made, and cheapest in use. A person thoroughly acquainted with the construction and operation of all kinds of Sewing Machines will always be in attendance, and ready to serve all who wish information in regard to our machines, at

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — We will furnish circulars with full and explicit directions for using, also, explaining their mechanical construction, and giving the most satisfactory evidence of their superiority in many respects over all other Family Machines.

PATENT UNIVERSAL HEMMER. — We have the "Universal Hemmers," adapted to all kinds of machines. Price $5. They will be sent by mail to any one on the receipt of the above amount.

NOTICE TO AGENTS. — **We offer a liberal discount to parties wishing an Agency or Right of Sale of our Machines.** With a small investment of capital a profitable business can be readily established. All sales to Agents, with discount, must be invariably for CASH.

N. B.—Our Machines all stand on a table, and are worked by a treadle.

☞ On remittance of $25 we will send to any family a machine per return of express.

Address,

C. A. COOK,
Agent Sewing Machine Co.
OFFICE—124 LAKE STREET, (up stairs,) CHICAGO.

THRESHING MACHINES.

JOHN A. PITTS' IMPROVED PREMIUM SEPARATOR
—AND—
DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWER.

MANUFACTURED AT BUFFALO, N. Y., BY JOHN A. PITTS, THE ORIGINAL INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

THESE MACHINES STAND UNRIVALED FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN, AND ARE acknowledged to be SUPERIOR to any other Thresher in the World, in its *operation, finish and mechanical construction.*

The Shoe is hung so as to shake alike at both ends. Other *improvements in the Machines* for 1860, make it far superior to any heretofore made.

THRESHERS of different Sizes are Manufactured, from Two to Ten Horse Power; also,
PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES, from Three to Twenty Horse Power.

These Machines are sold here at from $25 to $75 less than other Treshing Machines. Call and examine our machines before purchasing elsewhere. ☞ Terms made easy. ☜

P. L. CARMAN & CO., Agents for John A. Pitts.
Office and Warehouse near M. & M. R. R. Depot, Madison, Wis. xii-9

LEWIS BLAKE,
JOBBER AND RETAILER OF
MILLINERY & FANCY GOODS,
EMBROIDERIES, LACES,
ALEXANDERS' KID GLOVES,
Dress Trimmings, Straw & Silk Hats,
&c., &c., &c.
NO. 23, WISCONSIN STREET,
MILWAUKEE, - - - - - WISCONSIN.

Childs' Engraving Rooms.
117½ Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

DIES FOR MEDALS; POLICE, MILITARY, and Firemen's Badges; Metallic Letters; Notarial and other Seals and Presses; Stencil Marking Plates; Binders Stamps; Door Plates; Baggage Checks; Views of Buildings and Machinery; Wedding and Calling Cards; Drawings for the Patent Office. Address,
xii-8-12 CHILDS' & CO., P. O. Box 83.

UNDERGROUND
OR
MOLE DRAINER.
For Reclaiming Swamp, Low, or Clay Lands.
For Underdraining Orchards, or Producing Stock Water.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS PREPARED TO DISPOSE of Territory in Farm or Town rights, and to furnish machines or fill orders for jobs of ditching on short notice. For information, address
E. W. SKINNER,
Ag't of the Wis. Land Draining Company.
12 MADISON, WIS.

GEO. V. OTT'S
LEATHER & HARNESS STORE
Wholesale and Retail
Upper, Sole, Harness, and Belting Leather,
FRENCH CALF AND KIP SKINS,
Shoe Findings, Tools and Lasts, Plastering Hair.
☞ Harness made to order, and Repairing done, &c.
GEORGE V. OTT.
In Basement of Bruen's Block, under Dane co. Bank, Madison, Wis. 12-7-12

J. S. BROWN,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Ag't for obtaining Patents
IN THE
United States & European Countries.

DRAWINGS AND PAPERS OF ALL KINDS REquired in securing, obtaining, extending, defending or selling patents, prepared; and all business connected therewith, attended to.

Copies of drawings, illustrations, specifications, records descriptions, and information relative to inventions and the arts, both in this country and abroad, promptly furnished.

Inventors are advised to have preliminary examinations made at the Patent office, to ascertain if their inventions are probably new, before proceeding to make applications for patents. By doing so, disappointment and expense will often be avoided. After making such an examination and deciding that an invention may be patented, he very seldom fails in any case he proceeds with. The fee for this examination is generally five dollars. It is necessary, however, to except brick machines, churns, looms, grist and saw mills, plows, pumps, sewing machines, steam engines, stoves, threshing machines, washing machines, and water wheels; the very great number of patents already granted in each of which classes, requiring a double fee to be charged for a thorough examination; and in the case of stoves, it would generally cost less to make application at once than to make a previous, reliable search. But, when desired, he will make as careful an examination in these classes as he can afford, for the ordinary fee, and in most instances would discover it, if the device should be old. To enable him to make an examination, a model sent to him would be best. But a rough sketch of the invention, accompanied by a description referring to the sketch by letters or figures, is generally sufficient.

REJECTED APPLICATIONS receive special attention. Many patentable and very valuable inventions now lie buried in the Patent Office, because the applications were imperfectly prepared or unskillfully prosecuted. If, after examination, a rejected case is believed to be patentable, he will undertake to prosecute the application for a contingent fee previously guaranteed, charging nothing for his services unless he succeeds in obtaining a patent. A long and successful experience in this branch of his business warrants him in offering so favorable terms to inventors. Or, if the inventor should prefer, a stated fee will be charged independent of the result.

Models sent by express, should be directed to his office 451, 7th street, Washington, D. C. 1

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapter 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations,.		$39,080 95
ASSETS.		
Premium Notes of policy holders,...	$35,462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,..	2,986 02	
Amount due, secured by mortgage and in judgment,.....	332 47	
Office furniture and fixtures,.....	300 00	
		$39,080 95

Whole number of Policies issued,.....	4,807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$2,009,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,.....	None.
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,.	None.

Number of policies issued in 1859,.....	1,187
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$1,140,076 00
Amount of premium notes receiv'd thereon	17,109 82
Amount of cash premiums receiv'd thereon	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid, (12 in number,)....	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents,.....	3,317 70
Amount of expenses paid, including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,.....	3,317 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madison Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President,
D. J. POWERS, Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do
WM. DUDLEY, do
JAMES MORRISON, do

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860. T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

February 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	$10 00
February 28—Loss of J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland County,.....	10 00
April 22—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau County,.....	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane County,.....	15 50
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson County.....	690 38
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co.	650 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge County.....	68 00
Nov. 25—Loss of Jas. K. Main, Juneau, Dodge County, ...	403 57
Nov. 25—Loss of Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha County,.....	27 00
December 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison Dane County,.....	20 00
December 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth County,.....	400 00
December 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha County,.....	100 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $2,986 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance in a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in this Report.

The Officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS:

N. W. Dean,	D. J. Powers,
B. F. Hopkins,	Geo. F. Hastings,
James Morrison,	William Dudley,
C. C. Washburn,	G. F. Taylor,
J. W. Boyd,	H. H. Giles,
S. H. Vandercook,	David Atwood.

L. W. Hoyt.

OFFICERS:

N. W. DEAN,.....President,
D. J. POWERS,.....Vice President,
DAVID ATWOOD,.....Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS,.....General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin Institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and the State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expenses; while stock companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refund to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1 50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged, not exceeding the amount insured.

10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary,
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

Madison, January 7, 1860. [12 2

☞ OFFICE IN PORTER'S BLOCK, MADISON. ☜

DRAINING TILE.

MILWAUKEE TILE WORKS

Manufactory, 4th Avenue, near Lapham Street, 8th Ward.

THESE WORKS have recently been erected, with new and improved machinery, and are capable of turning off 75,000 Tile per month. The clay used gives a tile of unsuspassed hardness, strength and durability. Affording the cheapest and most perfect draining material in the world.

Arrangements will be made with the different roads, to transfer them at the lowest price at which any freight is moved. Farmers who cultivate clay lands, or who have wet or retentive soils, either uplands or valleys, can make no more profitable investment than Tile Draining. The effects are immediate and telling at once, in early maturity and enhanced production. Frequently sufficient to repay the outlay the first season.

To cultivate Fruit successfully in this State, underdraining is an absolute necessity.

L. W. WEEKS, Proprietor.
GEO. STRONG, Superintendent.

PRICES:

1½ inch Round Tile, $8 per 1000.
2 inch Sole Tile, $10 do
3 inch do do 18 do
2½ inch Horse Shoe Tile, $10 per 1000
3½ inch do do do 15 do
4½ inch do do do 18 do

They will be delivered free of drayage to cars or boats.
Milwaukee, August, 11 tf

JOHN P. ROE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN PURE BRED Durham Cattle and Southdown Sheep, offers for sale, at prices to suit the times, a few superior young Bulls and Rams of the above breeds, from animals of my own importations. P.O. address, Union Church, Racine Co.
Muskego, Waukesha Co., Wis. [12 9 3

For Sale.

FOUR SUGAR MILLS at $35 each, to close out a lot. A. MENGES,
Madison, June 22. [12 9 2] No. 2 U.S. Block.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE DIRECTORS OF THE DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmer's) INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *large, prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra hazardous risks. Its character as a well-conducted, reliable and prompt paying institution has become well established *shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmer's* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY, Director. GEO. B. BLY, President,
LOGAN GRAVES, do E. BARKER, Vice Pres't
MATTHEW L. COE, do EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER, do JOHN WARE, Treasurer.
L. B. HILLS, Acting Director, E. BARKER, Gen'l Ag't.
12 3 12w]

Chicago and Northwestern Railway.

COMPLETED THROUGH TO OSHKOSH, Wisconsin, for Oshkosh, Green Bay, Fond du Lac, Horicon, Ripon, Berlin, Sparta, La Crosse, St. Paul, Prairie du Chien, Watertown, Madison, Janesville, Beloit, Freeport, Galena, Dunleith, Dubuque, &c., &c., &c.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, APRIL 9TH.

TRAINS LEAVE GOING NORTH.

Chicago,	9.45 a. m.	4.00 p. m.	9.30 p. m.
Janesville,	6.45 a. m.	1.50 p. m.	.....
Arrive at Osheosh	7.00 a. m.	7.90 p. m.	.....

TRAINS LEAVE GOING SOUTH.

Oshkosh,	9.30 a. m.	6.60 p. m.	.....
Janesville,	12.30 a. m.	7.15 a. m.	2.45 p. m.

Arrive at Chicago, making close connections with Trains for the East. xii-8 GEO. L. DUNLAP, Supt.

LOOK IN AND SEE

Fuller's Temple of Art

when you come to the

STATE FAIR,

and you will see fine

PHOTOGRAPHS

of prominent men of Wisconsin and other States, the members of the Legislatures of 1858, 1859, and 1860, entire, and more specimens than in all the other galleries in the State. Perhaps you want a picture yourself—well, this is the place to get it; at any rate don't fail to look in at

FULLER'S TEMPLE OF ART.

U. S. Block, corner Main and Pinckney sts, Madison.
12 11 1

Thoro' Bred Short Horns

FOR SALE.

SEVERAL choice young BULLS and COWS, thorough bred, and descended from the best stock of Ohio and Kentucky. Those wishing to improve their stock can be provided with animals of undoubted pedigree and at reasonable prices.

CHAS. H. WILLIAMS.
Baraboo, Sauk Co., June 22, 1860. [12 9 3]

THE SUFFOLK HOGS.

More Pork and Less Corn!

AT THE SUMMIT STATION ON THE CHICAGO, Alton and St. Louis Railroad, 12 miles from Chicago are kept 20 sows and 3 boars of different strains of *Suffolk Hogs*, from which pigs are bred and kept for sale. Those feeling an interest in that kind of hogs that make the most and the best pork from the least feed, can obtain a descriptive circular, or purchase, by calling at the premises, or addressing the subscriber, care of Hon. John Wentworth, Chicago, Ill. Hundreds have been sent by Railroad, without accident, to different and distant parts of the United States.

12-10-1] CHARLES L. REED, Chicago.

WALDO J. ELMORE,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

China, Glass and Earthen Ware,

House Furnishing Wares,

LAMPS, AND CORNELIUS' GAS FIXTURES,

And Manufacturer of Looking Glasses.

No. 163 East Water-St., Milwaukee
11 6]

CAST STEEL BELLS,

For Churches, Academies, Fire Alarms, Factories, &c.

FROM SHEFFIELD, ENG.,

HAVE BEEN TESTED IN ALL CLIMATES, EUROPE and America. Weigh less; cost less per pound; have better tones; can be heard further than any other bells. They cost fifty per cent less than

THE BEST COMPOSITION BELLS.

Which are also sold by me at maker's prices.

BROKEN BELLS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE,

Or re-cast on short notice. Such bells will nearly pay for Steel Bells of the same size.

Send for Circular. Bells delivered in all parts of the United States or Canada, by

JAMES G. DUDLEY,
12 3] 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

I will make to order PATTERNS and MODELS for every variety of Machinery and Architecture. I will also furnish IRON and BRASS CASTINGS in large or small quantitities.

Light Machinery, New Inventions, and all Designs in Wood and Iron, will receive particular attention.

11 11] A. STONER.

THE

Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Office S. E. Corner Main & Wisconsin Streets,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wis. and Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT THAT A Policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provisions for one's family," and since his day, EXPERIENCE has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generaly practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms. It is a HOME COMPANY. Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly scared character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies.

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

TRUSTEES:

S. S. Daggett,	Dr. E. B. Wolcott,	H. L. Palmer,
Lester Sexton,	Sam'l Marshall,	M. Steever,
Geo. B. Miner,	A. H. Scoville,	H. L. Dousman,
J. A. Barber,	Ezra Miller,	J. A. Dutcher,
C. P. Ilisley,	A. C. Wilmans,	D. B. Whitacre,
J. C. Johnson,	James Neil,	Andrew Proudfit,
J. B. Martin,	A. Eldred,	J. Bonnell,
D. Newhall,	H. A. Nichols,	M. S. Scott,
D. Nash,	S. C. Hall,	J. Hackett,
J. H. Rountree,	B. F. Pixley,	A. Graham,
O. Alexander,	M. C. Darling,	Carl Shurz,
L. G. Fisher,	J. H. Earnest,	S. C. Spaulding.

S. S. DAGGETT, *President*.

A. W. KELLOGG, *Sec'y*. E. B. WOLCOTT, *Vice Pres't*.
C. D. NASH, *Treas'r*. S. G. BENEDICT, *Agent*,
12 1 24] Madison, Wis.

HOWE'S IMPROVED

Hay or Cattle Scales.

THE BEST IN USE.

FIRST PREMIUM OVER FAIRBANKS AT Vermont State Fair, 1857, and 1858.

First Premium and no competition in 1859.

First Premium at 13 different State Fairs.

Silver and Bronze Medals at the American Institute Fair, New York, 1859.

Howe's Scales for all use, hbve great simplicity, wonderful accuracy.

REQUIRE NO PITT; may be set on top of the ground or on a barn floor, and easily removed.

No Check Rod; no friction on Knife edges; all friction received on ball. Weigh truly if not level.

Delivered at any Railroad station in the Union or in Canada, set up and warranted to give entire satisfaction or taken back.

Send for Circulars and Price Lists, with account of trial of scales between Howe and Fairbanks, at Vermont State Fairs, to JAMES G. DUDLEY,
General Western Agent, 93 Main street,
12 3] Buffalo, N. Y.

HERRING'S PATENT

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,

WITH HALL'S PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS, HAVE NEVER FAILED in more than three hundred disastrous Fires.

THE SAFEST AND BEST SAFE IN USE.

Delivered at any Railroad Station in the United States or Canada, at the very lowest rates, by
JAMES G. DUDLEY, Sole Agent,
12 3] at 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Genesee Valley Nurseries.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

FROST & Co., Proprietors of the *Genesee Valley Nurseries*, Rochester, N. Y., offer for sale for the Autumn of 1860 and Spring of 1861, one of the largest stocks of *Standard and Dwarf Fruit Trees, Small Fruits and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Plants, &c.*, in the United States. The grounds at the present time contain over

Three Hundred and Fifty Acres,

devoted entirely to the cultivation of Trees and Plants.

The stock is so extensive in its different departments, that they are enabled to furnish the entire orders of their correspondents of the different kinds, of the best quality, and at the lowest market prices. Trees and Plants are packed in such a manner that they will reach the more distant parts of the United States in perfect condition.

Orders from Nurserymen, Dealers and others, who may wish to purchase in large quantities, are executed with care and despatch, as well as those who may favor them with the smallest orders.

Catalogues.

The following Catalogues contain full particulars of the stock in the different departments, and will be furnished gratis to all applicants who enclose a postage stamp for each:

No. 1—*Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits.*

No. 2—*Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c.*, for the Autumn of 1860 and the Spring of 1861.

No. 3—*Catalogue of Dahlias, Verbenas, Green House, and Bedding Plants.*

No. 4—*Wholesale Catalogue or Trade List*, for Nurserymen, Dealers and others, who may wish to buy in large quantities, for Autumn of 1860.

No. 5—*Catalogue of Flowering Bulbs.*

Address, FROST & CO.,
11 2] Genesee Valley Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

SMALL FRUITS.

WE have an immense stock of Small Fruits for sale during the Autumn of 1860, and Spring of 1861.

In addition to the common sorts of **Native Grapes**, we have over 25,000 plants of such desirable sorts as *Delaware, Concord, Diana, Rebecca, Hartford Prolific, Early Northern Muscadine, Logan*, and 20 other sorts for outdoor culture. Of **Foreign Grapes** we have 35 sorts, one to two years old, for hot or cold vineries, or for fruiting in pots.

An extensive stock of each of the common sorts of **Currants**, one or two years old, and fine one year old plants of *White Grape, Victoria Cherry, &c.*

Fine and well-grown **Gooseberry** plants, of the *American* and *Houghton Seedling*, which never mildew, as well as the best English sorts most suitable for this climate.

A great stock of **Raspberries**, such as *Red Antwerp* (Hudson River), *Yellow Antwerp, Orange, Franconia, Knevitt's Giant, &c.*, including several thousand of the Autumn bearing kinds, *Belle de Fontenoy, Marvel of 4 Seasons*, and others.

Strawberries—The most extensive stock of salable plants and varieties—comprising over 60 sorts—in the Union.

Fine **Blackberries**, *New Rochelle* and *Dorchester*, in large quantities.

Also, **Figs, Filberts** and **Mulberries.**

Orders from Nurserymen, Dealers, and others, who may wish to buy in large quantities, as well as those who may favor us with the smallest orders, will be executed with care and dispatch.

Catalogues containing description, with prices at retail, and No. 4 Catalogue, offering Plants in large quantities, sent on application containing a postage stamp for each.

FROST & CO.,
Proprietors of Genesee Valley Nurseries,
11 2] Rochester, N. Y.

J. A. Carpenter & Co.,

FINE STOCK BREEDERS.

HAVE for Sale Devon Cattle, South Down Sheep, Essex and Suffolk Hogs, Dorkin Fowls, &c., &c. South Pass, Union Co., Ill. [11 1.

WHEELER'S PAT. RAILWAY HORSEP OWER

W. D. BACON, WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN,

Is constantly receiving and will keep for sale

Wheeler, Melick & Co.'s valuable Railway Improved Combined Thresher and Winnower, for two horses.

SINGLE HORSE POWER THRESHERS, with Straw Separators.

STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS

WOOD SAW MILLS.

FEED GRINDERS.

WHEELER'S FOUR AND SIX HORSE LEVER POWERS, ready to use for general purposes for Cutting Straw, Grinding Feed, Sawing Wood, as well as built expressly to drive all the different sizes of Threshers by them made, enabling the purchaser to choose a Tread or Lever power. Also—

Pitt's Eight and Ten Horse Power Threshers and Separators,

With Latest Improvements, with or without Trucks, Straw Stackers, &c. Also,

Felton's Improved Feed Mill,

Capable of Grinding Corn in the Ear, or the smallest of shelled grain. Will grind Meal or Flour for domestic use; can be easily operated with one horse; will grind coarse or fine, according to the wish of the operator; is self-sharpening, and can be worked on any barn floor. Four years use prove it to be the *most durable*, as well as the best FARMER'S MILL offered to the public, and will be sold at greatly reduced prices.

WHEELER'S THRESHER'S are built with special reference to economical threshing, and can be used on any ordinary sized barn floor—and with late improvements can be as well-worked in the field; can be worked with from three to five hands and to adapt them to more special convenience, Wheeler, Melick & Co. have built two sizes, one with 26 inch Cylinder, more particularly for home use, to be operated with little help; and one with a 30 inch Cylinder, to accommodate neighborhood wants; and the same snug, compact form (enlarged) is retained so that in addition to neighborhood threshing it can be economically used for home wants, and worked on any ordinary sized barn floor—and the attention of Farmers is called to this particular feature in the Tread Power, for with a Tread Power threshing can be done in cold and stormy weather, by the farmer in his barn, and with *moderate elevation*.

Testimonials can be given from numerous farmers of the perfect ease and safety with which horses can be worked on these Tread Powers; yet to obviate the objection of an occasional customer Wheeler has built a light, strong made Lever Power, to be worked with four or six horses, admitting customers to choose according to taste and judgment. ☞ Machines will be sold invariably at **the lowest shop prices of the Manufacturer,** adding transportation charges at Milwaukee, where orders will generally be delivered.

These Machines will be kept for sale at

My Residence,	Waukesha,
My Place of Business, No. 158 East Water street,	Milwaukee,
H. & J. F. Hill's Warehouse,	Milwaukee,
J. F. Kirkland's Pier,	Sheboygan.

Where responsible and reliable agents will always be on hand to attend to the requests of customers.

☞ The subscriber keeps constantly on hand Castings at cost to repair all breakages that can occur. ☜

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JOHN NAZRO & Co.,

Nos. 121, 123, and 125 East-Water street. Milwaukee,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE

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House Trimmings.

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Cultivator Teeth,
Straw Cutters,
And all kinds of
Farming Tools!

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All kinds of
TIN PLATE
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Cutlery, Spoons,

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Axes, Hoes, Shovels,
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Also all kinds of
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Of all kinds

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PATENT
SUGAR CANE MILLS.
FOR THE CROP of 1860.

ARE NOW BEING MANUFACTURED AT THE Mendota Foundry; of several sizes, of *entirely new patterns.* They will be warranted superior to any other pattern in the country, not only for convenience of use, but for *STRENGTH*, and also for cheapness.

Every point that the experience of the past has demonsonstrated as too weak, has been strengthened, until the fullest confidence is now entertained that they will prove

Just precisely what is wanted!

Our upright three-roller mills will cost from $50 to $75, depending upon size and weight.

Our Horizontal double-geared Mills from $80 to $100.

The Patent Lever Safe-Guards are used to compress the Rollers upon all the larger, and upon the smaller Mills, when desired.

This apparatus renders it impossible to break a Mill without the grossest carelessness, a highly important consideration to all buyers, of course.

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MENDOTA FOUNDRY

Madison, Wisconsin,

IS IN A SHAPE TO DO ALL SORTS OF REPAIRS on Agricultural and other Machinery, on short notice.

All work will be done well and at reasonable rates.

Castings of all kinds made weekly. **Patterns of almost every description** can be found at the Foundry.

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Extra *Gearing* for Reapers and Threshers, usually on hand. ☞ Located on Lake Mendota, near Marston's Store.

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THE SPRING TERM OF THE

EVANSVILLE ACADEMY,

Will commence on **Wednesday, March 21st, 1860,** at 9 o'clock, A. M.

IN ADDITION TO WHAT IS REQUIRED TO PREPARE young men for College, provision has been made to furnish instruction in the FRENCH and GERMAN LANGUAGES, PRACTICAL SURGEYING and CIVIL ENGINEERING.

☞ Special attention will be given to Stndents in the NORMAL DEPARTMENT.

BOARD, including rooms, fuel and lights, can be procured in good families at $1 75 per week. A large number of students boarded in clubs during the last term at an average expense of less than $1 00 per week.

TUITION ranges from $4 00 to $7 00 per term of eleven weeks.

For further information inquire of

D. Y. KILGORE, *Principal.*

Evansville, Rock Co., Wis., Feb. 28, 1860.

☞ N. B.—School District Officers are informed that a few of the members of our Normal Class, who design to teach the coming summer, have not yet engaged schools, and any communication giving full particulars of wants, compensation, etc., directed to the principal, will receive prompt attention. [12 6 4] D Y. K.

J. T. MAR HALL,

Importer and Dealer in

FINE DRUGS & CHEMICALS

Also Manufacturer of Chemical Preparations, French Cosmetics, Fine Perfumery, &c.

No. 32, City Buildings, New York.

☞ Price list supplied to the trade on application. ☜

The subscriber will send (*free of charge*) to all who desire it, the Recipe and directions for making a simple *Vegetable Balm*, that will, in from two to eight days, remove Pimples, Blotches, *Tan*, *Freckles*, Sallowness, and all impurities and roughness of the Skin, leaving the same—as Nature intended it should be—soft, clear, smooth, and beautiful. Those desiring the Recipe, with full instructions, directions, and advice, will please call on or address (with return postage,)

JAS. T. MARSHALL,
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WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, NOVEMBER 1, 1860. NO.

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

THE LATE STATE FAIR.

What Wisconsin needs in the way of a State Agricultural Organization.

As all of our readers who were present, as well as many who were absent, know, the 10th Annual Fair of the State Agricultural Society was held during the last week in September. Very good fittings and ample preparations had been made by the officers. Some talk about prospective *steam* plows, ice boats and other novelties, had been made, and taking the general prosperity and good feeling of the State into account, together with the remarkably fine weather that happened to prevail, everything seemed to warrant a large turn out of the people, and an extensive show.

But for some reason, not fully explained, this did not happen. On Wednesday, the first opening day, the attendance was remarkably small. But Thursday seemed to be the day that had nearly all the popular attractions crowded into the bill, and being every way fine (excepting dust, which nobody minds,) the attendance, though not absolutely large, was quite respectable, perhaps amounting altogether to from twenty thousand to twenty-five thousand during the day, and from fifteen to twenty thousand just at the time of the ladies' ride.—The largest attendance, perhaps, amounted in numbers to one half the population of Dane county. Not very bad, to be sure, all things considered; but as the great gathering of a great State, for its great jubilee and thanksgiving over a great crop of 30,000,000 bushels of wheat, it certainly must be pronounced, as a whole, a *very small* affair, wholly unworthy of the occasion, and of the great agricultural interests of Wisconsin.

THE SHOW OF ARTICLES,

Saving, perhaps, the fruit, vegetable, and horse departments, was certainly as meagre as the attendance. Perhaps some may say that the stock and agricultural departments were good at least, if not great. We are willing to admit that, comparatively, they were very fair. But what were either of them to what they might have been? Was one good animal exhibited where ten might have been, if the entire agricultural interest of the State had been enlisted? Was one fine vegetable shown where an hundred might have been? Setting out two or three of the more prominent competing counties, and what would there have been left? Empty tables, merely. So we say the stock and vegetable departments were meager indeed to what they might and ought to have been, for the whole State of Wisconsin, with its fifty counties.

FRUIT.

The show of fruit was good, as all acknowledge who saw it; doubtless it might have been swelled to a much larger figure, but it was decidedly creditable and encouraging as it was. It simply and forcibly showed what we have long contended for, and that is, that better judgment in selecting the right varieties, and *properly grown trees*, will insure as good apple orchards in Wisconsin as in Ohio; a little more painstaking and judgment, perhaps, will be necessary, but nearly equal success can finally be attained.

THE SHOW OF SHEEP

Was good, among the best features of the fair, and the tone manifested by their owners and those who examined them, indicated clearly that a much sounder feeling on the subject of wool growing is taking hold of our people.—This is gratifying; let us hope that it will still continue to grow and strengthen, and that the dog law, with such modifications as experience may suggest, will continue to spread its ample ægis over this great and fundamental interest. We repeat what we have often said, and that is, that we must go largely into sheep raising

if we would become rich as farmers, or save the soil of the State from impoverishment.

THE SHOW OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY,

What shall we say of it? Half a dozen reapers, as many grain drills, three or four running mills, a couple of straw cutters, a cider mill, and a corn sheller, and may be something else, all told: not more in quantity or variety than is often seen at our first class county fairs, nor many more than one of our neighbors owns and keeps for his own use. We had the honor of an appointment as Superintendent of operative Machinery, but found nothing to operate except the aforesaid running mills, and no *steam* for them.

Why so slim a show in a State that almost runs by machinery? that buys its two or three millions of dollars worth per annum, we cannot tell, unless, possibly, the genius and tastes of the managers leads them to see more utility in horse races and girl's rides, than in the more sterling and everyday interests, and to do more to develope and encourage them.

But we cannot dwell at greater length upon these matters without foregoing the object we have in view; and in concluding our remarks upon this head, we wish to be distinctly understood as finding no fault with the officers of the society, whom we know to be very fair men, as a general thing, though some of them are rather green in such matters, but very well-meaning men, and like you grow wiser as they grow older, of course.

But the fault is largely in the system and plan of the organization of the society, and even if it were in much better hands, could not be made sufficiently ample to embrace the whole state in its interests.

THE WISCONSIN STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

What is it, in its best estate, as it exists to-day? It is composed of some one hundred and fifty to two hundred life members, mostly resident in Milwaukee and Dane counties, and such other persons as have a mind to pay one dollar per annum for a mere membership in name, without any powers or privileges of any account.

The dollar members have no vote at elections; but the life members meet annually at the time of the Fair, and elect an official board, consisting of a President, three Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven additional members, who, with the foregoing officers, constitute what is called the Executive Committee, or Board, of the Society, with the addition, however, of the three previous Presidents, who are, ex-officio, members of the board. It is an organization, when full, of sixteen men, picked up promiscuously throughout the State, without any especial system of distribution, except accident; sometimes one third, or one fourth of them residents of one county, and never so distributed as to represent all the counties, and the entire State. Let us see where the officers of the society for the last year were located:

President, B. R. Hinkley, Waukesha county; Vice Presidents, J. L. Case, Racine, J. V. Robbins, Dane, Bertine Pinckney, Fond du Lac; J. W. Hoyt, Secretary, Dane; David Atwood, Treasurer, Dane; additional members of the Executive Committee—Messrs. H. M. Billings of Iowa, J. E. Dodge of Grant, B. F. Ferguson of Dodge, David Williams of Walworth, I. A. Lapham of Milwaukee, D. T. Maxon of Pierce, C. H. Williams of Milwaukee; ex-Presidents, ex officio members—E. W. Edgerton of Waukesha, Harvey Durkee of Kenosha, J. F. Willard of Rock; eleven or twelve counties represented out of fifty. Perhaps they were as well diffused as practicable for so small a board, in fact much better than we have known them to be some times.

The same of the Committees of Judges at the fairs; many of them often come from the same county, while many other counties of nearly equal importance are not represented or named at all, neither in the Official Board or the Board of Judges; not probably from any intended neglect on the part of the officers but from the very nature of the present faulty system of organization. The officers, who appoint the judges, coming as they do from only a few localities, know but a few people, comparatively, all over the State, and in selecting of course do so merely among those they know; thus the officers and committees of judges almost invariably come from the same localities.

Let any one who has the time and inclination look over the premium list of the late fair, in doing which he will find nearly or quite one half of the counties, and among them some of the old and populous ones, without a *single representative*, either in the board, or on the committees; and not unlikely if the truth was known, without hardly an attendant at the fair. Thus the little knot of men, who compose the official board of the society, move in a certain circumscribed, beaten track, often perpetuating themselves from year to year, and

seldom, or never striking out a new idea, with a premium list almost as unchanging as if stereotyped. Of their business meetings little is known by the public at large, and less said through the medium of the press or elsewhere; the years come and go, and the fairs are duly held; usually about the same set draw their regular premiums, and do, the thing is ended.

BUT WHAT IS THE REMEDY?

Asks some impatient reader, ere this. We will reply that we do not profess to be a doctor of sufficient skill to prescribe in all cases, with unfailing certainty; but we have a theory for the whole matter, and have had for years, and have, several times, partially shadowed it forth in the *Farmer*; and for the benefit of those who feel an interest in the matter, we will repeat it again briefly.

A STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,

Comprehensive enough to embrace all the counties in the State, in its official organization, like those of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and numbers of the other great progressive States, is what we esteem to be wanted. Let that State Board of Agriculture be made up of delegates from the various county societies, all to be represented on an equal footing, in proportion to their population. Let the Governor of the State be, *ex-officio*, President of the Board, and let the president of each county society be a Vice President; and let the county societies provide for the election or appointment of such other delegates to represent them as may be required by the charter. Let such a constituted board have one yearly meeting to look back over the past, and plan for the future. Let them meet with all the dignity and publicity of a small legislature, and hold a session for a week, when and whereat all the great agricultural interests of the State should be brought forward, discussed, and provided for; and prominent over all others would we have that *great* and absorbing question of *ladies riding* at fairs, made the special order each day, until disposed of. If it was finally voted that that was actually a more important interest to agriculture than any other, then they should inscribe a huge crinoline skeleton upon their banner, with the motto, *excelsior*, and thereafter make it their standard and colors in fighting the great battles of Agriculture. But if, on the other hand, it should be voted a pretty folly, as it probably really is, then assign it such a place and position as it is entitled to, and no more.

Let the proceedings and discussions at their meetings be reported and published at length, as useful and interesting information to the people of the State and country; and let them be of such a quality as would make them so.

Let every county society send up a list of names of suitable persons for this and that committee of judges, from all of which good committees could be selected, and properly diffused and scattered through all the different counties and localities, to the remotest hamlets.

Such, in short, would be our theory of a Board of Agriculture for our great State. We would not be particular about the details, just as stated, but we would cling to the great representative principle of having each county society duly interested and represented, and in that way would we reach into, and extend the ramifications of our organization all through the State, and thus be able to call out a full and good attendance from every section, both at business meetings and State Fairs. State Fairs gathered up in this way, and all the counties duly interested and stirred up to be well represented, would soon swell the thing above its present small, county dimensions, and instead of 1,600 to 1,800 entries, you would see 5,000; and instead of 10,000 to 15,000 in regular attendance you would see from 50,000 to 100,000, and the hills and valleys all around dotted with the neat white tents of societies, associations, and families, enjoying the fair, and having a good social time to boot.

The old territorial society may have done well enough in days of small things, but Wisconsin has now attained a point where she should cast off her *kilts* of childhood and set up for a youth, at least. Who says amen to it? Let those who think upon this subject as we do (and we know that there are many who do, from personal conversation,) see to it that they send up members to the next legislature who will supersede the present organization with a new charter for a Board of Agriculture worthy of the State; that will be the first regular step in the way of reformation, and that taken the others requisite will easily follow.

Let the liberal State appropriation of $3,000 per annum, if continued at all, instead of being frittered away in small premiums, and perhaps, otherwise, be divided into a number of large premiums, and offered only for liberal

developments of first class interests, either in the way of competition between the different counties, or other great competing interests, worthy of good premiums, and conducive to high and creditable efforts.

Such, in conclusion, are a few of our notions, hastily thrown together, in relation to the present society, the recent State Fair, and what, in general terms, our agricultural organization ought to be. We throw them out for whatever they may be worth; not that we wish to disorganize or meddle personally with whatever there is existing that is good and sufficient for the occasion—not that we wish for any place or position, either for ourselves or friends, in any proposed new organization; no, gentlemen and friends, none whatever do we desire, *or will we willingly take*, so long as we continue the publication of an agricultural journal, and for this reason, if for no other, that we find it much better to remain free and untrammeled, to look over all these matters quietly and fearlessly, and to mete out to them whatever of praise or blame circumstances and the public good may seem to demand.

We have no sort of unfriendly feeling to the present existing board; for ought we know they have intended to treat us well enough at all times; but we feel a vital interest in the great question itself, and for that reason and that alone, propose to discuss it from number to number; and we freely offer the columns of the *Farmer* to those who would be heard upon either side, only asking good feeling and as much brevity as possible in all cases, consistent with justice to the subject.—Let the matter be fairly canvassed upon its merits, between now and next winter, and then let the action upon it be such as sound wisdom may demand.

Wintering Cabbage.—I have practiced for four years, the following mode of wintering cabbage, and it has proved so well, I give it for the benefit of others. My cabbage are left out till there is danger of frost; the heads are then cut off, with a few coarse leaves, and if winter does not seem to be upon us, thrown into heaps, and covered with litter of some kind, till winter seems to be coming in earnest—then the cabbage are put in heaps, by placing them on the ground—three from the bottom course, two from the second, and one from the top. Make your heap as long as you wish—pack them close by putting the largest at the bottom, and keep the stem end up. Cover ten to twenty inches or more with earth, without any straw; the earth must be in proportion to the frost. A little frost will not hurt if the cabbage are not taken out till the frost has left them.

PROSPERITY MORE DANGEROUS THAN ADVERSITY.

Such is the saying of the wise, and, to a certain extent, it is undoubtedly true; then how cautious ought the many to be who are now wallowing in the abundance of the present crops. The very recent hard times that really pinched so bad, how soon will they be forgotten by all who have not got lasting marks to remember them by.

When we are sick what solemn promises do we make if we can only get well? but when we are well, alas and alack for the fine promises; we are soon at our old sins again. So we fear it will be with the free and-easy, good natured people of the West. Many of them will be wholly lifted out of the abyss of debt the present year, and have a handsome surplus to spare. Well, what would we advise then?—Surely not to treasure it up with an inordinate love of mere money, nor ordinarily to invest it in *more land*. But to improve what they already have in the best manner possible, consistent with economy; not merely for raising good stock and good crops, but to be a comfortable and pleasant home. Add to the house a work-room, if need be, so that the good wife will not continue to be obliged to set her dinner table amid wash tubs, baby cradles, older children's play-houses, &c., &c.

When that work room is built, study well how to make the wood and water conveniences nice and handy. If you have not a good rain water cistern, (and oh, dear, how many many have not!) put one in, the first time and money you can spare to do it. And in putting in a cistern, instead of a shallow basin of a thing, near the surface, ready to heat in summer, and fill with wigglers, and to freeze in winter, put one down ten to twelve feet deep, almost like a well, and be sure and get it large enough to hold an unfailing supply of soft water, one of the most essential requisites of house-keeping, next to wood and flour. If the ground is firm plaster right on to it, but if not then brick or stone it first.

But not to digress too much on cistern building, we will return to the main subject again, and advise all not to rig beyond their means; go not in debt, and to trusting to the future, except for articles of prime necessity. The future may prove very different from the present and should not be counted upon. Therein lies the danger of prosperity; those who are enjoying it are apt to think that all days will be

like the present, only more abundant; they will promise largely on the future, and fool themselves with the idea that it will be easy to perform. But when the future comes how sure it is to bring its full share of burthens, necessities and mishaps, therefore lay not new burthens on its back, if it can be avoided.

But, says some one who wants more than he has the means of paying for, how can getting in debt be avoided? We reply that in a large majority of cases nothing is easier: *Sell more than you buy!* and that simple operation alone will keep you out of debt. But, says some lazy fellow, with his hands in his pockets (where the money ought to be,) how can I sell what I have not got? Surely enough, but why have you not got it? Oh, dear, says he, I have been unfortunate; some how I cannot get property. Oh, you cannot, and what is the reason why? Firstly, you probably lie in bed in the morning until long after stirring people are up and at work. Your excuse is, perhaps, that you cannot wake up. Very likely; but if you had an active mind, and charged with any care, it would probably soon cure you; and when you are up, ten to one if you do not lounge about until the middle of the forenoon, instead of going straight handed to work at something that will pay. Let every lazy, shiftless man (and there are lots of them) look about him in the morning when he actually commences work, and see how high the sun is. If he finds an hour of that best of all the day wasted, let him figure and see what it amounts to in a year. What man can spare so much time, not only of his own, but very likely of help around him, and still succeed in having much to sell.

The man or woman who wakes up, and *gets up* in the morning with well considered and well settled plans, and goes about them *man* fashion, in as rich and fruitful a country as Wisconsin, will not wait long for something to sell; and unless he is careless or extravagant in his buying, will not allow it to exceed his selling.

Let every one remember that the present wonderful crops will undoubtedly be offset and balanced up ere long with sufficient failures to make an average; hence means must be saved out of the present to supply the lacks of the future.

Let then no one get giddy with their present prosperity, but feel that it is only a large draft on the future, therefore not warranting any carelessness nor wastefulness whatever.—Work hard, save everything, and cut close corners, until the average of you have money to lend, instead of to borrow. That will soon lower the rates of interest to six or seven per cent, and render usury laws of no account, and lazy money lenders a nuisance in community. A happy day that we hope sometime to see.

COAL OIL AND THE MANUFACTURES CONNECTED WITH IT.

Like most of the useful inventions and discoveries of the present day, the extraction of a cheap and safe illuminator from coal and other bituminous substances, has attained its present development through the long and patient labors of the chemists of this country and of Europe. The abundance of the raw materials cannel coal, bitumen and petrolium in the United States, naturally caused a greater expenditure of skill and capital here, than in any other country. In 1853 the manufacture was first commenced in America by a New York company, working under the "Kerosene" patents, which were granted to a chemist of this city.

In 1855, after the new oil had in some degree overcome the prejudices of the people and the opposition of those interested in the manufacture of camphene and burning fluid, the owners of deposits of cannel coal, which is found in many parts of the Alleghany coal field, began to make works for its manufacture. The raw material up to that time had been imported from the British provinces and Scotland. In most cases the business proved unremunerative, from the fact that the art was a new one, and the data for its successful prosecution were only to be obtained by experience. The mystery which was about the art, served to excite the desire of many persons to attempt its prosecution, and with every accession to the ranks of coal oil amateurs, the statements made of the astonishing results of their experiments, only intensified the excitement upon the subject. The yield of marketable oil from one ton of cannel coal averaging 20 gallons, in the western coal fields was stated to be 100 and 150 gallons, and the profits of the business were calculated from that enormous yield, far beyond that of the purest bitumen which yields rarely more than 75 gallons per ton. A coal oil fever which has been compared to the "morus multicaulis" mania, seemed to fasten on all who attempted to experiment in making oil.—Materials for some very laughable farces abound in the experiences of the pioneer coal oil manufacturers. In the log cabins of the mining districts of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Virginia, some extraordinary experiments were undertaken by persons whose desire to learn all about the art was at that time only equaled by their ignorance of chemical manipulations. The process of distilla-

tion would be occasionally directed by the village apothecary, under the superintendence of the coal land owner, both in turn overlooked by the capitalist of the county, who varied his scientific labors by demolishing the statements and calculations of his companions. Frequently the glass retorts used would burst from being overcharged, and sprinkle the party with creosote or carbonic acid, which is found in the crude oil distilled from coal. In one mining district where the writer was employed in building a coal oil distillery, the people planted corn in great quantities, under an impression that it would bring a good price at the works; they not believing that oil could be made from "stone coal," as they called it, but supposing that the statement was made to prevent their ministers from denouncing the concern as a whisky distillery.

Although the first coal oils manufactured were inferior to those of the present time, they soon came into use for burning and lubrication, principally for the former purpose, however. The list of the companies and firms manufacturing coal oil, not more than ten of which were in operation prior to 1856, now amounts to 57.

There are besides, a number of small coal oil works in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and the western cities, owned by individuals.

The quantity of oil produced is estimated to be thirty thousand gallons per day, or nine millions gallons per year. Competition having reduced the price from $1 25 per gallon to 70 cents per gallon, many of the works mentioned above have been closed, but the supply has been more than sustained by the petroleum wells, whose products have been put into market with great rapidity. The capital already expended in coal oil works, and cannel coal mines, is estimated at nearly $4,000,000. Three of the largest companies have expended fully $100,000 in the seaboard States, and $750,000 has been invested in the Kanawha valley alone. Paraffine, a beautiful wax-like product, incidental to the manufacture of coal oil, is now made into candles by two companies, in this city, and will most probably become a regular article of commerce.

The manufacture of coal oil lamps, a branch of the lamp trade which has resulted from the use of the oil, forms the greater part of the business of sixteen manufacturing companies, who employ

600 men in making burners,
600 men in making brass works in stands,
250 men in making marble vases,
700 men in making glass bowls, shades, &c.
200 women and boys in making paper shades,
200 women and boys in making brushes,

and furnish work for 125 looms in making coal oil lamp wick.

The lamps are sold for $3 50 per dozen to $96 per dozen; the greater part are disposed of at $7 to $8 per dozen.

The design for paper and glass shades and fountains are as numerous as those of the lamps, which number 250 varieties in the classes of stand, bracket, hanging, and side lamps. The style of these lamps has been much improved lately, and they are now as well made, and as rich and beautiful in appearance, as most of the candelabra imported from abroad."—*The World.*

IMPROVED FARMING NEEDFUL.

The fact that the soil may be largely exhausted of its elements of fertility and in a measure worn out, will scarcely be disputed while there are so many farms which have come, by long and improvident culture, to give less and less return of crops, year after year. Nor will it be denied, that our best land can be over-cropped and mismanaged, for it is well known that much of this comparatively sterile land was once richly productive, giving for many years, without manures or careful culture, very large and profitable crops. It has been found that the best soils, if long cultivated in grain, without being in meadow or pasture at times, or receiving periodical dressings of manure, must thus wear out—must become more or less sterile from exhaustion—for every crop grown and removed, carries with it portions of the supply of food for vegetable growth therein contained. The elements thus abstracted are found to be indispensable, and must be restored to the soil, in some way, before it can regain its former productiveness.

We hope few of our readers have to contend with the difficulties of these "worn out farms"—and they will be less inclined to think so, while harvesting the bounteous crops of the present year, than ever before—yet we know that many which are not as productive as they have been, and hence we believe improved farming needful, as our caption declares—believe that the means of restoring and improving their fertility and productiveness is a matter of interest to individual land owners as well as the public at large. Private prosperity makes up, and is at the foundation of national prosperity, and especially is this applicable to the condition of the farmer. Any plan by which the average yield of any of the great agricultural products of this State could be increased even a few bushels per acre, would add millions to the aggregate wealth of the State. An increase above the full cost of production, it should be remembered, counts as clear profit to the producer. That such an increased yield is very possible—that it is very easily attainable even by any one who is acquainted with the general farming of the country will readily believe.—Such men have declared it as their firm and carefully grounded opinion, that were the courses of cultivation—of manuring and management—pursued by our best farmers generally followed, the average yield per acre, of all our staple crops could be increased *one fourth* throughout the State, within three years after such general adoption of the improved methods of farm management.

We have spoken and shall continue to speak of the means which may be employed in restoring, keeping up, and increasing the fertility of the soil. Animal and vegetable manures and composts form the basis, with which the stimulating mineral fertilizers may be employed, and these, with thorough drainage and subsoiling, are ready means in the hands of those whose resources enable them to use the more costly and really most profitable means of improvement. Those who are differently situated, and to them we would address more particularly our concluding remarks, who make but little manure and are ill supplied with the raw material for composts, who have no means for the purchase of costly fertilizers, or the carrying out of extensive improvements, must turn their attention to equally effective though much less rapid means of restoration; the growing and plowing in of green crops. In this way, aided by the fertilizers which every farmer may command, worn out soils have often been restored to comparative fertility, and good soils have been kept good for many years as for instance, in the rotation of wheat and clover, so long and successfully followed in Onondaga county.—*Country Gentleman.*

THE DARING AT THE PLOW.

A rather unusual occurrence took place at a plowing match at Vaugueray, (on the Rhone,) a young woman about 19, driving a pair of oxen, presenting herself as one of the competitors. At first some objections were raised to her admission, but, under the circumstances of the case, they were set aside. Marie Chirat, the young girl in question, had the misfortune to lose her father about ten months ago. He had a lease of a farm at a rent of 2000 francs a year, and when he died left a widow, a little boy and Marie. The daughter, feeling that to quit the farm in the middle of a lease would be the ruin of the family, told her mother not to be cast down, for she would undertake the work of the land. She applied herself strenuously to the work, and was soon pronounced the best conductor of the plow in the commune. That opinion was confirmed at the public competition, at the principal prize was awarded to her. She returned home in triumph to her mother, accompanied by a party of female friends, who presented her with a large bouquet. This incident produced a deep impression upon the crowd.—*Ex.*

This is an asserting of woman's rights that we like, and simply shows that some girls as well as boys, are natural captains. We had the pleasure of presenting a handsome $60 gold watch to a young lady for the best riding at a State Fair, but many years ago we, I understood, had driven her father's reaper all the summer before, and it did as good.—Editor Farmer.

THE CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION AT HAMILTON.

The Provincial Fair held at Hamilton has been the most successful ever held. The entries numbered over *seven thousand*. There were no less than thirty-two entries for the best twenty-five bushels of white wheat, and for the premium given to the best two bushels of winter wheat the entries were eighty-three. For the best two bushels of spring wheat the entries were eighty-four. The committee who had that class in hand had something to do.—The entries of potatoes were one hundred and eighty-four in number.

CATTLE.

The Durhams still take the *pas* in numbers, but the Devons come hard after them, and the Galloways are far more numerous than they have ever been before. The last named are praised by every one who has tried them, for their hardiness, economy in feeding, and general adaptation to the wants of the country.—Mr. Roddick, of Port Hope, seemed to be the chief exhibitor; Messrs. Roddick & McNaughton, of Brantford; John Moore of Etobicoke; John Fleming, of Vaughan; and Jeremiah Lyons, of Flamboro', were also in the field with excellent animals. In Durhams, Messrs. Peter Snell of Chinguacousy, Millers of Markham and Pickering, Stone, Hogg, and Hodgskin, of Guelph, and Mr. White, of Milton, were all prominent in numbers and quality.

We suppose that at former shows there have been as fine cattle exhibited as any here; but never before so many fine animals; never before have we had such evidence that good stock is not confined to few farmers.

SHEEP.

The same remark may be made as to the sheep. There were seventy-six entries of Leicesters alone, embracing a very large quantity of fine animals. The competition for the chief prizes was very close, and long and keen the inspection given by the judges. The Cotswolds were not so numerous, and the Southdowns still fewer. The number of lots of Cheviots was greater, however, than in former years, and the breed appears to be growing in favor. Messrs. Dickson of Clarke, David Elliot of Flamboro', and David Gay of Whitby, were the chief exhibitors.

SWINE.

The show of hogs seemed to us many times greater than in any previous year, and the quality excellent. The race of grayhound pigs is surely disappearing from the land. There were Yorkshires, Lancashires, and Suffolks, but the Berkshires were the most numerous, and also the most highly bred.

Surely Canada is doing things up brown; and in number of entries at least beating her older sister of the United States, but probably her society is not organized on the pocket

pistol system, like that of the United States, of Wisconsin, and some other States. Seven thousand entries in what we are apt to regard as stupid, behind-hand Canada, against 1,800 in enterprising Wisconsin. What 's the matter?—ED. FARMER.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL ASSOCIATION.

SECOND DAY—HORSE SHOW.

The scene at the grounds of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association was a lively one. So far this exhibition has proved a signal success. The stock exhibited is far superior to any collection ever gathered together in this State, and the systematic arrangements of the grounds augur well for the future prosperity of the association.

Yesterday some of the finest blood horses we ever saw, turned out in the cavalcade. The following is the list of premiums awarded yesterday:

CLASS No. 10—*Stallions* for general use, 5 years and under 8.

1st Premium,	H W McCafferty	$100
2d do	S B Davis	50
3d do	Walter Cook	25

CLASS No. 11—*Stallions*, 4 years old and under 5.

1st Premium,	J. Chester Cox	$70
2d do	W T Utley	35

CLASS No. 12—*Stallions*, 3 years old and under 4.

1st Premium,	E M Danforth	$50
2d do	N Potter	25

CLASS No. 13—*Stallions*, 2 years old and under 3.

1st Premium,	G O Tiffany	$40
2d do	N G Pixley	20

CLASS No. 15—*Mares* with *Foal* by side.

1st Premium,	G O Tiffany	$60
2d do	W H Hiner	30
3d do	F Chamberlain	15

CLASS No. 16—*Brood Mares.*

1st Premium,	A Rorich	$30
2d do	J L Ault	20

CLASS No. 17—*Fillies*, 4 years and under 5.

1st Premium,	J C Lewis	$40
2d do	W McCurly	20

CLASS No. 18—*Fillies*, 3 years and under 4.

1st Premium,	Fred Layton	$30
2d do	J C Fox	15

CLASS No. 19—*Fillies*, 2 years and under 3.

1st Premium,	G P Tiffany	$20
2d do	T G Armstrong	10

CLASS No. 20—*Fillies*, 1 year and under 2.

1st Premium,	Geo McCurly	$16
2d do	James Allen	8

CLASS No. 21—*Geldings*, 4 years and under 5.

1st Premium,	S B Davis	$40
2d do	J Olmstead	20

CLASS No. 22—*Geldings*, 3 years and under 4.

1st Premium,	H Curtis	$30

CLASS No. 24—*Geldings*, 1 year and under 2.

1st Premium,	G L Ault	$16
2d do	S B Davis	8

CLASS No. 25—*Colts*, under 8 months.

1st Premium,	A H Johnson	$15
2d do	James Allen	10
3d do	A Rorich	

CLASS No. 26—*Matched Geldings* or *Matched Mares*, 16 hands and over.

1st Premium,	J C Starkweather	$100
2d do	J F Holton	50

CLASS No. 27—*Matched Geldings* and *Matched Mares*, 14 hands and under 16.

1st Premium,	A J Dean	$100
2d do	A Hyatt Smith	50

CLASS No. 28—*Roadsters, Matched Geldings* or *Mares*, speed tested, 2 miles and repeat.

1st Premium,	Gilbert Dutcher	$100
2d do	J M Learned	50

CLASS No. 29—*Trotting Roadsters*, in double harness, irrespective of size, color or sex.—Speed tested. 2 miles and repeat.

1st Premium,	E S Higgins	$80
2d do	Geo W Calkins	40

CLASS No. 30—*Family Horses, Mares* or *Geldings*, in buggies.

1st Premium,	J M Learned	$60
2d do	S S Johnson	30
3d do	G O Tiffany	15

CLASS No. 31—*Gentlemen's Driving Horses, Mares* and *Geldings*, to buggies.

1st Premium,	G W Thurston	$60
2d do	John Davis	30
3d do	Walter Cook	15

CLASS No. 33—*Gentlemen's Saddle Horses, Mares or Geldings.*

1st Premium,	J V Robbins	$20
2d do	G W Thurston	10

CLASS No. 34—*Ladies' Saddle Horses, Mares or Geldings.*

1st Premium,	W P Lynde	$20

CLASS No. 36—Single *Farm or Draft Horses, Mares or Geldings.*

1st Premium,	P J Schlosser	$20
2d do	J L Burnham	18

NOTE.—By the foregoing it will be seen that this Fair went off first rate, and was a good thing all around. We were indebted to its worthy Secretary, I. A. Lapham, Esq., for a complimentary ticket, but to our regret, found ourselves unable to attend.

The Janesville "Great National (one) Horse Show did not extend to us the common civility of an invitation, hence *we know nothing* of the results of this Fair, except what we have heard, which was not very flattering. P.

☞ It is recommended to clean tainted pork or beef barrels by filling them with fresh earth, bury them in the ground, and let them remain some time; the earth will absorb the taint.—In extreme cases repeat the operation once or twice.

☞ Complete census returns of Detroit, Mich., numbers 46,834. Those who fancied that the figures would be 75,000 are much disappointed.

☞ The city of Providence has increased from 41,513 to 49,814 in ten years.

☞ The Minnesotians claim a yield of 33 bushels of wheat to the acre.

RAIN ON THE ROOF.

When the humid shadows gather
Over all the starry sphere,
And the melancholy darkness
Gently weeps in rainy tears;
'Tis a joy to press the pillow
Of a cottage chamber's bed,
And listen to the patter
Of the soft rain overhead.

Every tinkle on the shingles
Has an echo in the heart,
And a thousand dreamy fairies
Into busy being start;
And a thousand recollections,
Weave their bright hues into woof,
As I listen to the patter
Of the soft rain on the roof.

There in fancy comes my mother,
As she used to days agone;
To survey the infant sleepers,
Ere she leaves them till the dawn.
I can see her bending o'er me,
As I listen to the strain
Which is played upon the shingles
By the patter of the rain.

Then my little seraph sister,
With her wings and waving hair,
And her bright-eyed cherub brother,
A serene, angelic pair,
Glide around my wakeful pillow
With their praise or mild reproof,
As I listen to the murmurs
Of the rain upon the roof.

Then another comes to thrill me,
With her eyes delicious blue,
I forget as gazing on her
That her heart was all untrue;
I remembered that I loved her
As I ne'er can love again,
And my heart's quick pulses vibrate
To the patter of the rain.

There is naught in art's bravuras
That can work with such a spell,
In the spirits' pure, deep fountains,
When the holy passions swell;
As that melody of nature,
That subdued subduing strain,
Which is played upon the shingles
By the patter of the rain.

We do not publish the above because it is new but because it is good.—Ed. Far.

THE CUTTING OF WEEDS.

A bill has been introduced into the English Parliament by two distinguished Irish agriculturists, which provides that parties who permit weeds to be grown upon their lands, may be required by legal notice to cut down certain weeds that have been permitted to grow upon their lands, and which, if allowed to seed, would so poison the lands contiguous that they would render them of less value for agricultural purposes. The notice proposed to be given is to describe fully the kinds of weeds required to be cut down, and also the particular places they infest. In case the owner of the land does not cut down the weeds, and neglects them, and permits them to go to seed, within two weeks from the service of the notice, a penalty of twenty-five dollars may be levied and collected from the owner of the land. And if not then cut down, upon the service of a second notice, then a second fine may be imposed, and so on indefinitely. It also provides that under certain contingencies, parties may enter upon the lands and cut down the weeds complained of, at the expense of the owner of the land.

ZOUAVE COMPANIES.

Since the late visit of the Chicago Zouave Company to New York, Boston, and several places lying in the line of their route to those cities, many similar companies have been organized, not only in the places which they have visited, but in other localities in different parts of the Union. A general admiration not only of their *military*, but of their *moral* example is the leading motive which has prompted the formation of these numerous bands, patterning after the original Chicago Zouave company.

Judging from reports which we find in our exchanges, the enthusiasm is still spreading, and promises to introduce a new and important feature in the military affairs of the day. In many of the cities and important towns in different parts of the United States, young men are banding together, forswearing intoxicating drink and the indulgence of youthful lusts, and assuming the name of "Zouave Cadets," are practicing the remarkable drill that has excited so much applause and admiration in behalf of the original Chicago company. The enthusiasm has not only spread over the Northern and Middle States, but is proceeding far West and South; and even a paper published on the confines of Texas, contains a notice to the Zouave Cadets to assemble for drill, and calls upon all the young men of the township who can get along without strong drink or tobacco to join the corps.

We are pleased to see this movement, because it promises much, both for the improvement of the military tactics and the elevation of military morals. Since the human race is not so far Christianized as to be beyond the constant liability to outbreaks of deadly war, we believe that war, when it unfortunately does occur, should be rendered as effective as possible, in order that it may be the more speedily brought to an end, and that the dread of its havoc may serve as a salutary check against its future outbreaks. It is particularly gratifying to the philanthropist to see the indomitable bravery and hardy self denial of the soldier brought into active and belligerent exercise against those most formidable foes of humanity—intemperance, lasciviousness, and other forms of vice; and it is to be hoped that the Zouave excitement may not only be effective in winning many youths from the dram shop, the brothel, and the gambling saloon, but that by turning ten thousand moral bayonets against those cohorts of hell, it may essentially narrow the sphere of their ravages, if not finally drive them from the earth.—*Life Illustrated.*

All hail to the Zouave Cadets! more espe-

cially as they eschew whisky, (of all colors,) such a military is a credit, instead of a disgrace to the country. High time for it. May it be inaugurated in Madison. ED. FAR.

☞ No greater example of the extreme wealth of Great Britain can be exhibited than what is shown by the list of subscriptions for the purpose of holding the great national exhibition or world's fair of 1862. The whole amount raised up to the present date is £362,600, or $1,813,000, of which the several railroad companies guaranteed $400,000 alone. The whole number of subscribers is about 620 and amongst them are very few titled persons. One individual, Matthew Uzielli, of Regent's Park, London, heads the list with a subscription of $50,000, fully equal to that of Prince Albert, who subscribes the like amount. No subscription is less than $500, and a large number range between $1,000 and $10,000. The chief part of the subscription seems to be raised among the business men of the kingdom and the manufacturers, with a good proportion of the landed gentlemen. The proprietors of two Potteries at Stoke upon Trent, for instance, subscribe each $10,000. Robert Napier of Glasgow, $10,000; Joshua Bates, $15,000; Thomas Barry, of the firm of Barry Bros. $15,000. These men acknowledge the great results flowing from the intercourse which such exhibitions create. The great national Crystal Palace exhibition of ten years ago did more than any single event that has ever transpired to build up the trade of Great Britain, by the manner in which it was made known to all the world what she could produce, and how cheap she could do it. Its influence was felt and acknowledged at the time, and is still. But during the ten years that have elapsed, progress in all the arts in the manufactures, in the sciences, have developed her results. It is again time that the achievements of the inventor and the workman should be put before the world, and the necessity of a new Crystal Palace is not only acknowledged, but its erection as we have seen is guaranteed. It is thus that the business men of England regard these exhibitions of the products of industry.

DEEP PLOWING AND MUCK.

A correspondent of the Boston *Cultivator*, writing of a visit to Vermont, speaks of a farmer in Caledonia county, who a few years ago discovered, what many farmers have yet to learn, viz: that he possessed two farms in one—an *upper* and an *under* one. His upper farm is a light sandy soil, which has been cropped for a long series of years. Immediately beneath it is a subsoil of marly loam.—"By deep plowing and thorough pulverization, these soils are made capable of producing paying crops of all kinds. His invariable rule is twelve inches." The farm also contains a valuable muck bed, which has been used in a variety of forms: in its crude state upon grass and grain with considerable success; in composts with barnyard manure for corn and potatoes, and also for the latter, as well, after it has passed the laboratory of the hog-pen. Where it had been applied to a field of spring rye upon a sandy ridge, its effects were apparent in the increased length of the stalk and fulness of the heads, indicating full one-third more than where it had received no dressing."

These two means of improvement would bring up many a worn farm to a high state of productiveness; and the sooner farmers learn to employ all the means of improvement within their own limits, the sooner will they be able to produce profitable crops. To give thorough cultivation and more manure, will increase the crops, whatever may be the season that prevails. With plenty of vegetable matter, like muck, there is no danger of injuring the soil with which it is mixed by deep plowing.—*Country Gentleman.*

PUT YOUR BUILDINGS IN ORDER.

Farmers should now see to putting all their buildings in order for winter. Barns, stables and sheds should be repaired, if needed, and everything put in order to render stock comfortable in cold weather.

This is not merely a matter of taste; but one that comes home to your pocket in *dollars and cents.* No farmer was ever known to grow rich on the results of his labors, who allowed everything to go to ruin about him, by neglecting to make repairs at the proper time. A barn that leaks when it rains, and wets the fodder stowed in it, is a disgrace to any man who claims the honorable name of *farmer.*—Nor is the man less culpable, who winters his horses and other stock in stables, that are about as much protection against cold weather as a hedge fence, with a few slabs for a roof.

It is no wonder that we hear of so many people exclaiming, "I can't make anything at farming." No, it is no wonder at all, when we see how shabbily they manage things.

Farmers need not employ a house joiner to mend, or put their barns and sheds in order, in nine cases out of ten. Even the entire shingling of a roof can be done by any man who knows enough to come in when it rains, by spending a half an hour in learning. All he has to do is to see that the shingles have sufficient lap to be three thick, and break joints with care, and he can shingle a roof as well as a joiner. Boys of 15 to 18 years old can do such work with a little instruction.

See that your pig pens are made warm, and so that no drifting snows, or driving rains can enter where the swine sleep at night; and provide plenty of straw for them to nestle in.

Twenty-five per cent of feed may be saved by keeping all kinds of stock warm in winter; but there should be sufficient ventilation to keep the air pure.—*Rural American.*

HORTICULTURAL.

For the Wisconsin Farmer.

FRUIT GROWING.

BY JOHN A. KENNICOTT.

A little of my experience in Fruit Growing in Northern Illinois, equally applicable to much of Southern Wisconsin — being the heads of a Lecture at the late Wisconsin State Fair.

CLIMATE.

Ours is that of the Southwest in summer, and that of the Northwestern prairies in winter; and very unlike that of our Eastern States, from which we derived most of our first varieties of fruit, and nearly all of our first plantings of fruit trees; and it was not until half our orchards were badly winter-killed, that we learned the fact that *trees*, sufficiently hardy in latitude 42° *east* of the great lakes, were often tender *west* of them, on the same line; and we are every year learning that some sorts bearing well east, are barren west; and that *quality*, as well as quantity of fruit, is affected by climate on the same parallel of latitude.

Probably not more than one fourth of the varieties of the apple, originally planted, have proved hardy, productive, and good—though possessed of all these qualities east, and perhaps retaining one, or even two, of them here. And with pears, cherries, and in many cases, *plums*, a much larger proportion has failed.—I now propagate but about 30 sorts of the apple—6 or 8 of pears and plums—and *none* but Kentish and Morello cherries, for this region. Of grapes, and "small fruits," that can be laid down, and covered with earth in the winter, all sorts that *ripen* a good crop, may be planted. *It is not the extreme cold, but the sudden changes of temperature, and a blistering sun, that kills our trees;* and, unless protected, we must plant such varieties, only, as have been proved hardy enough to withstand the climate.

SOIL.

Soil, too, and its condition in regard to water, is of much account in the selection of varieties suited to climate, and often settles the question, alone. There is a difference of ten or fifteen degrees, between the temperature of well underdrained, and sodden soils; and, besides, "wet feet" is more damaging than hard frost. I have never seen an orchard, here, in good health and full bearing, where water could stand about the roots till carried off by evaporation. There is no use planting in such a soil without artificial drainage.

Nearly all our virgin soil is rich enough in organized matter, to produce our hardy fruits; but much of it is deficient in mineral elements, and objectionable in *color* and mechanical texture; a black, spongy soil is the worst for fruit trees. And, other things being equal, a light-colored, stiff clay, is the best. An analysis of my black prairie soil gave less than 2½ per cent of alumina, the base of clay—a good wheat soil contains 6 or 8 cent, and good wheat soils are usually good fruit soils. Where there is no more than two or three per cent of alumina in the first furrow slice, there is often three times as much within reach of a trenching plow, and certainly within reach of a spade.

But if you *trench* you must *underdrain*, or you will have more water than before about the roots of your trees. Where there are springs to be tapped, so as to keep the arch moist, *hole draining* will, doubtless, answer; and open draining, though wasteful, is better than none.

DEEP PLANTING

Is a great fault. Avoid it. In well drained soil it does no good—in wet soil it is ruinous. Better plant on the crown of a back furrow ridge, without "digging holes" at all, than sink the roots of trees more than four or five inches below the natural surface, in naturally wet and undrained soil, as the tree grows the roots will go down far enough.

PROTECTION.

This is a subject which is attracting much attention. Belts of forest trees, especially evergreens, hedges, high board fences, &c., are of great avail; and so are close planting and *low heads*. Other things being equal, I have lost nine trees with tall, naked trunks, for one with a head based on earth, so as to shut out the sun.

CULTIVATION.

Young trees require more cultivation than *corn*, and old ones little less. None but hoed crops should ever be taken from an orchard. Grass is bad, and small grains ruinous. When an orchard comes into bearing the *fruit crop* is enough to take from it.

PRUNING.

Except for top-grafting large trees, or removing dead limbs, a *saw* should not come into an orchard, and your *knife* should be used

sparingly. "Cut back," or "shorten in" long straggling branches, and the "whip-stock" tops of young trees, and remove a little of the superfluous spray from the middle of the heads of such old ones as are inclined to get unreasonably thick, and, consequently, barren in the center. But don't remove strong, healthy limbs, unless they rub against each other, and cannot be *tied apart*, and preserved. As often practiced, pruning is little better than barbarism. Mid-summer is the best time to prune young trees; but autumn, before cold weather—or spring, before the buds start, will do; and is all the better if you wish to increase the growth of wood.

MANURING.

Vegetable manures are usually injurious, when applied to young trees, by causing too rapid and spongy-wood growth; but it may be necessary in poor, thin soils, after the trees have been a few years in bearing. I would then use it as a top-dressing.

Leached ashes, bones, lime, &c., are *needed* wherever the mineral matters they afford, are either exhausted by crops, or naturally deficient.

Our summer substitute for fruit—the *Pie Plant*—will stand a heap of manure, and needs it; and that democratic berry, the *Currant*, seldom gets enough.

VARIETIES OF FRUIT.

I am sorry to say that we, of Northern Illinois and Wisconsin, cannot depend entirely upon the books, nor upon every nursery catalogue, if we can upon any, in selecting varieties. A few European varieties—especially Russian apples—are perfectly hardy here, and may do far north, while some from our Northern States are quite tender. It is best to know how a variety has succeeded near you before planting largely of it. Remember that every variety adapted to the climate may not be suited to your soil, and may prove *unproductive*, if ever so hardy; and some rather tender species may be worth the trouble of winter protection—like the peach, and especially raspberries, and blackberries, and some of the more delicate strawberries, grapes, &c. Indeed, except the peach, most of them will "pay," for being laid down and lightly covered with dry earth, late in autumn.

* Since my public talk about fruit growing, during your State Fair, (of which the above is the substance,) I have conversed with several Wisconsin Fruit Growers, who expressed fears that a wrong inference, in regard to *winter protection*, would be drawn from some of my hasty answers to questions put to me. *They* say—and I believe with truth—that, in sandy soil, especially, winter protection to the *roots* of trees *is* necessary. And, if so spread as to avoid giving a harbor to mice, I am inclined to recommend the use of coarse manure over the roots of bearing trees, in autumn, or, in default of that, hay straw, cornstalks, or litter of any kind, to be removed or plowed under in the spring. It is, perhaps, the least objectionable sort of "mulching," and will prevent the too early freezing and too rapid thawing of the earth, beneath, and can do no harm whatever. Still, except in cases of small seedlings, recent "layers" of plants, quince stocks budded with the pear, beds of newly planted bulbs, strawberries, &c., &c., I have not found winter mulching a necessity at my place. J. A. K.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE WISCONSIN FRUIT GROWERS ASSOCIATION.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The annual exhibition of the above society was held, in connection with the State Agricultural Society, and closed the 29th of September, as per notice in your journal of a previous number.

The State Society's largest tent was devoted exclusively to the use of the Fruit Growers—and under the superintendance of A. G. Hanford and Lady, the internal arrangement was all that could be desired. A table two hundred and ten feet long, by four and a half in width, was erected around the margin of the tent; also a fruit and flower stand through the center, forming table and shelf room one hundred feet long by five in width, enclosing, by their arrangement in the center of the tent, two rooms about ten feet square, used respectively for the boxes and trunks of the Fruit Growers, and a reception room for the Ladies and Fruit Committees in attendance.

We thought the arrangements were never more satisfactorily made for the "peace and rest of the weary," as we entered the tent and read "Earth's fairest gems are gathered here"—motto tastefully designed by Mrs. Hanford and Mrs Hoyt—we wondered which is the faisest: apples so big and luscious as to be hardly recognizable; little red Romanite twice its usual size; Fameuse, from Sauk county, so large that no one would believe their eyes till they saw them cut; or the twenty varieties of pears—Flemish Beauty weighing a pound, eleven inches in circumference, from Waushara county; four plates of peaches, from the same county, as fine to look at, or to *taste* of, as ever "Egypt" could boast; Grapes in abundance; Preserves and Wines "without number;" all good and pleasant to taste of. *We* wondered, as did many others, which was the fairest.

The display of Fruit was the finest and largest the State has ever made. Fruit was also very highly colored, so much so as to deceive many good judges. The list of varieties was very large, and many which have heretofore been classed poor—R. I. Greenings and Baldwins showed samples which even their native States would fall far in the rear, should they attempt a competition.

A principal feature which marked the exhibition over previous ones, was the correct nomenclature made by the exhibitors. We found, with few exceptions, the labels attached to the plates, and noted or heard of but few mistakes. The eagerness with which visitors were enquiring out the "best" varieties, noting them down, evidenced with a certainty that there was a full determination in the hearts of the people to grow fruit, and "dry up" the old song of "no fruit country,"

Our duties during the fair were numerous, and the notes we herewith present are in many respects imperfect, not giving the desired, or amount of, information we would wish; the reason why is simply because we couldn't get it to impart; seldom found an exhibitor at his stand, and what little knowledge we collected was gained mostly from the fruit cards. We present them as taken at the time, and not in any general order:

Nathan Towers, Omro, 31 varieties apples named; very fine specimens of Dominie, Golden russet, Perry russet, and Talman sweeting, the largest I saw.

Samuel Charlesworth, Omro, 43 varieties, names upon but few of the plates; specimens good.

J. Kezertes, a plate of "sweet water" grapes —so called by the exhibitor—Isabella would suit them (a dark purple grape) much better.

John Wilcox, Omro, collection of apples, mostly named; samples not as large as many of the collections, but specimens very fine.

Sauk county exhibited, by A. G. Tuttle, Baraboo, 50 varieties of apples, one plate of pears; Fameuse which astonished everybody in size; Bailey sweet, far ahead of anything we saw; samples in bottles of white grape currants, cherry currants, and gooseberries, (Houghton seedlings,) all very large.

L. Woodworth, Bristol, Kenosha county, 58 varieties named; one plate not named; 12 varieties pears—white Doyenne, Glout morceau, Flemish beauty, and Bartlett, deserve special mention for their size and fairness.

Luther Rawson, Oak Creek, Milwaukee co., small show of winter apples; Colverts, Seeknofurther, Golden russets and Pomme gris are very fine.

Luther Landon, Waupun, Fond du Lac co., small collection of apples.

Thomas Howland, Pleasant Prairie, Kenosha county, 46 varieties of apple, 16 varieties pears—Onondaga, Flemish beauty, Bartlett, Seckle, and white Doyenne, were rather extra in appearance. Mr. H. has a fine collection of named fruits,

Henry Floyd, collection of winter apples; some monstrous Northern Spy and Dominies, Westfield Seeknofurther, would be very hard to beat; yellow Bellflower and Perry russet as fair as could be grown unless, perhaps, when grown to order; six plates of peaches grown by Mr. F., would vie with Egypt's products in appearance and flavor, and show conclusively what patience and perseverence can do. The whole collection is fine, and among the best—a voice strong with encouragement, from and to the north.

Mr. F.'s Roxbury russets and Northern Spy, were so large that the committee pronounced them incorrect. Specimens were left with the Secretary for the winter meeting of the society, when the fruit will be in season for testing.

V. C. Mason, Aurora, Waushara county, has a fine collection of named varieties; notice the Duchess of Oldenburgh, R. I. greening, Bailey sweet, and Keswick codlin were much more than ordinary; three plates of pears—Flemish beauty, which measured eleven inches in circumference; one plate of peaches, four of grapes, (Catawba nearly ripe) Waushara has done a noble work.

Cooper & Atwood, Lake Mills, 14 varieties of grapes under name—a luscious show, plates loaded to overflowing, and "more under the table." Among the lovers of this delicious fruit they attracted much attention, and they were worthy.

A. Kinney, Whitewater, 32 varieties apples; for the number they were as good as we found.

Rock county collection, by G. J. Kellogg, for Jacob Fowle, 58 varieties; named specimens were good and worthy of notice.

F. Westby, Turtle, 16 varieties named; one plate of monstrous pippins, very fine.

B. B. Olds, Clinton, 32 varieties named; a list which shows much care in selecting.

G. J. Kellogg, Janesville, 48 varieties seedlings, many fair specimens, but none appearing to be worthy of cultivation; exhibited for the purpose of showing the difference between them and cultivated fruit. Three varieties grapes, Catawba well ripened; seven varieties of pears; sample of Lawton blackberry; Genesse apple 13 inches in circumference, grown on tree with 100 specimens, 6 years planted and 3 years from root graft. The show from Rock county was very fine and large; 248 plates, 230 varieties for a Prairie county, is full of interest.

Pierce county, 2 samples of apples.

Mr. Peffer, Dewaukee, 52 varieties named apples; 10 varieties named pears; 11 varieties plums; 4 of grapes; 2 of raspberries; 1 plate peaches; 1 dish cranberries grown upon plants set last spring. Mr. P. considers the Vermont grape the best for general cultivation—perfectly hardy.

W. M. Bartholomew, Lodi, 32 varieties of apples named; red Spitzenburgh, Utter's large red, were very large.

J. C. Brayton, Antrian, 65 varieties named apples; Newtown pippins, Bellflower, white Gilliflower, and English russets, were as good as we saw; 1 plate of seedlings.

James Barr, Jefferson, 18 varieties named pears—Duchess d'Angoulemc, Louise Bon de Jersey, and Belle Ludrative, were very fine.

O. P. Dow, Palmyra, a small collection selected with care.

Charles M. Plumb, Lake Mills, 55 varieties named apples; 1 variety pears—specimens looked well.

Lucius Warner, Columbus, small collection of named varieties, mostly very fine.

Plumb, Willey & Co., Madison, large collection of autumn and winter apples under names.

H. J. Starin, Whitewater, 83 varieties named apples; 2 varieties crab, Hislop and large yellow; 1 bottle cherry currants.

Giles Kinney, Whitewater, 18 varieties named pears.

Charles Hanford, Bradford, 23 varieties of grapes; many were not in a state to be eaten, but his show was good.

W. A. Pierce, Dane co., 17 varieties named apples, good.

H. L. Foster, Madison, 1 plate of Flemish beauty pears, very fine.

J. T. Stevens, Madison, 3 varieties named apples; 1 plate Isabella grapes, 1 do. Diana.

The collection was small but attracted much attention.

A. Murphy, Lake View, 7 plates seedlings, very fine appearance; 3 named varieties.

A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, 174 varieties named apples; 1 seedling apple which promises well; 14 varieties named pears. The collection shows the exhibitor's usual care in selections.

L. Raymond, Milwaukee, 5 varieties apples; 2 of grapes, correctly labeled.

D. H. Clement, Lafayette county, a very fine collection of named varieties of Autumn and Winter apples.

N. W. Dean, Madison, sweet chestnuts grown on a tree 5 years old.

O. Salisbury, Lima, Rock county, arrived too late to enter for competition his 38 varieties of named apples, cherry currants, white grape currants and gooseberries. His show would compare very favorably with some of the premium collections.

Columbia and Jefferson counties contributed to the Secretary for exhibition, 100 varieties each, which were placed upon the tables and attracted no small degree of interest. Much praise is due to the fruit growers of those counties for their interest and pains in thus forwarding so fine and large a collection without the hope of a reward.

Egyptian products were shown in very fine samples of apples, consisting of 35 varieties, by J. A. Carpenter, Cobden, Ill., and a peck or more of the Buckingham variety, by ——, which were probably the largest apples on exhibition. C. Colby, Cobden, Ill., brought in on Friday very fine samples of peaches and if a peck he left with us in person was a test of all he raised, they were certainly not bad to take.

Dr. Kennicott, of the "Grove," Ill., was present with his usual good natured hits, and gave us a very instructive lecture on Wednesday evening, upon fruit culture and varieties.

Yours truly,

O. S. WILLEY, S. W. F. G. A.

DELEVAN GRAPES.

Editor Farmer: Dear Sir,—I to-day send you, by express, a small sample of the Delaware grape, grown by Dr. O. W. Grant, Iona, near Peekskill, N. Y. Mr. Grant writes that they were grown on small vines but one year planted, and consequently the clusters are

small, about one-half the usual size. He also writes, "I am assured by other well qualified to judge, that they are hardy enough and early enough to stand our winters and come to full maturity in Wisconsin." That being the case I think we want them. Please submit their quality to as *many tastes as possible*, and report your decisions, for I think every lover of good fruit in the State is interested.

Respectfully yours,
JAMES S. STRICKNEY.

Wadwatosa, Oct. 2, 1850.

THE TREE PEDDLERS AGAIN.

"Thou shalt not steal" is sound logic and good law, and so could be a sign at every corner, "Thou shouldst not buy trees of a peddler when you can get them anywhere else." Our former article upon this subject has made this class of humbugs foam and froth terribly. Its truth and entire unalsweruleness is what makes them squirm so.

These chaps are cute and up to all kinds of dodges to get "an order." If in their travels they meet a man from New York State, they are sure to enlarge upon the qualities of certain kinds of apples that Mr. New Yorker grew in his native State. Mr. Peddler tells him this western country is not much of a fruit country compared to "York State," but that if he buys eastern grown trees, of reliable eastern varieties, he may, being a Yorker, raise lots of fruit. If the party to be victimized is from some other State, the same dodge is played off by substituting such varieties as grow well in that State. The result of all this is that nine-tenths of the varieties purchased of the tree peddlers are of no account in our soil and climate, and the failures attributed to the soil and climate, instead of the real cause, viz: selection of kinds not adapted to our several localities. Again the great wholesale nurserymen in the east, always reserve the right to select the varieties, for our most popular western sorts are not raised in large quantities by them—therefore the peddler is obliged to recommend such varieties as he knows he can get in any quantity. To do this Mr. Peddler puts on wise airs and talks about fruit as glibly and wisely as the information obtained from the catalogue will enable him to do. Not one in a hundred of these petty swindlers know from experience a thing in regard to what they are talking.

These fellows represent themselves as agents for certain well-known nurserymen, when in fact the nurserymen are in no way responsible for their acts, only so far as they allow them to mis-label trees and plants upon their own grounds. All these peddlers buy the articles to fill their orders where they can buy the cheapest. When they make a contract the nurserymen require a clause in the contract that all the articles required to fill their orders shall be bought of them. A certificate is then given to the peddler to the effect that Mr. So and So "bought all his trees of us." This is what their agency amounts to. The certificate helps them to make more sales on the strength of the reputation of the nurseryman who gives the certificate. If the nurseryman will in all cases require the peddler to hand over their orders to them to be packed, and thus prevent the practice of selling a custom er a rare plant for two dollars and sending some common thing they buy for five cents, the peddler is welcome to fool all who are green enough to buy of him. Deliver what you agree to, Mr. Peddler, and a great part of our warfare ceases.—*Quincy (Ill.) Whig.*

BUTTER FOR MARKET.

The following sugestions to those who are preparing butter for market, we take from a circular published by Messrs. Benton & Cavarly, of Boston:

1st. Keep cows of good milking qualities (that is such as give good milk).

2d. Food—Keep the pastures free from rank and strongly flavored weeds. Pasture should be of the hilly or rolling lands, with good, clear running water. Pungent roots and vegetables, such as turnips and cabbages, are apt to injure the flavor of the butter, and injure its keeping qualities. Pumpkins and carrots are the best vegetable food when the season of grass is over, and give a fine color to the butter. But ground feed, such as the bran or wheat, rye, oats, or buckwheat, is believed to be best in winter, as it keeps the cows in thriving condition, without too much increasing their fat, and makes the best keeping and best flavored butter.

3d.—Keep the cows quiet, particularly during warm weather. The milk given by cows when in the periodical fever, or when heated from any cause, will not make the best flavored or best keeping butter, and should be rejected for such use.

4th. Keep the atmosphere of the milk room perfectly fresh and pure—free from all vegetables of any kind, and at as even a temperature as possible. It should not be warmer than 95°.

Open the windows at night and close them in the morning, during warm weather. As soon as the milk coagulates, or just before the change occurs, it is ready to be churned or skimmed. Some of the best butter makers churn the milk with the cream; others skim and churn only the cream. When skimmed, the cream may be kept in the cream jar twelve to twenty-four hours, occasionally stirred but never covered. Tin pans are commonly used for setting milk, but tin pails, holding twelve quarts, are used by very many good butter makers. The Scotch butter makers of St. Lawrence county, prefer earthen pans, as a general thing.

5th. The contents of the churn should be at the temperature of 64°. Neither hot nor cold water should be turned into the churn to regulate the temperature. Setting the churn in hot or cold water is the better way. Hot water turned into the churn injures the color and grain of the butter. Soft water is indispensable for washing butter to the best advantage. If you cannot otherwise get soft water, save rain water and cool it with ice. The water from ice is always soft. When thus washed it is ready for salting. When the conditions are right, the butter will "come" in twenty or thirty minutes. When done, the butter should be taken from the churn and put into smaller vessels partly filled with water at 40° to 45°, and the buttermilk forced out with a small dash or ladle. Then put in trays and wash until the water ceases to be the least colored with buttermilk. The great point to be attained in washing or working butter, is to expel all the buttermilk without overworking the butter, which spoils the grain and renders it sticky or greasy. After the butter has stood in trays about twenty-four hours, and been worked lightly three or four times, it is ready for packing. Some good butter makers do not work so many times—some good butter makers never wash their butter at all, only in very hot weather. After the firkin or tub is filled, the butter should be covered with a thin piece of muslin, and the whole covered with salt and kept moist. Over-salting is one of the most common faults of butter making. Coarse salted, or over-salted butter, so that it will grate in the teeth, must be sold from three to six cents a pound lower in the market. About the best rule for salting butter is for every one to salt to suit their taste.

The tubs or kegs should be filled with a hot brine made of clean salt, and soak at least 24 hours before any butter is packed in them.—The butter should be packed solid. A hard wood pestle or maul of three or four pounds weight is a good thing to pack it down. White oak, or the heart of white ash firkins, holding about one hundred pounds, are most largely used, and decidedly best where the butter is to be kept a long time. Other kinds of wood impart an injurious flavor to the butter.

USE AND ABUSE OF IMPLEMENTS.

Were we to assert that American farmers, as a general thing, are wasteful in many particulars, we should be taken to task on all sides, for where shall we find a more prudent and economical class of men than they? Well we are ready to admit their economical disposition; but this is by no means a contradiction of what we have asserted in the previous sentence. There is such a thing as false economy—"penny wise and pound foolish" economy—"saving at the bung-hole and wasting at the spile" economy; and under this catagory we class the policy which almost universally prevails in regard to the use and abuse of agricultural implements.

One of the heaviest taxes to which the farmer is subjected, is the purchase and repairing of agricultural implements; and that this tax is in many cases double and treble what it should be is very evident. How can it be otherwise? Were implements to be had for the asking, some farmers could not manifest more indifference in regard to their use, and their care of them when not in use, In very many cases, when a field is plowed harrowed and rolled, the plow, the harrow, and the roller, find a convenient resting place in the first convenient fence-corner, there to remain until next wanted, whether it be the next day or the next year. The damaging effects of sun, wind and rain are never once thought of. The fact that such exposure injures both wood and iron work, does not alter the case. Some farmers bring their implements from the field, it is true, but only to subject them to the same out-door exposure in the vicinity of the barn. It is not very surprising that such miserable mismanagement makes heavy demands upon the pocket, or the bill for implements in such cases is double what it should be.

There are a few simple rules in regard to the care of implements, which in most cases can be readily and always properly observed.

First. Every farm should be provided with a tool or implement house of sufficient dimensions to accommodate every tool or implement on the premises.

Second. It should be a fixed and unalterable requirement, that whenever a tool is done with, it should be put in its appropriate place in the tool-house.

Third. Before put away, it should be carefully examined, te see whether any parts were broken or damaged, and if so, the very first leisure moment should be appropriated to repairing it.

Fourth. No tool should be put into the house in dirty condition. A very few minutes will be required to clean off the dirt, which will prevent the rusting of the iron, as well as damage to the wood.

Fifth. All the polished parts of an implement, as the share, mould-board and coulter of the plow, and the blades of axes, mattocks, and mowing machines, &c., should be oiled, to prevent rusting. They will then be ready for use at any moment.

Sixth. Every wooden part of an implement should be painted at least once a year, and such as are required for out-door use, as plows, harrows, &c., *twice*. Rainy days can be appropriated to this purpose. One dollars worth of brushes and paint, properly applied, will save twenty dollars' worth of damage. Mineral paint, such as Hunter's Iron Paint, answers admirably, because it has more body than white or red lead, and is far cheaper and more durable. It not only preserves the wood from decay, but from cracking, and consequent easy

breakage. And then how much better well-painted, clean-looking wagons, mowing machines, plows, harrows, &c., improve the appearance of a farm, how much more care even a careless laborer will take of a handsomely painted than of a dirty, rusty-looking tool, and with how much more satisfaction everybody will work with such tools. Economy, appearance and comfort, all demand more care than is usually bestowed upon our farm implements. —*Farmer and Gardener.*

DOMESTIC TOILS.

EDITOR COUNTRY GENTLEMAN:—You gave an excellent article on page 162—"Domestic Toils"—which describes very accurately the condition of many a farmer's household. It is a fact, strive to disguise it as we may, that the wife of the farmer under the present regime, performs more actual hard service than any other class of the community. And the question naturally arises, is it necessarily so? We think not; at least in the degree now prevalent.

Your advice, in regard to conveniences of the kitchen, is well timed and needs attention. But the main remedy seems to us to be in employing more kitchen help. If the farmer himself gets crowded in his department, this is his relief, and why not the same in the kitchen? Surely there are enough of the Bridgets left yet to wrestle with the pots and kettles—these invaluable maids of all work, with willing hearts and stout hands, a good constitution and good appetites for the *pra*——(but no matter.) And if the "missus" is only of a patient temperament, and willing to lend a hand at the lighter work, all can go along without such severe and unending labor as you so justly picture.

It is in vain at the present day, of course, for the jaded mother to expect any assistance in the culinary department from her daughters—the "Laura Matildas" and "Hortensias" of the present day. Oh no! They must not be seen in the kitchen—"it's decidedly vulgar"—but must spend their time (if not away to school at Madame Pompadora's finishing establishment,) in the parlor or sitting room in full dress, either thrumming the piano or engaged in reading light literature. My! How ashamed they *would* feel, if Augustus should call and find them in the kitchen with mother, kneading a batch of bread. Horrible!

Seriously, Messrs. Editors, this prevalent custom, now so universal throughout the country, of looking upon all manual labor as ungentlemanly and vulgar, needs correcting. A quarter of a century has vastly changed tastes in this respect. Then there were no female helps in the family where there were daughters able to assist; but mother and daughters alike and equally shared in the domestic toils.

W. J. P.

STOCK REGISTER.

DANE CO., WIS., Sept. 20, 1860.

EDITOR FARMER:—*Dear Sir:*—In the fore part of this month I had three oxen break into a cornfield and surfeit themselves on green corn, being in the field from about 7 till 12 o'clock. Thinking that moderate exercise would be beneficial, I ordered my son to yoke the brown ones, (being a favorite pair,) the other being a lazy scamp, I said might run his chance, and go to back-setting a piece of breaking; this he did, exercising them moderately during most of the afternoon. At night I saw no particular signs of indisposition; the next morning I saw strong evidence of disease; scouring, weakness of limbs, eyes dim and sunken; I called in a neighbor who sometimes prescribes for sick cattle, and he thought, as they scoured plentifully, there was no danger. This was near noon. In the afternoon they grew worse; one died about 10 o'clock at night and the other about 7 o'clock the next morning.

I had them opened; there was no appearance of hoven or bloat; no appearance of dryness or breaking in the manifold, or stoppage in the bowels; but the main stomach of one was so inflamed that the honeycomb, or inside lining was easily separated from the main covering of the stomach. There appeared to be much inflammation in the smaller intestines, also in the bladder.

There appeared to be less inflammation in the intestines of the other ox, although the bladder was more inflamed and apparently distended to its utmost capacity. The ox that I did not work upon this occasion survives, and is fast recovering.

Why I trouble you with this is, that perhaps some one of your readers may inform me whether the death of the two was in consequence of working them. At any rate I should be pleased to see an editorial comment upon the subject in the *Farmer;* for I find that there is a division of sentiment upon the subject; and if the conclusion be arrived at, that the exercise was injurious, surely you will be doing a good work in assisting to eradicate a false practice which I have seen apparently attended with good results.

Respectfully yours,

A DOWN EASTER.

NOTE.—In relation to the above matter, we

do not profess much knowledge, never having had or seen a case exactly in point. We would however, suggest that in such cases it would strike us that moderate exercise, without the amount of effort required to draw a plow, would be more likely to be beneficial.

Possibly the lazy ox, from the very fact of being lazy, did not eat as much as the others, therefore was not affected as badly. We should also be pleased to hear from others experienced on the subject.—Ed. Farmer.

THE WOOL TRADE.

We notice that the wool trade which has been very quiet for the last three months, is quite active at the east, and that the transactions indicate a healthy state of business.—Most of the sales made are at rates that allow the sellers a fair margin over the prices paid out at the time of the clip. Nothing is more desirable to the wool grower than that the parties who have made their investments, should realize a fair profit. This the holders are now doing, if we may credit the reports of sales made in such markets as those of Boston, New York, Providence, Philadelphia and Baltimore. The general report is the same from each of these places. The stock on hand is coming into market gradually, so as to supply the demand, and the sales are made at rates ranging from forty-five to fifty-four cents. Large sales of fine fleeces have been made at 62½, whilst three-quarter blood merinos, of good quality have been sold at 63 cents. These figures do not indicate that the market is over supplied at present, or that it is likely to be during the coming winter —*Michigan Farmer.*

Spanish Stock Mules.—Among the importations by the Vanderbilt on her last trip, was the largest of Spanish mules ever brought to this country. There are eighteen jacks and seven jennies—all very large and strong; some of the jacks stand fourteen and a half hands high, and are valued at a large price—one of them being held at $5,000. These tough quadrupeds were bought in Spain by their owners, Dr. Wilson and Mr. Warren, and were driven over the mountains, through France to Havre. Last year a number of mules were shipped direct from Cadiz to New Orleans, but died on the passage.—*Journal of Commerce.*

Keping Onion Sets.—A good method of preserving onion sets during winter, is to hang them up in a dry room free of frost, in net bags, holding a peck or two each.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

☞ Some one has lately computed that the dogs in the United States cost ten millions a year to maintain them; while but six millions are annually spent in maintaining our sixteen thousand clergymen.

ROOT CUTTERS.

Farmers, have you got a root cutter, if not get one as soon as possible. We have one which we are using daily in cutting potatoes for stock. It cuts a *bushel a minute*, and in pieces about an inch long, a half inch thick, and three-fourths of an inch wide, so that it is impossible for an animal to be choked by eating them.

The machine will also cut beets, carrots or turnips with equal facility.

We first wash the roots by placing them in a tub, partially filled with water, and then a man stirs them around briskly with a stick, and empties the whole upon the grass. Roots of all kinds, designed for feeding to stock in winter, should be washed before being stowed away.

We presume that good root cutters can be obtained in any of the cities and large towns of the United States. Ours cost $15.

Next to a good root cutter, is a straw or general fodder cutter—one that will cut cornstalks with rapidity. No man is in condition to winter his stock economically who does not own both of these machines.—*Rural American.*

Liquid Manure.—Prof. Sprengel, the celebrated German chemist, asserts that each cow produces annually 18,000 pounds urine, which contains of solid matter 900 pounds. This solid matter is fully equal to the best guano, weight for weight, so that the liquid manure of every cow kept on a farm for one year, is worth, when applied to the crops, more than $20 annually, and so in proportion to all the rest of the domestic animals. It may be said that in no other department of rural economy does the American farmer lose so much by neglect, as in the management of solid and liquid manures.

☞ There have been 5,860 dogs killed in New York city since June 1st, at a cost to the city of $3000.

Female Employment in England.—The Londoners are making a great effort to do something for the ladies, to get them employment at work hitherto monopolized by the male portion of the society. A great many titled people, and the benevolent Florence Nightingale, are at the head of the movement, and already several city firms have employed women book-keepers among those recommended by the society. Two theaters have taken them as box keepers, and the London Electric Telegraph is to be worked entirely by them. Short of an association for marrying them all to handsome husbands with £500 a year, this is an admirable way of making provisions for the ladies.

☞ The firmest friends ask the fewest favors.

MECHANICAL.

WISCONSIN MADE WILLOW WARE.

Mr. Powers—*Dear Sir:*—I have got up something new in the way of a white willow bushel cornbasket, one of which I send you by express, expressly for your own use, made of willow, similar to the specimens you saw at the State Fair. It is, I think, ahead of any thing in the shape of a cornbasket. It has all the requisite qualities, strength, lightness, &c., and the wood bottom will wear out two of the best oak baskets made. The advantages of the wood bottom will readily suggest themselves to your mind; it can be drawn on the barn floor and not wear out in any reasonable time; mud easily cleaned off, &c. I retail them here at 75 cents each, which is only about 12½ cents more than a common splint basket.

Please show it to your friends if you think favorably of it.

With sincere respect, I remain,

Yours truly,

John Limbert.

Milwaukee, Oct. 11, 1860.

In connection with the foregoing letter we received the basket referred to, and must acknowledge it a fine specimen. As Mr. Limbert says, it is light, strong, &c. The only fault with it is, it is too nice for common use.

Nothing need be said in relation to Mr. Limbert's work, to those who saw his varied and fine specimens, not only of osier willow, peeled and unpeeled, but of his manufactured articles of all descriptions at the State Fair.

So far as we know, Mr. Limbert is the leading man in the Northwest, both in willow culture and manufacture. For several years he has been operating at Ripon, but for business reasons has removed to Milwaukee, where he is now carrying on the business of manufacturing and selling his wares.

If the statistics could be fairly collected we presume they would show that from two to three hundred thousand dollars worth of willow ware is annually brought into our young State; and how rapidly this will be swelled to millions, who can tell? Faster than any but the far seeing imagine.

THE OSIER WILLOW,

Like India Rubber, has, when fully developed and understood, an almost unlimited range of application, great already, and probably not yet half understood. Especially in a prairie country, like the vast expanse of the West, where, as a rule, timber and lumber is scarce; and where, on the other hand, the soil is the best in the world for growing long, thrifty willows.

Let us think of a few of the articles to which willows are already applied. Willow cradles receive us when we first enter the world; willow covered bottles refresh us; willow rattles amuse us; willow wagons draw us; willow chairs support us; willow baskets carry our dinners to school; and baskets of every size and form, from the ladies' fancy work basket, to the farmer's big cornbasket, can all be made more neat, durable, and cheap, than from any other known material. Ingenuity is also inventing a thousand other new and beautiful uses for it from time to time, until we are led to believe that it has no limit, either of usefulness or beauty. Why then should not more efficient steps be taken to encourage it?

HOW AND WHY ITS CULTURE AND MANUFACTURE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

Its manufacture should be encouraged by a wider notice and attention to its interests on the part of the press throughout the State.—The County and State Agricultural Societies should offer liberal premiums for the best show of willows grown or manufactured either in the county or State. The State society might properly put up as high as $100 for the best show of material in its various shapes and manufacture. Under such an inducement Mr. Limbert, or some one else, would make a show that would surprise all beholders.

The reason why this culture and manufacture ought to be encouraged is,

First—Because large quantities of the article are, and always will be, wanted.

Second—We have the best soil in the world and in abundance, on which to grow it.

Third—We have, even in this young State, a world of partially or wholly idle hands, in the way of old men, women, and children, about all our towns and villages, who have very little to do at any time, and especially in winter. This same help is often necessitated to go ragged and hungry, not from vice or voluntary idleness, but for that worst of all wants *something to do* to earn an honest living.

Many otherwise idle persons might thus earn their four, six, and even eight, and ten shillings per day in this way, and at the same time be supplying one of our daily needs.

GOOD FENCES

Can undoubtedly be grown from the osier willow, especially upon all of our lowlands; and while serving the valuable purpose of a fence, also admit of a yearly trimming of basket willows, a valuable crop of itself.

Will not our more enterprising farmers give this matter consideration, and experiment upon it. Mr. Limbert assured us that he would gladly render all such any assistance in his power, both in the way of furnishing them any kind of willows they desired to plant, also, all needful information in regard to their cultivation; and, of course, he is abundantly able to do so. But just here let us suggest to all who write to him for information, to enclose a stamp to *prepay the answer*, otherwise, if he is any like us, they will often wait and wonder sometime before they get it.

Let the Agricultural Societies enquire into this matter, and, if they deem it advisable, appoint committees to look up and report upon it, &c. In a word, let the subject receive the attention it is entitled to.

ENGLISH COTTON MILLS OWNED BY OPERATIVES.—In a recent debate in the House of Commons, upon reform measures, the fact was stated that in Lancashire there are co-operative cotton mills, of which laboring men are the owners, which they manage successfully themselves, and which, as paying speculations are extremely flourishing and well conducted. One concern of this kind is mentioned as having 1600 members, all workmen, which had a capital of $220,000; another doing a business of $470,000, with 500 members; another commenced in 1844, which began with 28 members, who subscribed $5 each, at the end of fifteen years had no fewer than 2703 members, and a capital of $135,000. Many more of these undertakings were in existence, to which were attached reading rooms, libraries, maps, globes, telescopes, microscopes, and other scientific apparatus of the most recent construction.

We should like to see good manufactories of every needful kind, all through the west, owned by those who operated them. In that case the owners could enjoy the profit of their own labor, and the dignity of proprietorship.

CORN BREAD —Two quarts Indian meal, one half pint wheat flour, three or four eggs, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, one tablespoonful of sweet lard, one teaspoonful saleratus; make of sour milk; when you have only sweet milk add cream of tartar to it.

☞ Content is the mother of good digestion.

TRIAL OF A STEAM PLOW AT THE MISSOURI FAIR.—One of the most interesting features of the afternoon's exhibition, was the trial of the steam plow, brought hither from Hannibal, by the inventor, Robert L. Stean, upon the vacant land west of the Fair Grounds; steam was raised about twelve o'clock, and the huge machine was taken around the grounds several times, to the delight and curiosity of hundreds. Not one in twenty could tell what it was, and when told that it was a steam plow, their wonderment increased. About three o'clock it was taken out of the stock gate, and a gang plow with six blades and rolling cutters fastened on behind; with this the monster commenced to move, and it was soon apparent that the steam plow was a great success—and that the boast of its inventor, that the machine will plow thirty acres per day, could be easily realized. After turning up the earth for a distance of about five hundred feet, it was turned around and worked steadily and with little jarring, while the sod gave way rapidly and regularly. It is suggested that a harrow might be added, which would combine the advantage of plowing and harrowing in one operation. If this suggestion is practicable, the hint is worth thousands to the proprietor of the plow.—*St. Louis Democrat.*

DISCOVERY OF A NEW MOTOR.—A correspondent of a Boston *Herald* writes from Nashua, N. H., as follows: "I now barely announce the fact, and will give you the particulars at another time, that a motive power has been discovered and satisfactorily tested, which, it is estimated will not only be more effective than steam, as a motive power, but which will be eighty per cent cheaper. Think not that I am romancing, for I "speak by the card," upon the best authority. The new motor of which I speak will be found to be not only more powerful than steam, but will be worked with entire safety. It can also be used for every variety of mechanical purpose—for turning the tiny lathe of the goldsmith, operating the printer's press, driving through the deep marine vessels, and even the ladies can use it to whirl the wheels of their sewing machines. It can be transferred to the kitchen, and there be made to propel the washing machine, the churn and even to rock the cradle. I think I hear you and your readers say, "I don't believe it." Wait and see if I have exaggerated, and you'll not have to wait long. I repeat, this motor, now distinctly announced, has been thoroughly tested, and will be ready in a few days for practical use."

A GREAT LAND PROJECT.—Steps are in progress in London, for the organization of a company with a capital of £500,000 sterling—over $2,500,000—to be devoted to the purchase and settlement of lands in Illinois. The company is not to be connected in any way with the Illinois Central railroad, or its affairs.

COOK'S EVAPORATOR.—We copy elsewhere an article on the cultivation, mode of harvesting, &c., of the Chinese sugar cane, which mentions Cook's Evaporator, manufactured by Blymyer & Day, Mansfield, Ohio. At the U. S. Fair, and Ohio State Fair, they had it continually in operation, manufacturing the best and choicest articles of sirups and sugar from the "sorgum." It gave the most perfect satisfaction, as attested by the thousands who continually surrounded it. Nor were these evidences of approval mere assertions, for we saw the proprietors receive scores of orders for the "Evaporator." It has been conceded by competent judges that this is a standard improvement for the purposes intended. Certificates from the best judges in the U. S., who have examined it—and many of whom have used it—place its merits above question; with regard to its durability we need only add, that of the thousands sold, we have yet to learn of one being returned; a result highly gratifying to the proprietors, as it must be to those purchasing this improvement.—*National Agriculturist.*

SILK MANUFACTURE IN THE UNITED STATES. The *Economist* says: "It is estimated that there are now about thirty-six mills in operation in different parts of the United States, in which from 8000 to 10,000 hands are constantly employed. About three-fourths of the operators are children under 16 years of age, who are engaged at comparatively trifling wages. The entire value of the machinery and mills connected with the silk trade is estimated at $3,000,000. The average cost of manufacture on silk goods is about one half of the value of the raw material. Taking the value of the import of the raw silk in 1859 at $1,000,000, we shall have about $2,000,000 as the present value of the annual production of silk goods in the U. S.

SINGULAR LOSS OF A WATCH.—A man named Marsh, at Baraboo, lost a valuable gold watch a short time since, in the following curious manner. He was feeding a threshing machine when the buckskin strap attached to the watch was caught in the cylinder, drawing the time piece into the machine. A small piece of the case and a few fractions of the works were all that could be found. That's what we call taking time by the forelock.

☞ The difference between the two sexes may often be mentioned thus: A man gives two shillings for an eighteen penny thing he wants, and woman gives eighteen pence for a two shilling thing she does not want.

☞ Where hard work kills ten, idleness kills a hundred men.

☞ A sour-faced wife fills a tavern.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE WISCONSIN STATE PRISON.

During a recent short trip to the northward we visited our State Prison for the first time. It is a stately stone structure situated pleasantly upon a gentle elevation, upon the west side of the flourishing village of Waupun. A massive stone wall is nearly completed around the inside court or yard.

Spacious workshops are now being erected; the main building being some three hundred feet long, by thirty to forty feet wide, and two stories high. This building is intended to be completed the present season, and when finished will furnish roomy and good conveniences for large mechanical and manufacturing operations. The prisoners at present labor in the old wooden prison, and appeared to be very busy and well employed; mainly at making cabinet furniture, and boots and shoes. Their work is of a substantial and suitable quality for country trade, and, from all appearances, we should judge was in good demand, especially as it was afforded at a little lower prices than that of the outside shops.

There are over 170 prisoners, all told; some dozen of them females; and this number will undoubtedly constantly and rapidly increase.

Hitherto these prisoners have been extensively employed in erecting the buildings, walls and fixtures, and a portion of them will still be needed in the same direction for a time to come. But the great bulk of them will hereafter have to be employed in shop work. It would seem as if some economical plan might be devised, now the buildings are erected, by which these nearly two hundred mainly able bodied men could earn enough to pay for their own keeping and watching. At present it costs the State over $30,000 per annum, to keep the institution running; and it is not probable that it will cost any less at any future time under State administration. Such affairs cannot be economically managed by changing public officers. The interest of some struggling party usually requires a change at every election. A good Superintendent can do no more in such a short period as two years than to commence a good system, which the next one will abandon, of course.

Now, in progress of wisdom and experience why could not a plan be devised for contracting out the entire establishment to competent

and responsible parties, for a term of from six to ten years.

Let such a contractor take the institution as it stands, furnish everything, and do everything under a specific arrangement, and under the eye of a Superintendent whose entire business would be to see that the contract was lived up to in all things. In that way the whole thing could be run in a nut shell, as it were, and for the lowest practicable figure, and probably at a saving of from ten to twenty thousand dollars per annum.

Is not this matter worthy of consideration on the part of our Executive and Legislature? Has not the time nearly or quite arrived when an absolute economy of the kind could be successfully inaugurated? We think so. We found it was the opinion of some of the officers of the prison that it was entirely practicable, and ought, as soon as the buildings were completed, to be done. Mr. Mitchell, particularly, late of the Oshkosh *Democrat*, but now employed in the prison, suggested the matter to us, and pointed to articles he had furnished the press on the subject. We hope that he will give the matter still further attention, and thus assist in elaborating such a great economy in this otherwise permanently expensive concern.

Col. Heg, the Superintendent, was absent, but the other officers of the prison showed us all needful courtesies. The institution appeared to be in a tidy and business like condition throughout, and, as far as we could learn, the prison administration is quite popular; doubtless deservedly so.

We copy the following article in point, showing the result of New York prison management under the contract system:

The balance sheet of the Sing Sing Prison shows the following result:

Earnings for September	$10,623 58
Expenses do do	9,065 71
Earnings over Expenses	$1,537 87

The Auburn Prison, during the fiscal year which has just closed, has earned a surplus of $25,000 over expenses.

The Clinton Prison, too, evinces a marked improvement. Although there have been fifty more convicts this year than last year, the expenses have been $8,000 less. The receipts have been $12,000 more. Here is a gain of $20,000 over last year.

Earnings of the Auburn Prison.—We adverted yesterday to the gratifying increase in the earnings of the Auburn Prison, which, together with the reduction of expenses under the vigilant supervision of Agent and Warden Kirkpatrick, has changed the prison from an unprodustive into a paying piece of property for the State. We have to-day the precise figures. They are as follows: Total earnings and expenditures of Auburn Prison for the month of September, 1860,

Total contract earnings	$7,436 11
Miscellaneous earnings	8,441 37
Total earnings	$15,879 48
Total expenses for ordinary support	5,449 81
Earnings over expenditures	$10,429 67
Total receipts for year end'g Sept. 30, 1860,	$100,345 74
Total ordinary expenses during same time,	75,191 60
Profits over expenditures for the year,	$25,153 65

—*Albany Evening Journal.*

HOME MANUFACTURES IN THE WEST.

The *Merchant's Magazine*, speaking of the Western trade, says; "When the West could no longer buy freely on almost unlimited credit at the East, other means were resorted to, to supply local wants. This led to a more decided development of local manufactories.—Many thriving firms, that formerly bought their clothing and other supplies from the East, turned their attention to manufacture.—It is found that goods can be produced cheaper by giving employment to the hands on the spot, and a home market to the materials.—The result is, diminished intercourse East and West, to be revived, no doubt, when larger crops and greater prices shall have renewed a speculative action, calling eastern and imported articles, through the medium of credit once more to compete with nascent fabrics of the west."

We trust, however, that our cotemporary will fail in his prognostic, and that the west, having learned wisdom by experience, will be slow to purchase imported goods to the serious prejudice of her own interest because she can buy them "through the medium of credit," and because that once in five or six years she can realize high prices for her surplus crops, by reason of an Irish or some other famine abroad. According to the writer from whom we have quoted, the west has at last discovered the true secret of prosperity. She has "found that goods can be produced cheaper by giving employment to the hands on the spot, and a home market to materials"—that she can convert her own wool into cloth, employ her otherwise unemployed labor in doing it, and pay that labor in her own corn, wheat, and bacon—that it is cheaper to do this than to send her wool to England to be there made into cloth and brought back for use, and to send her corn after it to pay for the making, she paying all the expenses both ways, and taking such price for her corn as the English laborer chooses to pay, while her own people are seeking for profitable employment in vain.—*Cleveland Leader.*

THE PRIZE BANNER.

The 1st day of October, 1860, was an auspicious one to the citizens of Pierce county. The gratifying intelligence, by a telegraphic dispatch, was received early in the morning, that Pierce county had won the Prize Banner at the Wisconsin Agricultural State Fair. This news spread like wild-fire through the city and country, and preparations were being made to recieve the Pierce County delegation as they returned from Madison, 'terible as an army with banners,' when about 9 o'clock the whistle of the steamer Milwaukee was heard, and then there was a general stampede for the levee. As the boat arrived earlier than was expected, the arrangements had not been effected to do ample justice in demonstration of the victory that had been achieved for Pierce county, but "hail to the chief who in triumph advances." The steamer Milwaukee landed.—This splendid Prize Banner—a rich legacy—won by the labor and industry of the farmers of Pierce county, was unfurled, and its silken folds fluttered to the breeze. The news spread through the city, and hundreds gathered to see the banner. The Merchant heard the sound and threw away his yard stick; the Blacksmith left the burning iron upon the anvil; the Carpenter left the unroofed house; the nearest Farmer left his plow beside the upturned furrow; and all rushed to hear the glad tidings —"Pierce county has got the Banner."

A procession of citizens was immediately formed to ascort the delegation with the Banner through the principal streets of the city — Martial music was soon obtained and on the ground. Messrs. Collins and Beardsley were appointed as marshals. While the procession proceeded more excitement and good feeling prevailed than is manifested upon many a 4th of July celebration. Cheer after cheer went up for Pierce county, for the State Fair, for old Dane county, for the Pierce county Agricultural Society, and for the Pierce county delegation. After the crowd had paraded the different streets in the city, with the music and Banner at the head of the procession, they returned to the levee, where a President, Secretary, and Committee were appointed to make the necessary arrangements for an enthusiastic demonstration, to come off next Saturday afternoon, at two o'clock, in the city of Prescott.

We may well feel proud of this achievement. The citizens of Pierce county may well rejoice. It is worth more than ten thousand sham railroads, Pierce county reviews, or newspaper puffs that could be invented. It is a feather—yes, a plume in our hats, that can never be taken from us.

The dimensions of this banner are 5½ by 7 feet. It is a beautiful and artistic piece of workmanship. Upon one side is a painting, beautifully executed, representing the goddess Minerva, with her right arm resting upon an anchor, and her left arm upon a shield; while upon the other side is written in golden capitals, *Prize Banner awarded by the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society to Pierce County, for best exhibition at State Fair*, 1860. On the top of the staff that holds the banner is perched a golden eagle, with outstretched wings and open eye, ever ready to defend it.

To Messrs. Gunn and Webster do we extend our warmest congratulations, in behalf of the citizens of Pierce county, for the commendable zeal they have manifested for our agricultural interests.

Three hearty cheers for Pierce county, and *nine* for the Pierce county delegation.—*Prescott Democrat.*

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR.

We have just returned from a visit to the exhibition held by the Illinois State Agricultural Society, for the present year, at Jacksonville, from 10th to the 14th of September, inclusive. In some respects it may have been called a decided success, while in others there was abundant room for improvement.

Jacksonville, though a nice place enough in itself, is no place for a large fair. Having but one railroad, the facilities for the transmission of material to form a large fair, were quite inadequate. The grounds were fine for such a purpose, and a splendid amphitheater was erected, and is now the property of the county agricultural society. The weather was fine, and for such a locality immense throngs attended the fair. The camping system was extensively employed, and at least thirty acres of land outside the fair grounds were thickly studded with tents and wagons of all kinds, many from a long distance. Thirty-six teams came from Schuyler county, in a string, each team averaging six people. In a space of 188 by 23 paces, from actual count, there were 60 teams. This will give an idea of the whole. At night the huge log fire was blazing, and lots of farmers, their wives, sons and daughters, were to be met with at every step—the young singing, and the old discussing the news of the day, or whatever happened to present itself at the moment. All seemed perfectly happy, and, to my mind, this was one of the very best features of the fair—old in principle, new in practice at our fairs, but exceedingly applicable to new countries, leaving the farmers entirely free from the fangs of the money makers about fair time.

The stock department, as was expected, was very fully represented, and elicited great commendation on all sides. Machinery only moderately so, with not a single steam engine to propel anything. In fact we heard the remark that Jacksonville knows but little about these modern inventions, and could not begin to supply such a motor herself.—*Country Gentleman.*

AWARD OF PREMIUMS,

At the 10th Annual Fair of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, held at Madison, September 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, & 29, 1860.

COUNTY EXHIBITIONS.

Best exhibition by any one county, all circumstances considered, Pierce county Agricultural Society .....Prize Banner.

[Report of Committee highly commendatory of the exhibition by Winnebago county, pronouncing it the best, *absolutely*.]

BEST and SECOND BEST FARMS.

The awards on farms were made during the summer, by a special Committee; but the presentations were made at the fair as follows:

M. W. Edgerton, Waukesha county, 1st prize, Silver Pitcher.

William Smith, Kenosha county, 2d prize, Silver Goblet.

DIVISION A.—DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

Department of Horses, Jacks, and Mules.

CLASS 1, THOROUGH BRED HORSES.

S. H. Ruble, Beloit, 1st premium, stallion, "Princeton," 4 yrs..... $30
J. C. Redfield, Neenah, 2d prem., stallion, "King of Cymry," over 4 yrs..... 20
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st prem., stallion, "Glencoe," under 3 yrs..... 15
S. H. Ruble, Beloit, 1st prem. mare, "Victory," over 4 yrs..... 25
Peter Parkinson, jr., Georgetown, 3 yr old filly, 1st prem..... 15

CLASS 2.—ROADSTERS.

D. R. Brewer, Mukwanago, 1st prem. stallion, "David Hill," over 4 yrs..... 20
J. M. Learned, Janesville, 2d prem. stallion, "Red Rover," over 4 yrs..... 15
J. E. Munger, Oshkosh, 1st prem. stallion, "Winnebago," under 3 yrs..... 15
H. P. Fales, La Prairie, 2d prem. stallion, "Badger Star," under 3 yrs..... 10
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st prem. mare, "Roan," over 4 yrs..... 20
J. M. Learned, Janesville, 2d prem. mare, "Kitty," over 4 yrs..... 15

CLASS 3.—HORSES FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

H. C. Crandall, 1st prem. stallion, "Green Mountain Morgan," over 3 yrs..... 20
S. K. Ellsworth, Oregon, 2d prem. stallion, "Black Arrow," over 4 yrs..... 15
J. Goodwin, Middleton, 1st prem. stallion, "Bay Star," under 3 yrs..... 10
C. M. Rice, Madison, 2d prem. stallion, "Plato," under 3 yrs..... 7
Daniel Vernon, Middleton, 1st prem. stallion, "Morgan," 2 yrs..... 7
J. M. Bradley, Waterloo, 2d prem. stallion colt, 2 yrs..... 5
Chas. Frazer, East Troy, 1st prem. stallion colt, 1 yr..... 5
Richard Richards, Racine, 2d prem., stallion colt, "Rattler," 1 yr..... 3
J. M. Learned, Janesville, 1st prem. sucking colt..... 3
J. V. Cairns, Madison, 2d prem. sucking stallion colt..... 2
Peter Parninson, Fayette, 1st prem. blood mare over 4 yrs..... 15
R. Merriman, Richland City, 2d prem. blood mare over 4 yrs..... 10
E. W. Palmer, Fitchburg, 1st prem. blood mare 3 yrs..... 10
R. Wilson, Decorah, 2d prem. blood mare, 3 yrs..... 7
Peter Parkinson, Fayette, 1st prem. blood mare, 2 yrs..... 7
Robt. Wilson, Decorah, 2d prem. blood mare 2 yrs..... 3
P. M. Pritchard, Fitchburg, 1st prem. brood mare, "Lizzie," 1 yr old 5
F. A. Bevans, Platteville, 2d do brood mare, "Flora Temple," 1 yr old..... 3
Peter Parkinson, Fayette, 1st premium sucking mare colt..... 3
A. Stillwell, Middleton, 2d do sucking mare colt 2

CLASS 4.—DRAFT HORSES.

D. Burdett, Lodi, 1st premium stallion, 4 years old..... $ 15
E. Hinkson, Decorah, 2d do stallion 4 yrs old.. 10
Jas. Borah, Lancaster, 1st premium stallion 2 yrs old 7
R. Meriam, Richland City, 1st premium sucking stallion colt,..... 3
P. M. Pritchard, Fitchburg, 1st premium brood mare, over 4 yrs old..... 10
R. Meriam, Richland City, 2d do brood mare, over 4 yrs old..... 7
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 1st premium brood mare, 2 yrs old 5
John S. Adams, Fitchburg, 1st premium gelding, 4 yrs old..... 10

CLASS 5.—JACKS AND MULES.

S. B. Newcomb, Whitewater, 1st prem. Jack... $ 10
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st premium working mules..... 10
J. M. Pritchard, Fitchburg, 2d do work. mules 5
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st prem. single mule. 5

CLASS 6.—MATCHED HORSES AND MARES.

A. Hyatt Smith, Janesville, 1st premium carriage horses..... $ 15
J. M. Bradley, Waterloo, 1st prem. readsters 15
A. H. Taggart, Delavan, 1st premium draft horses..... 15

CLASS 7.—FOR LIGHT HARNESS AND SADDLE.

B. F. Hopkins, Madison, 1st premium light harness horse..... $ 10
N. B. Van Slyke, Madison, 2d do light harness horse..... 5
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st premium saddle horse 10
John D. Welch, Madison, 2d do saddle horse.. 5

CLASS 8.—TROTTERS.

David Hill, time 2:48¼, 1st premium..... $ 30
Membrino Rattler, time 2:50¼, 2d do..... 20
Green Mountain Boy, time 2:52, 3d do 10
Dick Turpin, time 2:51¼, 1st do..... 30
Flora, time 3:55¼, 1st do..... 25
Dutcher's Dick & Harry, time 3:10¼, 1st do... 30
Leonard's Gray's, time 3:32¼, 2d do..... 20

Cattle Department.

CLASS 9.—DURHAM CATTLE.

S. Brooks, East Troy, 1st premium on bull "Sampson," over three years old,..... $ 20
C. H. Williams, Excelsior, Sauk, 2d premium, bull "Pans," over 6 yrs..... 15
O. H. Cronkhite, Neenah, 3d premium, bull "Governor," over 3 yrs..... 10
John Hall, Madison, 1st premium bull, "George" 2 yrs..... 15
Theron Loomis, Raymond, Racine, 2d premium, bull "Destiny," 10
S. Nye, Madison, 3d premium, bull, 2 yrs..... 5
A. G. Knight, Racine, 1st do bull "Hiawatha" 1 yr..... 10
W. D. Williams, Whitewater, 2d prem. bull, 1 yr
S. Brooks, Troy, 3d premium, "Young Sampson" 5
Richard Richards, Racine, 1st prem. cow, "Red Rose," over 3 yrs..... 20
John P. Roe, Union Church, Racine Co., 2d premium cow, "Silver," over 3 yrs..... 15
Richard Richards, Racine, 3d prem. cow over 3 yrs 10
Richard Richards, Racine, 1st prem. heifer, "Camilla," 2 yrs 15
Theron Loomis, Raymond, 2d prem. heifer, "Royals," 2 yrs old..... 10
C. H. Williams, Excelsior, 3d prem. heifer, "Ruby," 2 yrs..... 8
John P. Roe, Union Church, 1st prem. heifer, "Sunshine," 1 yr..... 10
John P. Roe, Union Church, 2d do "Blencore," 7
Thos. Reynolds, Madison, 3d prem. heifer, "Miss Julia" 5
John P. Roe, Union Church, 1st do heifer calf, "Dawn,"..... 7
B. F. Hopkins, Madison, 2d prem.....do..... 5

Richard Richards, Racine, 1st prem. bull calf, "Earl,"..... 7
John P. Roe, Union Church, 2d prem....do ... 5

CLASS 10.—DEVONS.

Geo. Baker, Hustisford, 1st prem. bull over 3 yrs., "Prince"..... 20
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 2d prem. bull over 3 years, "Saratoga Boy"..... 15
Geo. Baker, Hustisford, 3d prem. bull over 3 years, "Duke"..... 10
Gustavus Goodrich, Whiteville, bull over 3 yrs. Dip
A. H. Taggart, Delavan, North Devon bull, "Tartar Chief"..... Dip
Isaac S. Newton, Middleton. 1st prem. bull 2 yrs "Beauty"..... 15
Luther Rawson, Oak Creek, 2d prem. bull, "Nicolas," 2 yrs..... 10
J. M. Learned, Janesville, 3d prem. bull 2 yrs., "Prince"..... 8
J. M. Learned, Janesville, 1st prem. bull 1 yr., "Princeton"..... 10
Thos. Reynolds, Madison, 2d prem. bull 1 year, "Honest Abe"..... 7
A. Richmond, Whitewater, 1st premium bull calf..... 7
J. Brackett, Whitewater, 2d do bull calf..... 5
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 1st premium cow 4 yrs old, "Lonesome"..... 20
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 2d do cow 4 yrs old, "Lady Gay"..... 15
Geo. Baker, Hustisford, 3d do cow over 3 yrs old, "Beauty"..... 10
Isaac S. Newton, Middleton, 1st premium heifer, 2 yrs, "Princess"..... 15
Geo. Baker, Hustisford, 2d do heifer, 2 yrs, "Rose"..... 10
N. Leavenworth, Janesville, 3d do heifer 2 yrs 8
Luther Rawson, Oak Creek, 1st premium heifer 1 yr, "Bess"..... 10
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 2d do heifer 1 year, "Lonesome"..... 7
Thos. Reynolds, Madison, 3d do heifer 1 yr old, "Kate Hayes"..... 5
A. Richmond, Whitewater, 1st premium heifer calf, "Golden Drop"..... 7
Isaac S. Newton, Middleton, 2d do heifer calf, "Sully"..... 5

CLALL 11.—ALDERNEYS.

J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st premium bull, "Major," 3 yrs..... $ 20
" " 1st premium bull, "Prince of Wales," 2 years..... 15
" " 1st premium cow, "Dewlap," 3 years..... 20
" " 2d do dow, "Buttercup," 3 yrs 15
" " 3d do cow, "Cora," 3 yrs..... 10
" " 1st do heifer, "Rose Bud," 2 years..... 15
" " 2d do heifer, "Minnie," 2 yrs 10
" " 1st premium heifer calf, "Pet" 7
" " 1st do bull calf, "Zouave"..... 7
" " 2d do do "Tommy"... 5

CLASS 12.—AYRESHIRES.

J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 1st premium bull, "Macbeth," 1 yr..... 10
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 1st premium heifer, "Nina," 2 yrs..... 15

CLAST 13.—HEREFORDS.

N. D. Fratt, Racine, 1st premium bull 1 yr....$ 10
" do do do cow 3 yrs.... 20
" do 2d do do 3 yrs.... 15

CLASS 14.—GARDE CATTLE AND WORKING OXEN.

J. C. Hopkins, Madison, 1st premium grade cow over 3 yrs..... $10
Isaac S. Newton, Middleton, 2d do grade cow over 3 yrs..... 7
Andrew Howie, Westport, 3d do grade dow over 3 years..... 5
Isaac S. Newton, Middleton, 1st premium heifer 2 yrs..... 5
Leroy B. Wheeler, Verona, 2d do heifer 2 yrs.. 3
J. V. Robbins 1st premium heifer (Jersey cross,) 1 year..... 5
J. M. Leonard, Janesville, 1st premium heifer calf..... 3
David Richardson, Verona, 2d do heifer calf... 2
W. Murphy, Baraboo, 1st premium working oxen..... 10
Jos. A. Mann, Rockside, 1st premium steers 1 year..... 3

CLASS 16.—FAT CATTLE.

John Wisen, Roxbury, 1st premium fat oxen, over 5 yrs..... $10
Daniel Palmer, Fitchburgh, 2d do fat oxen over 5 years..... 7

Sheep Department.

CLASS 17.—SPANISH MERINO SHEEP.

H. Hemmenway, Whitewater, 1st prem. buck over 2 yrs..... 10
A. F. Knox, Whitewater, 2d prem. buck over 2 yrs..... 7
B. B. Freeman, Whitewater, 3d prem. buck over 2 yrs..... 5
A. F. Knox, Whitewater, 1st prem. buck over 1 year..... 7
Asaph Pratt, Lima Center, 2d prem. buck, over 1 yr..... 5
A. S. Edgerton, Whitewater, 3d prem. buck ever 1 yr..... 3
J. M. Clark, Whitewater, 1st prem. pen ewe lambs..... 5
Asaph Pratt, Lima Center, 2d prem. pen ewe lambs..... 3
H. Hemmenway, Whitewater, 3d prem. pen ewe lambs..... 2
J. M. Clark, Whitewater, 1st prem. pen ewes, over 2 yrs..... 10
A. F. Knox, Whitewater, 2d prem. pen ewes, over 2 years..... 7
A. S. Edgerton, Whitewater, 3 prem. pen ewes over 1 yr..... 5
J. M. Clark, Whitewater, 1st prem. pen ewes over 1 yr..... 7
Gustavus Goodrich, Whitesville, 2d prem. pen ewes, over 1 yr..... 5
A. S. Edgerton, Whitewater, 3d prem. pen ewes over 1 yr..... 3
Asaph Pratt, Lima Center, 1st prem. pen ewe lambs..... 5
J. M. Clark, Whitewater, 2d prem. pen ewe lambs..... 3
A. S. Edgerton, Whitewater, 3d prem. pen ewe lambs..... 2

CLASS 18.—FRENCH MERINO SHEEP.

R. B. Ransom, Fitchburg, 2d prem. buck, over 3 yrs..... 10
W. E. Sanford, Waukesha, 2d prem. buck over 2 yrs..... 7
W. E. Sanford, Waukesha, 3d prem. buck, over 2 yrs..... 5
W. E. Sanford, Waukesha, 1st prem. buck over 1 yr..... 7
R. B. Ransom, Fitchburg, 2d prem buck over 1 yr..... 5
P. B. Stewart, Eagle, 1st prem. ewes over 2 yrs 10
W. E. Sanford, Waukesha, 2d prem. ewes over 2 yrs..... 7
Luther Landon, Waupun, 3d prem. ewes over 2 yrs..... 5
P. B. Stewart, Eagle, 1st prem. ewes over 1 yr.. 7
do 2d " " " 5
W. E. Sanford, Waukesha, 3d prem. Ewes, over 1 yr..... 3
P. B. Stewart, Eagle, 1st prem. pen ewe lambs.. 5
R. B. Ransom, Fitchburg, 2d prem. pen ewe lambs..... 3

CLASS 21.—LEICESTER SHEEP.

Luther Rawson, Oak Creek, 1st prem. buck over 2 yrs..... 10
Philip Rawson, Verona, 2d premium buck over 2 years..... 7
R. Bagg, Eagle, 3d premium buck over 2 yrs.. 5
Philip Waldron, Verona, 1st prem. buck lamb,. 5
R. Bagg, Eagle, 1st premium pen ewes over 2 yrs..... 10
R. Bagg, Eagle, 2 prem. pen ewes over 2 yrs... 7
do " 1st prem. pen ewes over 1 yr.. 7
do " 2d " " " .. 5

CLASS 21.—SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.

W. S. Murs, Neenah, 1st premium buck over 2 yrs..... 10
S. Charlesworth, Omro, 2d premium buck over 2 yrs..... 7
Mathew Tower, Omro, 2d premium buck over 2 yrs..... 5
Mathew Tower, Omro, 3d premium buck over 1 yr..... 7

John P. Roe, Union Church, 2 premium buck 1 yr..... 5
R. Bagg, Eagle, 3d premium buck, 1 yr..... 3
Luther Rawson, Oak Creek, 1st premium buck lambs..... 5
Mathew Tower, Omro, 2d premium buck lambs 3
John P. Roe, Union Church, 1st premium ewes over 2 yrs..... 10
Mathew Tower Omro, 2d premium ewes over 2 yrs..... 7
S. Charlesworth, Omro, 3d premium ewes over 2 yrs..... 5
M. Tower, Omro, 1st premium ewes 1 yr..... 7

Swine and Poultry Department.

CLASS 23 AND 24.—SWINE.

J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st premium Suffolk boar, over 2 yrs..... 10
H. P. Hall, Madison, 2nd do Suffolk boar, over 2 yrs..... 7
M. Tower, Omro, 3d do. Suffolk boar, over 2 yrs 5
O. P. Dow, Palmyra, 1st premium, Essex boar, over 2 yrs..... 10
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st premium Suffolk boar, over 1 yr..... 7
Do 2d do Suffolk boar over 1 pr..... 5
H. P. Hall, Madison, 3d premium, Suffolk boar 1 yr..... 3
J. V. Robbins, Madison, 1st premium Suffolk sow over 2 yrs..... 10
J. V. Robbins, 1st premium breeding Suffolk sow with 6 pigs under 3 mos..... 10
H. P. Hall, Madison, 2d premium Suffolk sow and pigs..... 5
J. V. Robbins, 1st premium Sheffield sow and pigs..... 10
J. V. Robbins, 1st premium Sheffield boar pig, 6 mos..... 5
J. V. Robbins, 1st Suffolk boar pig, 6 mos..... 5
J. C. Hopkins, Madison, 2d premium Suffolk boar pig, 6 mos..... 3
O. P. Dow, Palmyra, 1st premium Essex boar pig, 6 mos..... 5
J. V. Robbins, 1st premium Sheffield sow pig, 6 mos..... 5
J. V. Robbins, 1st premium Suffolk sow pig, 6 mos..... 5
J. V. Robbins, 2d premium Suffolk sow pig, 6 mos..... 7
J. V. Robbins, 1st preminm Sheffield boar, 1 yr. 3
O. P. Dow, 1st premium Essex boar, over 6 mos. 5

CLASS 25.—POULTRY.

I. S. Newton, Middleton, best lot spangled Hamburg..... 2
Jas. Parkins, Westport, best lot Poland fowls.. 2
Chas. Oswin, Middleton, best lot game fowls,.. 2
N. W. Hawes, Verona, best Dorking fowls..... 2
J. C. Redfield, Neenah, best Cochin Chinas.... 2
M. Manling, Janesville, best and greatest var. 5
Alex Stillwell, Middleton, best pair guinea fowls..... 2
S. Hook, Oregon, best pair pea fowls..... 2
G. W. Lathrop, Algoma, best pair geese..... 2
do do best pair ducks..... 2

DINISION B.—PRODUCTS OF THE SOIL, DAIRY AND HOUSEHOLD.

Agricultural Department.

CLASS 26.—FIELD CROPS BY THE ACRE.

This class will be passed upon by the Ex. Com. at the meeting in December.

CLAST 27—FIELD PRODUCTS:

S. R. Gunn, Pierce Co., 1st premium winter wheat..... 3
H. P. Hall, Madison, 2d premium do..... 2
Matthew Towers, Omro, 1st premium Rio Grande..... 3
E. Wilcox, Northfield, Jackson Co., 2d premium do..... 2
S. R. Guan, Pierce Co., 1st premium Canada club..... 3
Eli Stilson, Oshkosh, 2d premium do..... 2
S. R. Gunn, 1st premium, Lowland Scotch wheat..... 3
" " blue joint club..... 3
" " rye..... 3
E. Wilcox, Northfield, 2d premium do..... 2
C. Chipman, Springfield, 1st premium Poland oats..... 2
John Nutherford, Verona, 2d premium do...Trans.
E. Wilcox, Northfield, 1st premium white oats 2
L. Landon, Waupun, 1st premium German oats..... 2
S. R. Gunn, 1st premium black oats..... 2
" " barley..... 2
John Rutherford, Verona, 2d premium do...Trans.
S R. Gunn, 1st premium buckwheat..... 2
A. J. Niles, Madison, 2d premium do.....Trans.
F. C. Curtis, Rocky Run, 1st premium timothy seed..... 3
John Rutherford, Verona, 2d premium do..... 2
L. Landon, Waupun, 1st premium black eyed marrowfat peas..... 2
C. Chipman, Springfield, 2d premium do.....Trans.
S. R. Gunn, 1st premium 1000-to-1 beans..... 2
R. S. Carter, 2d premium navy beans.....Trans.
H. P. Hall, Madison, 1st prem. seed corn..... 3
Eli Stilson, Oshkosh, 2d prem. Dutton do..... 2
Jno. Rutherford Verona, 1st prem. Carter potatoes..... 2
W. B. Knapp, Burke, 2d prem. Carter potatoes, Trs.
Frank Smith, Madison, 1st prem. Mercer potatoes..... 2
G. Rice, Oregon, 1d prem. Mercer potatoes.... Trs.
John Hall, Madison, 1st prem. pink-eye do 2
J. J. Patten Viena, 1st prem. on early potatoes "Mountain June"..... 2
Alex. Stillwell, Middleton, 1st prem. for best show, (19 var.)..... 5
S. R. Gunn, 2d prem. do. (11 var.)..... 3
T. K. Carr, Oak Creek, 1st prem. carrots..... 2
John Hall, Madison, 2d prem. carrots..... Trs.
W. H. Young, Glen Haven, 1st prem. "Russian" turnips..... 2
S. R. Gunn, 2d prem. do..... Trs.
Albert Bouce, Eagle, 1st prem. pumpkins..... 2
E. Grover, Madison, 2d prem. do ..... Trs.
J. Terwilliger, Madison, 1st prem. dent corn.. 3
Chas. Chipman, Springfield, 2d prem. do .. 2

CLASS 28.—GARDEN VEGETABLES.

John. Hall, Madison, best celery..... 2
S. R. Gunn, Prescott, best beets..... Trs.
J. E. Carpenter, Windsor, 2d beets..... 50c
Jno Rutherford, Verona, best parsneps..... Trs.
Jno Hall, Madison, 3d parsneps..... 50c
H. P. Hall, Madison, best onions..... 2
Jno Rutherford, Verona, 2d onions ..... Trs.
Jno Hall, best cabbage..... Trs.
S. R. Gunn, 2d cabbage..... 50c
Jno. Hall, best Tomatoes,..... .....Trans
S. R. Gunn, 2d best do 50
H. A. Tenney, best egg plant.....Trans
Alex. Stillwell, Middleton, 2d best egg plant.. 50
H. J. Starin, Whitewater, best bushel sweet potatoes....1 barrel Tenbroeck's Seed Potatoes.
A. Bovee, Eagle, 2d best sweet potatoes...½ do
S. B. Higgins, Palmyra, 3d best do ...½ do
H. A. Tenney, Madison, best doz do 3
S. B. Higgins, 2d best doz do 2
Jno. Hall, best Lima Beans.....Trans
C. E. Morgan, 2d best do ..... ,50
Jno. Hall, best winter radishes.....Trans
do greatest variety garden products.... 5
H. P. Hall, 2d best variety do 3
do best lot squashes..... 2
H. Saell, 2d best lot do 1
H. G. Williams, West Point, largest squash..Trans

CLASS 29—PRODUCTS OF THE DAIRY AND HOUSEHOLD.

J. V. Robbins 1st premium June butter..... 10
David Ferguson, Burke, 2d premium butter.... 7
Chas. Chipman, Springfield, 3d premium butter 5
A. N. Seymour, Mazomanie, June butter entitled to notice..... .....
Daniel Ferguson, Burke, 1st premium on butter made at any time 7
J. V. Robbins, 2d premium butter made do.... 5
Mrs N. D Fratt, Racine, 3d premium do.... 3
J. V. Robbins, 1st premium 3 cheeses..... 10
Almon Atwuod, Waupun, 2d do 7
Robert Wilson, Dekorra, 3d do 5
Eli Stilson, Oshkosh, 3 cheeses entitled to notice
do 1st premium cheese..... 3
Almon Atwood, Waupun, 2d premium cheese.. 2
J. V. Robbins, Mammoth cheese, (1,626 lbs) Secretary instructed to highly commend.
S. R. Gunn, Prescott, 1st premium honey..... 3
Herbert Reed, Madison, sample superior honey

S. R. Gunn, best bbl. spring wheat flour, very good,
Mrs. Amelia Peffer, Pewaukee, 1st premium wheat bread, yeast raising 3
Mrs. Lucius Warner, Columbus, 1st premium graham bread 3
Mrs. H. W. Hayes, Palmyra, 1st premium sponge cake 2
Mrs. A. G. Niles, Madison, 1st premium plain cake 2
Plumb, Willey & Co., Madison, cake made with Sorghum 2
Mrs. H. W. Hayes, Palmyra, 1st premium corn bread 3

JUVENILES.

Miss Justina Peffer, Pewaukee, best loaf wheat bread 2
Miss L. Bement, Oregon, best specimen cookies 2
Miss F. V. Niles, Madison, best crollers dis. 2
Miss L. Bement, Oregon, best loaf gingerbread (sugar) 2
Miss Josephine Peffer, Pewaukee, best loaf gingerbread (molasses) 2

Fruit and Flower Department.

CLASS 30—FRUITS BY NON-PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

H. J. Starin, Whitewater, best and greatest variety apples 1st premium 7
V. C. Mason, Aurora, best and great variety apples, 2d premium 5
Jacob Fowler, Bradford, best and great variety apples, 3d premium 3
A. G. Tuttle, Baraboo, best 10 vareties apples .. 5
D. H. Clement, Willow Springs, 2d premium do 2
W. A. Pierce, Sun Prairie, 3d premium do Trs.
Lucius Warner, Columbus, best 5 var. apples .. 2
Abraham Murphy, Lake View, 2d premium do .. Trs.
A. B. Smith, Lake Mills, best show autumn apples 7
S. Charlesworth, Omro, 2d premium do 5
L. Woodworth, Bristol, 3d premium do 3
W. M. Bartholomew, Lodi, best show winter apples 7
Henry Floyd, Aurora, 2d premium do 5
Thos. Howland, Pleasant Prairie, 3d premium do 3
Jas. Barr, Jefferson, best and greatest var. pears 7
T. Howland, Pleasant Prairie, 2d premium do 5
L. Woodworth, Bristol, 3d premium do 3
H. L. Foster, Madison, best 2 varieties pears ... 5
L. Rawson, Oak Creek, 2d premium do ... 3
M. C. Waite, Baraboo, 3d premium do 2
W. H. Hayes, Palmyra, best and greatest variety plums 3
Henry Floyd, Aurora, best variety peaches, ... 5
V. C. Mason, Aurora, 2d prem. greatest variety peaches 3
J. T. Stevens, Madison, best and greatest variety grapes 3
V. C. Mason, Aurora, 2nd prem. do grapes, 2
Peter Kehl, Roxbury, 3d premium do do Trs
O. P. Dow, Palmyra, best ice cream watermelons 2
Moses Chase, Bristol, 2d premium do Trs.
O. P. Dow, Palmyra, best mountain sprout do 2
do do do black Spanish do 2
do do do Long Island do 2
S. B. Higgins, Palmyra, best show watermelons 3
O. P. Dow, do 2d premium do 2
George F. Brown, Blooming Grove, 3d best show watermelons ..... Trs.
Moses Chase, Bristol, best show citron melons, 2
J. F. Westcott, Farmers Grove, 2d premium citron melons ..... Trs.

FRUITS BY PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, 1st premium best and greatest variety apples, ... 7 00
G. C. Brayton, Antalan, 2d premium do 5 00
George P. Peffer, Pewaukee, 3d prem. do 3 00
B. B. Olds, Clinton, 1st premium best ten variety apples 3
John Wilcox, Omro, 2d premium do 2
B. B. Olds, 1st premium best 5 variety apples, . 2
Plumb, Willey & Co., Madison, 1st premium show autumn apples 7
C. Mason Plumb, Lake Mills, 2d premium show autumn apples 5
Plumb, Wiley & Co., 1st premium show winter apples 7
C. Mason Plumb, Lake Mills, 2d premium show winter apples 5
A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, 1st premium greatest variety pears 7
Geo. P. Peffer, Pewaukee, 2d premium do 5
Geo. J. Kellogg, Janesville, 1st premium best 2 variety pears 5
George P. Peffer, 1st premium, greatest variety plums 3
Geo. P Peffer, 3d premium, best show peaches, 2
Atwood & Cooper, Lake Mills, 1st promium best show grapes 3
Charles Hanford, Bradford, 2d premium show grapes 2
George J. Kellogg, Janesville, 3d prem. do Trs.
John Hall, Madison, 2d premium muskmelons. Trs.
George P. Peffer, 1st premium cultivated cranberries 3
A large collection of apples from Rock county (248 plates, and 225 varieties,) shown by G. J. Kellogg, the committee deem worthy of high commendation, and suggest an honorary premium ..... Dip.

CLASS 32.—WINES.

Peter Kehl, Roxbury, 1st premium grape, ... 5
Charles Hanford, Bradford, 2d do 3
N. B. Van Slyke, Madison, 1st premium currant 3
H. W. Hayes, Palmyra, 2d do 2
J. R. Mudge, Belvidere, Ill (W. F. Parish, agt) rhubarb, the only sample worthy of prem.. Trs.
M. C. Waite, Baraboo, raspberry, ... Trs.
Chas. Hanford, Bradford, strawberry, ... Trs.

CLASS 33—FLOWERS BY NON-PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

Miss C. E. Stevens; Madison, floral design, .. 5
Mrs. W. P. Towers, Madison, display cut flowers, ... 2
do basket flowers 2
do var. asters ... 2
George Capron, Madison, variety gladiolus 2
do do do flox, ... 2
do do do pansies, ... 2
do do 1st premium pyramid boquet, ... 5
Miss Stevens, 2d premium do 3
do 1st premium flat boquet, ... 3
Mrs. W. P. Towers, variety petunias, ... 2
George Capron, 1st premium arranged boquet, 2
Plumb, Willey & Co., 1st premium evergreens 5

CLASS 34—FLOWERS BY PROFESSIONAL CULTIVATORS.

John Budd, Madison, best ornamental design, .. 5
do do best variety green house plants 3
do do best geraniums, ... 2
do do best dahlias, ... 3
do do best fuchias, ... 1
do do best asters, ... 1
do do best cut flowers, ... 3
do do best round boquets, ... 1
A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, best flat boquet, ... 1
John Budd, best pansies, ... 1
do greatest variety flowers, ... Dip. & 5

CLASS 35—DELICACIES.

Mrs. W. P. Towers, Madison, best peach preserves, ... 1
do do do best strawberry do 1
do do do best plum do 1
M. C. Waite, Baraboo, best currant preserves, . 1
Wm. A. Boyd, Black Wolf, best tomato do 1
Mrs D. S. Curtis, Madison, tomato figs, ... dis. ,50
Mrs. Wm. M. Hough, Madison, crab apple preserves, dis. ..... ,50
Mrs. W. P. Towers, best plum jelly, ... 1
do best black currant jelly, ... 1
Wm. A. Boyd, best apple jelly, ... 1
Wm, A. Boyd, best currant jelly, ... 1
S. B. Gunn, Prescott, best crab apple jelly 1
Mrs. E. M. Williamson, best and largest variety pickles, ... 5
Mrs. W. P. Towers, best catsup, ... 1

DIVISION C.—MACHINERY, MANUFACTURES, AND WORKS OF ART.

Machinery Department.

CLASS 36.—MACHINERY FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Price & Co., Janesville, best fanning mill, dip. 3
Nash & Cutts do 2d prem. do do 2
J. M. May, Janesville, best wind mill, ... dip., 15
W. E. Jones, do 2d prem. do 10
D. J. Powers, Madison, best straw-cutter, dip. ,

D. J. Powers, do best feed grinding mill, dip. and..... 10
E. W. Skinner, Madison, best mole drainer, dip. and..... 15
F. Gardiner & Co., Carlyle, Pa., best grain drill, dip. and..... 15
D. J. Powers, Madison, best grain drill, horse rake and corn-planter, combined, ... dip
D. J. Powers, Madison, best feed-cutter, feed-grinder and corn-sheller, combined,..... dip.

Mr. D. J. Powers, of Madison, exhibited a combined machine, which he calls an "Automatic Grain Drill, Horse Rake and Corn Planter," which appears to possess great utility, being complete in each capacity, admitting of a ready change from one form to the other, as needed by the farmer. A marked feature in the grain drill is, that the teeth are raised from the grrend by the power of the team. The expectations of the inventor that this combined machine must come into general use, seem reasonable. Mr. Powers also exhibited a combined feed grinder, feed cutter and corn sheller, that promises to become valuable.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REAPERS AND MOWERS.

Of the numerous articles in this class that were on exhibition, there were two reapers, one mower, and six reapers and mowers combined, three of the reapers being self-rakers. A practical trial of the comparative merits of the several machines was not expected, nor were any premiums offered by the Society on this class of machinery; and your committee can only state, that on a careful examination of the numerous specimens on exhibition, they were very favorably impressed with the substantial appearance and excellence of workmanship displayed, and skill and ingenuity in the improvements in the several machines.

Among these improvements are those that relate to a greater perfection in self-raking; relieving side draft, facility in turning corners, and in changing from reaper to mower, and again to a reaper, as required by the farmer. Your committee will merely call attention to some of the many improvements made in these machines during the last season, as a castor wheel to support one side of the machine to facilitate turning, in the McCormick machine; the facility of raising and lowering the Falvey's Badger State machine, and in readily changing it from a reaper to a mower; the novel and compact mode of folding the Buckeye machine for transit, and mode of arranging the gear wheels; the combination of the well-known excellent qualities of the Seymour & Morgan and Palmer & Williams machines; the new and simple mode of operating a rake in the Esterly machine; and the compact arrangement of the gear in an iron frame, the easy control, by the driver, in raising and lowering the sickle, the facility of its adaptation to uneven surfaces, and the general simplicity of the Kirby machine, as worthy the careful consideration of those who use so indispensible an article as the reaper and mower.

Your committee will only add that they are much gratified with the excellent quality of the machinery that came under their observation for examination.

IRA MILTIMORE, C.W. OLNEY,
GEO. J. SKINNER, J. M. MAY.
S. S. DAGGETT, *Committee.*

CLASS 37.—MACHINERY FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.

Schumacher & Johnson, Milwaukee, best fire proof safe. .....dis. dip.
Schumacher & Johnson, best burglar proof lock 2

Department of Implements.

CLASS 39.—FARM IMPLEMENTS.

O. Coe, Port Washington, 1st premium spiral and rotary harrow..... 3
J. W. Whitney, Waupun, 2d premium do..... 2
J. M. Bennett & Co., Oregon, Randal's harrow and broad cast sower combined,.....dis. 3
N. W. Fraser, La Porte, Indiana, 1st premium Fraser, & McLellanan's corn cultivator.... 3
—— Horlocker, Boscobel, 2d premium Gillard's corn cultivator..... 2
Thos. Falvay, Racine, cultivator for field use, dis. 3
O. W. Clark, Appleton, pair ox bows,.....dis. 1
J. C. Wright, Sycamore, Ill., 1st premium churn 3
Jas. Lord Magnolia, 2d prem. churn..... 2
C. V. N. Kittridge, Madison, superior churn...dis. 3
Rufus Waterman, Madison, 1st premium cheese press..... 3
Hay & Clark, Oshkosh, 1st premium milk pans 2
O. W. Clark, Appleton, 1st premium hand rakes 2
J. B. Page, Gerard, Pa., 1st premium farm and road scraper.....cert. & 3
Billings & Carman, Madison, best sod plow for stiff soils. .....cert. & 3
Milton Webster, Prescott, best steel crossing plow..... ....cert. & 3
Billings & Carman, cast steel crossing plows, and common steel plows.....cert.
Billings & Carmen, best assortment of plows, cert. & 3
F. C. Curtis, Rocky Run, best 12 brooms..... 2

Department of Manufactures.

CLASS 40.—CARRIAGES, STOVES, &c.

Bird Brothers, Madison, 1st premium double carriage..... 10
Bird Brothers, 1st premium single top buggy... 7
do 2d do do do .. 4
J. B. Wiser, Madison, 1st premium single riding buggy..... 5
Bird Brothers, 2d premium single riding buggy 3
J. F. Fandolph, superior trotting buggy....dis. dip.
C. W. Olney, Madison, hammered horse shoes. cert.
Bird Brothers, 1st premium single sleigh..... 3
do 2d do do do 2
G. C. Gunn, Trenton, 1st premium ladies saddle 3
Simeon Mills, Madison, 1st premium cooking stove for wood..... 3
C. V. N. Kittredge, Madison, 2d premium cooking stove for wood..... 2
Simeon Mills, 1st premium "Cottage Oven" parlor stove..... 2
Sineon Mills, 2d premium "Novelty," parlor stove,..... dip.
C. V. N. Kittridge, 1st premium "Coral" Hall stove..... 2
C. V. N. Kittridge, 1st premium hollow ware..dip.
N. B. Van Slyke, Madison, best single harness. 5

CLASS 41.—CABINET WARE, &C.

J. Hunter, Oshkosh. best bureau secretary.... $3
John Limbert, Milwaukee, best display willow ware,..... .....Dip & 5
States Prison, Waupun, 1st premium workstand Dis. Dip.
C S. Redfield, Madison, sample cooperage, Dis. Dip.
John Limbert, sample Wis. grswn willow,..... 2
" " sample willow baskets,..... 2
Thos. Shears Hillsborough best ash baskets.... 2
M. Webster, Prescott, best flour barrel,..... 3
J. Stewart, Verona, best meat casks, ... 2
F. D Fuller, Madison, gents' winter boots,.... 3
" " " gents' fancy boots'.... 3
" " " gents' gaiters,..... 3
" " " ladies' winter boots,.... 3
" " " ladies' fancy shoes,.... 3
Chas. Bigelow, Milwaukee, best calf skin..... 2

CLASS 43.—MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

C Northrup, Menasha, parlor organ,.....Dip. & 5
J. R Eldridge, Rutland, Melodeon,.....Dis. Dip.

CLASS 44.—SILVER WARE, &C.

W. A. Niles, Prairie du Chien, case of American watches and jewelry,..... ..Dip.

CLASS 45.—PAPER, PRINTING, &C.

Atwood, Rublee & Reed, 1st prem. book printing 3
" " " 1st do pamphlet do... 3
" " " 1st do circulars and handbills, ... 3
" " " 1st do card printing... 3
Bliss, Eberhard & Co., 1st prem. book binding, 3
" " " 1st do law book binding, 3
" " " 1st do lib'y book binding, 3
" " " 1st do fancy book binding, 3
Atwood, Rublee & Reed, 1st premium book work, all in all, ... 7

CLASS 46.—TEXTILE FABRICS, &C.

G. H. Stewart, Beaver Dam, 1st premium cassimeres, ... 5
P. M. Perkins, Burlington, 2d premium do..... 3
G. H. Stewart, 1st premium blanketing,..... 5
P. M. Perkins, 1st premium flannel,..... 5
Joel Washburn, Bloomfield. 1st premium mens' and boys' clothing,.....Dip.

Geo. B. McGie, Madison, 1st premium mens' hats and caps,..... 2
" " " 1st do hat case,....Dip.
" " " 1st do furs,..... 2
W. Kruger, Sauk City, 1st premium gents' fur Gloves, ... 2
W. Kruger, 1st do "furs, gloves and robes," Dip.
Joel Washburn, Bloomfield, for "magic robe," Dip.

CLASS 47—DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

Wm. A. Boyd, Black Wolf, 1st premium pair woolen kersey blankets,..... 3
do 10 yds flannel..... 1
Mrs. F. A. Bevans, Platteville, 10 yds flannel,..... 1
A. F. Southard, Bellville, 1s premium 10 yds woolen cloth,..... 4
Mrs. A. L. Mann, Rockside, 1st premium 15 yds wool carpet, ... 3
A. F. Southard Bellville, rag rug,..... 1
A. H. Thompson, Oregon, do 1
J. B. Marr, Bristol, do 1
Mrs. P. B. Stewart, Eagle, 1st premium 15 yds rag carpet,..... 3
Mrs. H. W. Hayes, Palmyra, rag carpet,..... 1
Mrs. Laura Carr, Madison, do 1
Mrs. Samuel Williamson, Blooming Grove, 1st premium woolen stockings, ... 2
do do 1st premium wool socks,.. 1
G. H. Stuart, Beaver Dam, wool yarn,..... 1
Mrs. H. H. Coon, Utica, do 1
Mrs. S. Williamson, do 1
do single thread yarn, ... ,50
I. S. Newton, Middleton, cotton stockings,..... 2
Miss Biddy Nugent, Madison, do 1
Mrs. A. B. Hopkins, Prairie du Sac, patch quilt,.. 1
Mrs. Amelia West, Fort Atkinson, do 1
Mrs. H. H. Coon, Utica, do 1
Mrs. J. D. Hayden, do 1
Mrs. J. L. Baker, Madison, crotchet work,..... ,50
Mrs. H. W. Hayes, for hood and sontag,..... 1
Mrs. D. H. Wright, Madison, best exhibition in cutting and making ladies dresses,..... 3
J. S. Newton, Middleton, 1st premium men's shirts, ... 2
Mrs Burgess, Oshkosh, specimen of darning..... 1
Miss Cora L. Phillips, Lake Mills, patch work by girl 3 years old,..... 1

CLASS 49—ORNAMENTAL NEEDLE WORK.

Mrs. D. S. Curtis, Madison, 1st premium emb'd collar and cuffs,..... 2
do handkerchief,..... 1
do head shawl,..... 1
Mrs. M. A. Irving, Madison, emb'd pocket handk'f 1
do crotchet collar,..... ,50
Matilda Williams, Ridgeway, embroidered sleeves, 1
do emb'd skirt,..... ,50
M. Webster, Prescott, embroidery in silk,..... ,50
Mrs. H. Abbott, Madison, embroidery, (chenile) ,50
Mrs. S. F. Hopkins, Madison, worsted embroidered Affghan, ... 3
do worsted knit shawl,..... 2
Mrs. James Richardson, Madison, Affghan blankets 2
J. B. Marr, Bristol, tidy,..... ,50
do worsted emb'd cushion cover..... ,50
Mrs. A E Camp, Baraboo, worsted embroidery... 1
Mrs. J. A. Ellis, Madison, emb'd infants sack,.... 1
Miss H. A. Benedict, Madison, knit socks & shirts, 1
Miss Amelia Dorn, Madison, wheel tidy,..... ,50
do thread crotchet tidy,..... ,50
Mrs. A. B. Wiser, Madison, emb'd pocket hdkf,.... 1
do emb'd slippers,..... 1
M. Webster, Prescott, worsted work,..... ,50
Mrs Eliza Brown, Palmyra, cone frame,..... 1
Miss Barker, Oshkosh, emb'd skirt,..... 1
Miss A. M. Cox, Madison, worsted skirt,..... 1
I. S. Newton, Middleton, knit tidy,..... ,50
M. Webster, Prescott, round tidy, ... ,50
Miss E. Decker, Madison, crotchet tidy,..... 1
Mrs. W. T. White, Oshkosh, pr worked slippers, . 1
Miss A. M. Cox, Madison, 2 pr worsted slippers,.. ,50
M. Webster, Prescott, knit work by a blind lady, 2
D. H. Clement, Willow Springs, crotchet collar... 1
Miss C. French, Madison, crotchet mantilla,..... 1
Mrs. J. C. Botsford, Racine, patch work table cover 2
Mrs. H. A. Peck, Baraboo, plain worked collar,... 1
do crotchet tidy,..... ,50
Mrs. J. H Carpenter, Madison, embroidered ottoman cover,. ..... ,50
Mrs. H. Abbott, Madison, crotchet lamp mat,..... ,50
A. F. Southard, Bellville, embroidered lamp mat, ,50
Mrs. George N. Brown, Blooming Grove, figured lamp mat,..... ,50
Mrs. L. J. Needham, Madison, knit hood,..... 1
Miss H A. Benedict, Madison, pine cone basket,.. 1
Mrs. Eliza Brown, Palmyra, cone basket..... ,50
Mrs. W. T. White, Oshkosh, sample hair work,.... 2
do sample wool flowers,..... 1
Mrs. A. B. Wiser, Madison, wheat-not, ... 2
Mrs. Eliza Brown, Palmyra, shell table, ... 2
C. H. Allen, Madison, floral fixtures 2
S. R. Gunn, Prescott, artificial flowers..... 50c

JUVENILE—UNDER 14 YEARS.

Miss Belle Harvey, Lake Mills, for worked slippers..... 2
Miss Josephine Peffer, Pewaukee, pr knit mittens 50c
Miss Catharine Peffer, " for knit stockings..... 50c
Miss E. A. Waterman, Madison, knit socks..... 1
Miss C. French, Madison, silk embroidery..... 1

Fine Arts and Miscellaneous Department

CLASS 50—FINE ARTS.

B. F. Hopkins, Madison, best oil painting..... Dip
do 2d premium do..... 3
E. R. Bickley, Madison, oil painting ..... Dip
N. P. Jones, " 1st premium fruit painting ..... Dip
Miss C. French, " 2d do..... 3
N. P. Jones, " 1st premium flower painting..... Dip
S. V. Shipman, " heraldic designs.. Dip
Miss Hattie Hough, " best pencil drawing Dip
Mrs. H. D. B. Cutler, " best india ink drawing ..... Dip
J. S. Fuller, " best daguerreoty's 5
do " 2d premium do.... 3
do " best ambrotypes Dip & 5
do " 2d premium do.... 3
do " ambrotype street views ..... Dip
do " best photograph... Dip
M s. Waldo Skinner, " best grecian painting..... Dip
B. Smith, " best oriental painting ..... Dip
N. P. Jones, " glass sign painting Dip

CLASS 51.—MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Samuel Gumaux, Chicago, cider mill.....Dip.
P. L. Carman, (agent for Braley & Pitts,) Pitts' patent 10 horse power threshing machine, ...Dip.
P. L. Carman, 6 horse do,.....Dip.
Jno. Limbert, Milwaukee, display of willow ware, ...Dip.
M. J. Althouse, Waupun, best farm and cistern pumps,.....Dip.
Herbert Reed, Madison, patent bee hive,.....Dip.
S. L. Hart, Menasha, double gun, rifle and shot, ...Dip.
A. J. Webster, Menasha, wagon spokes, whiffletrees and neck yokes,.....Dip.
John Muir, Midland, 2 clocks 1 thermometer,. Dip. & 5
James Pratt, Milwaukee, lightning conductor, Dip.
L. S. Ashbaugh, Milwaukee, atmospheric coffee pot, ...Dip.
W. D. Bacon, Waukesha, lever and tread powers,.....Dip.
Webster Lockwood, Columbus, case of insects, Dip.
" " rustic picture frame,.....Dip.
E. L. Roberts, Janesville, portable cider mill and press, ...Dip.
Sprague, Worthington & Cooley, Jackson Mich. cast steel hoes, ...Dip.
S. R. Gunn, Prescott, maple sugar,.....Dip.
John Benedict, Kenosha, rail rood and farm gate, ...Dip.
Hiram Griffith, Evansville, Murphy's pat. drill, Dip.
Wm. P. Crary, Delavan, sample spices, ...Dip.
N. Q. Munger, Brookfield Center, choke and bleat relief, ...Dip.
Asa Blood, Janesville, obstetrical chair,.....Dip.
" " " adjustable circular saw,. Dip.
J. B. Seeley, Chicago, Brigg's hard rubber truss,.....Dip.
Winnebago Co. Ag. Society, circular tent....Dip.
Thos. S. Dickinson, Chicago, best show scales, Dip.
J. Burson, Yates City, Ill., grain binder,.....Dip.
J. M. Downey, Delavan, water drawer.....Dip.
J. B. Page, Girard, Pa., earth excavator.....Dip.

H. J. Starin, Whitewater, maple trees,.....Dip.
N. Chittenden, Madison, vulcanite and gum teeth,.....Dip.
G. W. Rollins, Monroe, rifle,.....Dip.
G. W. Hoffman, Monroe, copper stove furniture,.....Dip.
J. H. Waldron, Kenosha, moveable comb bee hive,.....Dip.
Geo. P. Peffer, Pewaukee, hydraulic ram and fixtures,.....Dip.
W. H. Payne, Sheboygan, surveyors' measure,Dip.
A. C. Davis, Madison, Aultman & Co's threshing machine,.....Dip.

DIVISION D.—FARM WORK AND EQUESTRIAN EXERCISES.

Department of Farm Work.

CLASS 52—PLOWING MATCH WITH HORSES.

M. C. Barber, Lima, (M. C. Barber, plowman) Whitewater plow, 1st premium..... 10
C. M. Palmer, Oregon, (C. M. Palmer, plowman) Whitewater plow, 2d premium..... 6
John Hall, Madison, (John Rhodes, plowman) Billings & Carman's plow, 3d premium..... 3

Department of Equestrianism.

CLASS 53—EQUESTRIAN DISPLAY.

Miss Anna Comstock, Janesville, 1st premium 20
Miss Anna Cronk, Janesville, 2d premium..... 15
Miss Ellen Dennison, Madison, 3d do 10
Mrs. G. C. Gunn, Beaver Dam, 4th premium... 5

FRAUDS IN TRADE.

When the people read that the gold watches they buy have very little gold in them, that the jewelry they purchase is one half of it bogus, and their gold and silver ware is not worth a fifth of the value set upon it, they are struck with the enormity of the fraud practised upon them by dishonest dealers; but there are other frauds, which, though less extensive in single instances, are far greater in the aggregate, of which they are the daily victims. Shopkeepers frequently find their goods short in the specifie: number of yards in the piece. It was proven in an English court quite recently that a very distinguished maker of sewing cotton made up short spools for certain markets. In the article of sewing silk and knitting zephyr, we are informed there is the same kind of fraud perpetrated, and, considering the enormous and universal use of sewing silk, this fraud must prove a very profitable one to the dealers.

The standard weight of sewing silk is sixteen ounces to the pound. Custom has reduced this to 12 ounces. The practiee of dishonest dealers is to put up 5 ounces to the half pound instead of 6, and in some cases 4 ounces, and even 3 ounce packages have been offered to retailers in this city to he sold as 6-ounce packages, with the assurance that this was becoming the common practice. In retailing silk, weights are used which contain only 12 drachms, to the ounce instead of 16 and some have as low as 8 drachms, the half and quarter ounces being proportionately reduced.

A fraud of equal magnitude, in view of the present rage of knitting in zephyr wools, is thus effected. Each pound of zephyr is divided into 16 laps which are sold without weighing, as containing each one ounce of wool. Full weight would be 16 drachms to the ounce lap, or if stored in over dry atmosphere, 15¾ drachms, but the fraud consists in putting up only 15, 14, 12, or 10 drachms in each ounce lap, the number of laps in a pound being the correct number—16.

These frauds are difficult to detect, as the dishonest dealer is provided with false weights, which make his goods appear on trial to be correct. The ounue of the apothecary shops contains more grains than the true standard avoirdupoise ounce, so that it cannot be tested there. The proper remedy would he to inquire continually of dealers whether their goods are full weight or short weight, to show that public attention is directed to the matter, and to compare articles bought at different stores, by putting them on the opposite scales of a balance, and noticing where goods are sold by true or best weight.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

HARVESTERS AND MOWERS.

Kirby's American Harvester and Combined Reaper and Mower, is too well-known among agriculturists to need a minute description.—One of the greatest advantages claimed by its proprietors is the degree to which they have obtained an independent action for the finger bar, ensuring freedom of motion, and allowing either end to rise and fall to suit itself to irregularities of ground, without cramping either the machine or the cutters. The cutters may also be set in a moment to any height desired, thus adapting it to all kinds of grain or grass. It is claimed that this independent action fits it for running on any kind of land where a wheelbarrow can run, with a cut superior to any jointed or two-wheel machine which can be made. The form of the platform in the reaper, or combined machine, is also a point on which much stress is placed, it being claimed to be adapted to the delivery of the grain in handsomer condition for binding, and with greater facility. The platform is placed upon the top of the finger bar, and its outer edge turned with a graceful curve, affording an easy sweep for the raker. The raker's seat is directly behind the horses, and over the driving wheel, allowing him, by an easy turn to deliver the grain by a side delivery. He may also dispense with a driver. The mower has attached a patent revolving track cleaner, to separate the cut from the uncut grass, It is said to work with no pressure upon the horses' necks, and to be of as light draft, or lighter, than any other machine in use. This machine is all of iron except the pole, driver's seat, and platform. It was first patented in 1856, and has all the improvements up to the present time. It has taken premiums at several State Fairs, including that of Michigan a year ago, as a combined machine.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

NOTICEABLE ARTICLES AT THE STATE FAIR.

Owing to being somewhat belated in getting some articles of our own ready for exhibition, we did not see as much of the Fair as we had hoped and intended; still we gave most articles a cursory examination, at least; and among so much, found many things interesting, of course —and some worthy of note.

Machinery, that really greatest and most useful feature of a fair, as we have elsewhere said, was very meager in all departments. A number of good reapers and mowers were on exhibition, as well as some poor ones.

S. L. Sheldon showed his well-known New York Reaper and Mower combined, a hand-raking machine that has been extensively sold by him for the last two or three seasons. It may be reckoned among the good machines, beyond a doubt, both on the show grounds and in the fields.

George Esterly, the pioneer Wisconsin Reaper maker, showed his latest improved machines, and, to all appearance, they were all right. After many years experimenting, and an expenditure of perhaps $50,000, he tells us that he has come to the conclusion that *self-rakers* that are right, and of any real economy are not yet invented; nor, in his opinion, likely to be for the present. We are also pretty much of his opinion. Many of them are ingenious enough, and in the hands of good mechanics, go well enough; but, unluckily, nine-tenths of the farmers who buy reapers, are not only not good, but no mechanics at all; and the consequence often is, that they are *bothered* to death to make them work or to keep them mended; and when the hindrance, bother and breakage account is carefully footed, we believe that in the great majority of cases, they will show an absolute loss in cash, compared with hand rakes, saying nothing about the vexation.

McCormick, the greatest reaper man in the country, steadily eschews self-rakers, and sticks to his old hand machine, with few or no changes or improvements; and notwithstanding it is probably one of the coarsest, clumsiest, and heaviest drafted machines that goes into the field, still, by dint of long credit, he contrives to sell great numbers of them; and perhaps they are as good as many rude, *ox-sled* kind of farmers ought to have. They were on exhibition at the fair, and were nearly the "same old sixpence."

The Kirby Reaper and Mower was also on exhibition, and carefully noticed by thousands, and, as nearly as we could judge, greatly admired. It is so compact and neat in all its parts, and drafts so easy; and, withal, has such an indestructible iron frame-work, that we cannot see how it can fail to come rapidly and widely into use. Many who tried them the last season assured us that they worked to perfection, both as a Reaper and as a Mower. If we are not much mistaken they are destined to give most of the others a hard run for Wisconsin patronage. As a winding up comparison, we would say that it seemed to us that McCormick's machine represented the beginning of reapers, and Kirby's mighty near the ending, or perfection of them. *Time will tell!*

P. L. Carman & Co., of this city, showed a splendid Pitt's Thresher, neat enough in all respects for a parlor ornament, and apparently as perfect in its working as in its appearance.

W. D. Bacon, of Waukesha, also showed the Wheeler, Melick & Co. Tread Power, and Improved Separator in all its perfection; and for a snug farmer machine we doubt if they have any equal.

Grain Drills were also shown to a much greater extent than at any of our former fairs, showing conclusively that they are coming to be much more fully appreciated than hitherto, by all of our good farmers. Among them there were numbers of the best now manufactured east or west. Among the rest we exhibited a combined *Drill, Horse-rake* and *Corn-Planter*, that we believe to be a great institution; though not fully finished in all its parts at that time, still it attracted a good deal of attention and, if we mistake not, is bound to more, as soon as it can be got before the public, which will be early the coming winter. Wait and see.

Maj. May, of Janesville, showed, as usual, his very perfect wind mills, and also his lifting and force pumps, for common and deep wells. In these kinds of valuable improvement we think Maj. May has no equal in the whole country; at any rate, we know of nothing that compares with his machines in simplicity of construction, or perfection of working.

Last, but not least, mechanically, was the show of Howe's Platform and Counter Scales. It is an old saying that everybody, at last,

finds their match, and in Howe, Fairbanks has probably found his.

This Howe scale seems to be just exactly the thing in every spot and place; and how it can ever get out of order, or fail in accuracy, we cannot see. We were so well pleased with them that we bought one of the small platform counter scales, that weighs from nothing to 240 lbs., just for home use; and if we mistake not, shall find it one of the handiest and neatest articles in the world to weigh over after grocers and others with whom we are dealing. There is not a good housekeeper in the land that would not save the cost of one ($10) every year. We expect to see them displace the steelyards and spring balances. Let all who can, examine Howe's scales before buying, they will be found to be ahead of even Fairbanks'.

The premium awards take up so much room that we shall have to forego further comment in relation to the Fair until next number.

Markets and Prices.

The vast crop of wheat has not thus far materially slackened prices below a fair paying point. The high rates of freights, growing in some measure out of the long stagnation in business, and consequent decline in the lake marine, has operated to reduce prices somewhat lower than they would otherwise have been; still the big crop seems bound to go off at good prices, even if peace continues in Europe, which, to say the least, seems quite improbable.

The short crops in England, and on some portions of the continent, place them in a poor situation for a general war, and provided it should break out, would undoubtedly materially enhance the prices of all staple western produce.

Pork appears to be ruling high, notwithstanding the almost overwhelming corn crop of the west, probably mainly for want of hogs to eat it.

Beef in fair demand, but not high.

Stock Sheep are bringing good prices; also for slaughter. Wool, as will be seen by a paragraph in this number, has even advanced from the good prices at the close of the shearing season. We fear it is getting too high for permanency. It will pay all sheep farmers for wintering their sheep well; the better the keep the better the fleece; in the roll of time shearing will soon be around again, to fill the pockets of those who have good flocks. Let all farmers who have not already, be fitting up their farms for sheep keeping in connection with other farming.

To conclude on the subject of markets and prices, we can truly say that the farmer's prospects are as bright all things considered, as often happens; all who turn this sudden prosperity to the right account, can secure a permanent independence for themselves and families.

Election.

That great event in the American theory of government comes off soon after the issue of this number, for the election of a Chief Magistrate of this great nation, and for members of the legislature and county officers in our own State; all highly important matters to be sure, and if we dabbled as much in politics and petty sectionalism as many of our brethren of the agricultural press of the South, we should soon be in plenty of trouble with many of our readers, to say the least; but such is not our province or intention; and we only refer to the matter in a general way, simply for the purpose of enjoining upon all good citizens to go to election and VOTE. *Threshing or no threshing; potatoes to dig or no potatoes!* Go to the election and be a man fit for the country you live in. The man who stays away from election through two-penny disgust, or through indifference to so great a matter, ought to be reduced to Russian serfdom, and would be if every one else was like him. A man who takes no interest in elections that determine his rulers, his taxes, the policy of his government and its stability, and for his posterity after him, is either an old granny or a fool, and either is bad enough, at least. Go to all important elections and be an American citizen in fact, as well as in name; it is your birthright, and should not be fooled away for a mess of pottage.

And when you get to the polls, and greedy office seekers thrust their little paper ballots (that rule this great nation) at you, consider well the matter, of whom you vote for; believe no flying stories trumped up as great discoveries on the eve of election; depend upon it they are always bogus, and told by knaves to cheat and mislead you. Vote invariably for good men, if, by chance, any such happens to be running; but if not, (which is most likely,) then vote for the best, comparatively, as a choice of evils; and, as a rule, it is always

safe to vote against men who are very anxious for office, they usually want it for the stealings.

Men who are really honest, disinterested, and fit, seldom or never seek office; the active and grasping sharks at the preliminary caucuses, and at the polls, are seeking for their prey; feed them as do the sailors at sea, with red hot shot, and they will soon disappear.

Elect legislators that have brains, and independence of character sufficient their being led into all sorts of follies by a few scheming, talking lawyers, or puffing or blackmailing editors. By so doing you will shorten the session, and the expenses generally.

Such are a few rough ideas that occur to us; we charge nothing for them, although if they were generally heeded they would be worth millions.

The North Western Agricultural Works,

Is the title of a new manufacturing establishment just starting at Madison, Wisconsin. It is embodying capital and means sufficient, and purposes doing a large business from the outset.

Its operations will be confined entirely to the manufacture of Agricultural Machinery of those kinds most needed by the Farmers of Wisconsin.

Feed Cutters and Feed Grinders will occupy the works during the early winter. Grain Drills, Planters, and Seed Sowers will be manufactured from mid-winter until spring; and Threshing Machines and Horse Powers, during the spring and summer. Such is the programme laid down for the current year, and to be pursued without material variation.

In all the foregoing, the best styles and kinds of machines have invariably been adopted; and they will be manufactured with all the care and system of the best eastern establishments.

Each machine of a kind is to be made exactly alike, with tools made expressly for the purpose; thus becoming, as it were, stereotyped, so that extra pieces can at all times be furnished, that are certain to fit without fail or trouble, and at small cost to the farmer. This is the modern plan of making all good machinery, and will be thoroughly adopted in the outset by this company, and strictly adhered to at all times.

THE CLIMAX FEED CUTTERS

Will be manufactured as the leading first class machine in that line, and for *doing business* they have no equal. A cheap machine will also be made for such as prefer them, style not yet decided.

THE VICTORY (CINCINNATI) MILL,

Will be the feed mill, for speed and power, the present winter. They are the leading article in that line, and have taken all the premiums wherever exhibited, since their invention (see premium awards at the late Wisconsin State Fair). They are very simple in construction, and powerful in action. The improvement over the old Victory will consist in the renewable grinding surfaces; in the new they can be changed when dull, for only *one dollar's expense*, being actually cheaper than burr stones could be pecked and sharpened. They can be made to grind from ten to twenty bushels per hour, with perfect ease. These Mills will be made in combination with the Horse-Power Climax Feed Cutter, or separate, as desired. When in connection with the Feed Cutter they will only cost $25 extra, and when separate only $45, instead of $65 to $70, the Cincinnati price of the old mill, without the changable grinding surfaces.

An extra set of grinding surfaces will be furnished gratis, with all of our mills. They are confidently expected to come rapidly into use, especially the combined machines.

A CORN SHELLER

Of the very best kind will also be made, both separate and in connection with the Climax Cutter. It is all iron, and will be found one of the most perfect machines for that purpose in existence. When made separate, price $15, in combination $7.

THE NEW AUTOMATON GRAIN DRILL,

Will be mostly manufactured, and will be found to be an immense improvement on all others in use, from the fact of its lifting its teeth or plows with horse power, instead of man power, as hitherto. This mode of action not only saves vastly in time, but also in strength; a boy who can drive a team straight can readily and easily handle this machine; whereas, all know it to be a man's work to lift the teeth of the old style by hand *all day*.

This Drill will also have the newest patent spring tooth, which renders it impossible to catch upon any obstruction; also the latest patent feeder, enabling it to do its work exact all times, and with all kinds of grain.

A COMPLETE WHEEL HORSE RAKE

Can also be made from this Drill in ten minutes time; as simple and perfect in all its

parts, as if originally made for that purpose. The largest sized machines carry a twelve-foot rake, jointed in the center, and can rake from twenty to forty acres per day.

A COMPLETE DOUBLE CHECK ROW CORN PLANTER

Can also be made of it by another simple transformation, perfect in all its parts, and capable of planting from fifteen to twenty acres per day, in the best manner. For more full particulars in relation to prices, terms, &c., see advertisement upon the last page of cover; also subsequent numbers of the *Farmer*.

County Society Reports.

The Secretaries of those County Societies that held a Fair for 1860, should send to the Secretary of State for blanks by which they can make their report, in order to draw their annual appropriation of $100.

The Fair and the Farmer.

The first form of this number of the *Farmer* having been printed during our temporary absence on official business, the remarkable article therein published regarding the late State Fair did not fall under our notice until the last pages of the last form were so nearly closed up that we had no space in which to make necessary corrections.

The duty of reviewing a colleague and predecessor in office will certainly not be altogether pleasant; but no considerations of this sort shall deter us from exacting at least moderate justice and consistency from those who so complacently set themselves up for models of both. It is our purpose, therefore, to discuss plainly, and at some length, the whole subject of the Fair, and of the State Agricultural Society, in the December number of the *Farmer*. HOYT.

The gentleman's absence or presence would have made but little difference in the views and opinions, or modes of expressing them, on our part. We have done our own thinking and writing usually, and probably shall for some time to come, so far as the *Farmer* is concerned.

What corrections the gentleman proposes to make—whether of the truth of our statements or the soundness of our opinions—we certainly can hardly conjecture; or what review of a predecessor in office, is either called for or proposed, we are equally at a loss to know. We have made no reference to the gentleman, personally, nor any one else; and certainly hope we shall have no occasion to, in a *reviewing* way, either on his account, or on our own.—We esteem the Dr. a very clever fellow, and hope he has too good sense to unnecessarily kick against the pricks.

We certainly hope he will discuss the whole subject in the December number, so that he is not too lengthy; but as a true friend we would suggest to him that he is undertaking a pretty big job, when he proposes to make his Society and Fair adequate and satisfactory to the State at large, however sound and satisfactory it may seem to him. But keep good natured Doctor, and we shall see what we shall see. POWERS.

Choice Grape Vines!

HAVING taken the agency of Dr. C. W. Grant of Iona, N. Y., for the sale of his Grape Vines, I am prepared to offer to planters in Wisconsin, vines of best quality, and of varieties that will stand our climate, and produce *fruit* as well as wood. The four varieties named below are all *hardy* and *early*, and will please all who plant them.

The Delaware needs but to be tasted to be sought for by all lovers of good grapes. I also have vines of all the new varieties, but do not like to recommend them for our climate until they are more thoroughly tested.

The fine quality of plants sent out by Dr. Grant, have gained him a wide and enviable reputation, and all may send their orders with full confidence that they will receive plants of excellent quality and true to name.—Plants ready for delivery the last of October.

DELAWARE.

Strong layers for immediate bearing.....each $3 00
Strong plants grown from single eyes, $18 00 per dozen.....each 2 00
Second size plants grown from single eyes, per dozen $10.....each 1 00

DIANA.

Strong layers for immediate bearing.....each 1 00
Strong plants grown from single eyes.....each 75

CONCORD.

Strong layers for immediate bearing, per dozen $9 00.....each 1 00
Strong plants from single eyes, per doz. $4 50 each 50

HARTFORD PROLIFIC.

Good one year old plants.....each 75

Good plants of all other varieties at usual prices. Delaware and Concord, for vineyard planting, by the hundred at lowest rates. *Please send for Circular.*

JAMES S. STICKNEY.
Wauwatosa, Milwaukee Co., Wis. 13

J. F. RANDOLPH,

CARRIAGE

MANUFACT'RER.

Wilson Street, between Pinckney street and Wisconsin Avenue, (at the old stand of J. M. Griffin.)
Madison, Nov. 1, 1860. xii 13

Waukegan Nursery.

300,000 Apple Trees, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 years from Graft, fine and thrifty, and remarkably free from insects. Most of the older trees well set with Fruit Buds, will be sold at very low rates in large quantities.

Also, Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Evergreens, Grape Vines, Wilson's Albany and other Strawberries, Dorchester and Lawton Blackberries, Raspberries and all other small Fruits in large or small quantities.

A fine lot of 2 years old Apple Seedlings, for sale cheap. ROBERT DOUGLAS.
Waukegan, Ill. 13 1t

A NOVELTY IN THE ART WORLD.

Photography on Porcelain!

Secured by letters patent in the United States, England France and Belgium.

American Photographic Porcelain Co.,

No. 781 Broadway, New York,

having secured their novel and ingenious invention by American and European patents are fully prepared to execute all orders for

Miniature Likenesses of Persons on China,

presenting all the attractive and advantageous features of ordinary photographs, the brilliancy and finish of a water-color drawing, and a hitherto unattained quality of durability, by being rendered as imperishable as the natural properties of the articles upon which they are transferred.

As the patented process of the Company enables the reproduction of Photographs, not only on plain surfaces but upon such as are round or of any degree of irregularity—portraits can be reproduced with faultless accuracy, and delicacy of delineation, upon porcelain wares of any description and dimension used as articles of luxury or of household utility, such as

Urns, Vases, Breakfast Cups, Toilet Articles,

thereby securing faithful portraits and furnishing unique and exquisite styles of ornamentation of articles in domestic use.

In order to furnish facilities for the gratification of the popular taste, and to meet the wants of those patrons of the Fine Arts desirous of having portraits on porcelain, the company have imported from Europe a collection of superior porcelain goods, manufactured to their own order, which they sell at cost prices.

As the American Company are owners of the patent right, and consequently the only persons authorized to use the process, they have determined, in order

To afford People in every section of the Union

an opportunity to possess

Portraits on China,

to make the following proposition to

Residents in the Country who are unable to visit personally the Atelier and Galeries in New York.

Persons sending a photograph, ambrotype, or daguerreotype to the office of the company in New York, accompanied by

Five Dollars,

will receive in return, by express, free of other charge,

A richly ornamented Breakfast Cup and Saucer, with the portrait transferred thereon.

By transmitting a daguerreotype and

Ten Dollars,

they will secure in like manner

A handsome French Vase or Toilet Article,

with the portrait reproduced by the patented process.—By sending a pair of daguerreotypes and

Fifteen Dollars,

they will receive in return

A pair of rich Sevres Vases,

with the portraits executed equal to miniature painting; and, in like manner, portraits can be reproduced on porcelain wares or Vases of every quality of finish, ranging in price from

Twenty to one hundred dollars the pair,

N. B.—Be particular in writing the address, town, county and State distinctly.

Letters to be addressed to

Manager American Photographic Porcelain Co.,
781 Broadway,
New York.

xii 13 8

The Grove Nursery.

—DR. JOHN A. KENNICOTT'S—

NEARLY all the fruits suited to the North—especially *"small fruits,"* Pie Plant, &c., and the greatest variety of hardy flowering plants, and ornamental trees and shrubbery—particularly Roses—in the whole west. Catalogues free—address

JOHN A. KENNICOTT.
West Northfield P. O., Cook co., Ill. xii 13 tf

Southdown Bucks.

ONE *TWO YEAR OLD BUCK*, was bred from imported stock, was awarded first premium at county and State Fairs, 1859; also a few thoroughbred Buck Lambs.

A. G. HANFORD.
Woodside Nurseries, Waukesha. xii 13

Brown's Catalogue

OF *ALL THE PATENTS EVER ISSUED IN THIS* country up to the date of publication; together with the title, or subject of each patent, and the number granted under each title, will be found to be of interest and value to every inventor, and to others. Price 25 cts. a copy—five copies for one dollar. Address,

J. S BROWN,
xii 13 tf Washington, D.C.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

THE advertiser having been restored to health in a few weeks by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease, Consumption—is anxious to make known to his fellow-sufferers the means of cure

To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used (free of charge), with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find a *sure cure* for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, &c. The only object of the advertiser in sending the prescription is to benefit the afflicted and spread information which he conceives to be invaluable, and he hopes every sufferer will try his remedy, as it will cost them nothing and may prove a blessing.

Parties wishing the prescription will please address

REV. EDWARD A. WILSON,
Williamsburgh,
xii 13 1y Kings County, New York.

Howe's Improved Standard SCALES.

THESE SCALES are offered to the public as the

BEST SCALES IN USE!

They have always taken first class Premiums wherever exhibited.

They require no pit; and have no check rods; will weigh when out of level; receive all friction and wear on balls, instead of knife edges, as in other scales. No jarring of platform affects the working of the scales.

Call and examine our *Improved Union Grocer's* and *Family Scales*, weighing accurately from one half an ounce to 240 lbs.; also a *New Post Office Balance*. Constantly on hand a large assortment of *Platform Scales*, from 400 to 3,500 lbs. capacity, all resting and working on balls. Apply to

THOMAS S. DICKINSON,
Tin and Metal Warehouse, 45 Wabash Avenue, Chicago
Burch's Iron Building. [xii 12 tf

I will make to order PATTERNS and MODELS for every variety of Machinery and Architecture. I will also furnish IRON and BRASS CASTINGS in large or small quantitities.

Light Machinery, New Inventions, and all Designs in Wood and Iron, will receive particular attention.

11 11] A. STONER.

THRESHING MACHINES.

JOHN A. PITTS' IMPROVED PREMIUM SEPARATOR
—AND—
DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWER.

MANUFACTURED AT BUFFALO, N. Y., BY JOHN A. PITTS, THE ORIGINAL INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

THESE MACHINES STAND UNRIVALED FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN, AND ARE acknowledged to be SUPERIOR to any other Thresher in the World, in its *operation, finish and mechanical construction.*

The Shoe is hung so as to shake alike at both ends. Other *improvements in the Machines* for 1860, make it far superior to any heretofore made.

THRESHERS of different Sizes are Manufactured, from Two to Ten Horse Power; also,

PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES, from Three to Twenty Horse Power.

These Machines are sold here at from $25 to $75 less than other Treshing Machines. Call and examine our machines before purchasing elsewhere. ☞ Terms made easy. ☜

P. L. CARMAN & CO., Agents for John A. Pitts.

Office and Warehouse near M. & M. R. R. Depot, Madison, Wis. xii-9

LEWIS BLAKE,

JOBBER AND RETAILER OF

MILLINERY & FANCY GOODS,

EMBROIDERIES, LACES,

ALEXANDERS' KID GLOVES,

Dress Trimmings, Straw & Silk Hats,

&c., &c., &c.

NO. 23, WISCONSIN STREET,

MILWAUKEE, - - - - - WISCONSIN.

Childs' Engraving Rooms,

117½ Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

DIES FOR MEDALS; POLICE, MILITARY, and Firemen's Badges; Metallic Letters; Notarial and other Seals and Presses; Stencil Marking Plates; Binders Stamps; Door Plates; Baggage Checks; Views of Buildings and Machinery; Wedding and Calling Cards; Drawings for the Patent Office. Address,

xii-8-12 CHILDS' & CO., P. O. Box 83.

UNDERGROUND
OR
MOLE DRAINER.

For Reclaiming Swamp, Low, or Clay Lands.

For Underdraining Orchards, or Producing Stock Water.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS PREPARED TO DISPOSE of Territory in Farm or Town rights, and to furnish machines or fill orders for jobs of ditching on short notice. For information, address

E. W. SKINNER,
Ag't of the Wis. Land Draining Company.
12 MADISON, WIS.

GEO. V. OTT'S
LEATHER & HARNESS STORE

Wholesale and Retail

Upper, Sole, Harness, and Belting Leather,

FRENCH CALF AND KIP SKINS,

Shoe Findings, Tools and Lasts, Plastering Hair.

☞ Harness made to order, and Repairing done, &c.

GEORGE V. OTT.

In Basement of Bruen's Block, under Dane co. Bank, Madison, Wis. 12-7-12

THE SPRING TERM OF THE

EVANSVILLE ACADEMY,

Will commence on **Wednesday, March 21st, 1860,** at 9 o'clock, A. M.

IN ADDITION TO WHAT IS REQUIRED TO PREpare young men for College, provision has been made to furnish instruction in the FRENCH and GERMAN LANGUAGES, PRACTICAL SURGEYING and CIVIL ENGINEERING.

☞ Special attention will be given to Students in the NORMAL DEPARTMENT.

BOARD, including rooms, fuel and lights, can be procured in good families at $1 75 per week. A large number of students boarded in clubs during the last term at an average expense of less than $1 00 per week.

TUITION ranges from $4 00 to $7 00 per term of eleven weeks.

For further information inquire of

D. Y. KILGORE, *Principal.*

Evansville, Rock Co., Wis., Feb. 28, 1860.

☞ N. B.—School District Officers are informed that a few of the members of our Normal Class, who design to teach the coming summer, have not yet engaged schools, and any communication giving full particulars of wants, compensation, etc., directed to the principal, will receive prompt attention. [12 6 4] D. Y. K.

PATENT
SUGAR CANE MILLS.
FOR THE CROP of 1860.

ARE NOW BEING MANUFACTURED AT THE Mendota Foundry; of several sizes, of *entirely new patterns.* They will be warranted superior to any other pattern in the country, not only for convenience of use, but for *STRENGTH*, and also for cheapness.

Every point that the experience of the past has demonsonstrated as too weak, has been strengthened, until the fullest confidence is now entertained that they will prove

Just precisely what is wanted!

Our upright three-roller mills will cost from $50 to $75, depending upon size and weight.

Our Horizontal double-geared Mills from $60 to $100.

The Patent Lever Safe-Guards are used to compress the Rollers upon all the larger, and upon the smaller Mills, when desired.

This apparatus renders it impossible to break a Mill without the grossest carelessness, a highly important consideration to all buyers, of course.

Those wanting mills will do better to buy of us than from the East, as new pieces can be so much more easily obtained when needed.

☞ Address all communications on the subject to Mendota Foundry, Madison, care of

12-10] D. J. POWERS.

JOHN NAZRO & Co.,

Nos. 121, 123, and 125 East-Water street, Milwaukee,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE

AND

House Trimmings.

—:o:—

Cultivator Teeth,
Straw Cutters,
And all kinds of
Farming Tools!

—:o:—

All kinds of
TIN PLATE
SHEET IRON,
COPPER, &c., &c.

—:o:—

PLATED FORKS,
Cutlery, Spoons,

R. HOE & CO.'s
Saws!
Wire and Rope

—:o:—

Axes, Hoes, Shovels,
Guns and Pistols.
Also all kinds of
Iron and Steel!

—:o:—

Blacksmith's, Cooper's, Carpenter's and Cabinet Maker's
TOOLS,
Of all kinds

—:o:—

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS,
Belting & Bells.

THE

Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Office S. E. Corner Main & Wisconsin Streets,

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Agents in all the principal towns in Wis. and Minn.

DR. FRANKLIN SAID: "IT IS A FACT THAT A Policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest method of making provisions for one's family," and since his day, EXPERIENCE has more fully proved the truth of this assertion. And were it more generaly practiced poverty and wretchedness would in a great measure be done away, and widows and orphans not be left destitute as well as desolate. This Company offers the advantages of Life Insurance on favorable terms. It is a HOME COMPANY. Its officers and managers are widely and we believe favorably known throughout the West, and they feel that they have *trust funds of a peculiarly scared character* in their keeping. Its entire profits are to be divided among the insured, and owing to the lower rate of mortality and the higher rate of interest in our State, these profits must be greater than those of Eastern Companies.

Do not wait for an Agent to call upon you, but go at once and attend to this matter of vital importance to yourself and family.

TRUSTEES:

S. S. Daggett,	Dr. E. B. Wolcott,	H. L. Palmer,
Lester Sexton,	Sam'l Marshall,	M. Steever,
Geo. B. Miner,	A. H. Scoville,	H. L. Dousman,
J. A. Barber,	Ezra Miller,	J. A. Dutcher,
C. P. Illsley,	A. C. Wilmans,	D. B. Whitacre,
J. C. Johnson,	James Neil,	Andrew Proudfit,
J. B. Martin,	A. Eldred,	J. Bonnell,
D. Newhall,	H. A. Nichols,	M. S. Scott,
D. Nash,	S. C. Hall,	J. Hackett,
J. H. Rountree,	B. F. Pixley,	A. Graham,
O. Alexander,	M. C. Darling,	Carl Shurz,
L. G. Fisher,	J. H. Earnest,	S. C. Spaulding.

S. S. DAGGETT, *President.*

A. W. KELLOGG, *Sec'y.* E. B. WOLCOTT, *Vice Pres't.*
C. D. NASH, *Treas'r.* S. G. BENEDICT, *Agent,*
12 1 24] Madison, Wis.

HOWE'S IMPROVED

Hay or Cattle Scales.

THE BEST IN USE.

FIRST PREMIUM OVER FAIRBANKS AT Vermont State Fair, 1857, and 1858.
First Premium and no competition in 1859.
First Premium at 13 different State Fairs.
Silver and Bronze Medals at the American Institute Fair, New York, 1859.
Howe's Scales for all use, hbve great simplicity, wonderful accuracy.
REQUIRE NO PITT; may be set on top of the ground or on a barn floor, and easily removed.
No Check Rod; no friction on Knife edges; all friction received on ball. Weigh truly if not level.
Delivered at any Railroad station in the Union or in Canada, set up and warranted to give entire satisfaction or taken back.
Send for Circulars and Price Lists, with account of trial of scales between Howe and Fairbanks, at Vermont State Fairs, to JAMES G. DUDLEY,
General Western Agent, 93 Main street,
12 3] Buffalo, N. Y.

CAST STEEL BELLS,

For Churches, Academies, Fire Alarms, Factories, &c.

FROM SHEFFIELD, ENG.,

HAVE BEEN TESTED IN ALL CLIMATES, EUROPE and America. Weigh less; cost less per pound; have better tones; can be heard further than any other bells. They cost fifty per cent less than
THE BEST COMPOSITION BELLS.
Which are also sold by me at maker's prices.
BROKEN BELLS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE,
Or re-cast on short notice. Such bells will nearly pay for Steel Bells of the same size.
Send for Circular. Bells delivered in all parts of the United States or Canada, by
JAMES G. DUDLEY,
12 3] 93 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

J. A. Carpenter & Co.,

FINE STOCK BREEDERS.

HAVE for Sale Devon Cattle, South Down Sheep, Essex and Suffolk Hogs, Dorkin Fowls, &c., &c. South Pass, Union Co., Ill. [11 1.

EVERY FAMILY WANTS
A Sewing Machine!
DOUBLE THREADED.
SEND ON YOUR ORDERS!
Prices: No. 1, $25; No. 2, $30; No. 3, $35. Manufacturing Machines, $35 to $40.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, at prices within the reach of every family, and adapted to all kinds of coarse and fine work. Agencies wanted in all counties thro'out the Northwestern States, by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Which have the highest testimonials and certificates in their favor from families and the public press. They will run backward or forward, making a smooth and elastic stitch on all kinds of fabric, by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Our Machines run with a rubber friction wheel, doing away with the stretching and annoyance of a belt or band—a desideratum which has long been sought for. Our Machines have a straight needle and a guard to prevent breaking, thus requiring not more than one needle in six months common use. Made by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — So simple in their construction that a child of twelve years can work them with ease. We warrant the seam secure tho' every third stitch be cut; they make 96 stitches per inch, stronger and handsomer than any sewing done by hand. Sold by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — That will Hem, Stitch, Fell, Gather, Embroider, and make two different stitches on the the same machine; embodying all the improvements of the age at prices varying from $25 to $40 each, made and sold by

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — Our Machines are used throughout the country, giving satisfaction to all who use them, and are, undoubtedly, the most economical, best made, and cheapest in use. A person thoroughly acquainted with the construction and operation of all kinds of Sewing Machines will always be in attendance, and ready to serve all who wish information in regard to our machines, at

Chicago Sewing Machine Co.

FAMILY SEWING MACHINES — We will furnish circulars with full and explicit directions for using, also, explaining their mechanical construction, and giving the most satisfactory evidence of their superiority in many respects over all other Family Machines.

PATENT UNIVERSAL HEMMER. — We have the "Universal Hemmers," adapted to all kinds of machines. Price $5. They will be sent by mail to any one on the receipt of the above amount.

NOTICE TO AGENTS. — **We offer a liberal discount** to parties wishing an **Agency or Right of Sale** of our Machines. With a small investment of capital a profitable business can be readily established. All sales to Agents, with discount, must be invariably for CASH.

N. B.—Our Machines all stand on a table, and are worked by a treadle.

☞ On remittance of $25 we will send to any family a machine per return of express.

Address,

C. A. COOK,
Agent Sewing Machine Co.
OFFICE—124 LAKE STREET, (up stairs,) CHICAGO.

DRAINING TILE.

MILWAUKEE TILE WORKS

Manufactory, 4th Avenue, near Lapham Street, 8th Ward.

THESE WORKS have recently been erected, with new and improved machinery, and are capable of turning off 75,000 Tile per month. The clay used gives a tile of unsuspassed hardness, strength and durability. Affording the cheapest and most perfect draining material in the world.

Arrangements will be made with the different roads, to transfer them at the lowest price at which any freight is moved. Farmers who cultivate clay lands, or who have wet or retentive soils, either uplands or valleys, can make no more profitable investment than Tile Draining. The effects are immediate and telling at once, in early maturity and enhanced production Frequently sufficient to repay the outlay the first season.

To cultivate Fruit successfully in this State, underdraining is an absolute necessity

L. W. WEEKS, Proprietor.
GEO. STRONG, Superintendent.

PRICES:

1½ inch Round Tile, $8 per 1000.
2 inch Sole Tile, $10 do
3 inch do do 18 do
2½ inch Horse Shoe Tile, $10 per 1000
3½ inch do do do 15 do
4½ inch do do do 18 do

They will be delivered free of drayage to cars or boats.
Milwaukee, August, 11 tf

JOHN P. ROE,

IMPORTER AND BREEDER IN PURE BRED Durham Cattle and Southdown Sheep, offers for sale, at prices to suit the times, a few superior young Bulls and Rams of the above breeds, from animals of my own importations. P. O. address, Union Church, Racine Co. Muskego, Waukesha Co., Wis. [12 9 3

For Sale.

FOUR SUGAR MILLS at $35 each, to close out a lot.
A. MENGES,
Madison, June 22. [12 9 2] No. 2 U. S. Block.

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE DIRECTORS OF THE DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmer's) INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *large, prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra hazardous risks. Its character as a well-conducted, reliable and prompt paying institution has become well established *shall be maintained*.

It is emphatically a *Farmer's* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY, Director. GEO. B. BLY, President,
LOGAN GRAVES, do E. BARKER, Vice Pres't
MATTHEW L. COE, do EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.
JAS. T. HILLYER, do JOHN WARE, Treasurer.
L. B. HILLS, Acting Director, E. BARKER, Gen'l Ag't.
12 3 12*]

Chicago and Northwestern Railway.

COMPLETED THROUGH TO OSHKOSH, Wisconsin, for Oshkosh, Green Bay, Fond du Lac, Horicon, Ripon, Berlin, Sparta, La Crosse, St. Paul, Prairie du Chien, Watertown, Madison, Janesville, Beloit, Freeport, Galena, Dunleith, Dubuque, &c., &c., &c.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, APRIL 9TH.

TRAINS LEAVE GOING NORTH.			
Chicago,	9.45 a. m.	4.00 p. m.	9.30 p. m.
Janesville,	6.45 a. m.	1.50 p. m.	.....
Arrive at Osheosh	7.00 a. m.	7.00 p. m.	.....
TRAINS LEAVE GOING SOUTH.			
Oshkosh,	9.30 a. m.	6.00 p. m.	.....
Janesville,	12.30 a. m.	7.15 a. m.	2.45 p. m.

Arrive at Chicago, making close connections with Trains for the East. xii-8. GEO. L. DUNLAP, Supt.

$50,000.

FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH

—OF—

FALL AND WINTER

STAPLE and FANCY

DRY GOODS

AT THE NEW STORE OF

Menges & Bartels,

No. 2 United States Block,

Madison, Wis.

Our Mr. B. has just returned from New York and Boston, where he has purchased the most extensive stock of

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS!

EVER SEEN IN THIS CITY.

All our Domestic Dry Goods were purchased for cash, direct from the Manufacturers, and our

DRESS GOODS

direct from the importers, which enables us to sell them

Fifteen Per Cent Lower

than any establishment this side of Chicago.

Our Wholesale Department

comprises the very best brands of Domestics, such as

Sheetings,
Shirtings,
Checks,
Tickings,
Flannels,
Canton Flannels,
Pantaloon Stuffs, &c., &c.

TOGETHER WITH

Thirty thousand Yards of the best styles of

PRINTS

Ever offered for sale in this or any other city.

COUNTRY MERCHANTS

would do well by giving us a call before going to Milwaukee or Chicago to purchase goods, as we are determined to sell them at rates equal to those of the above named places. Call and examine.

MENGES & BARTELS.

No. 2, United States Block.

Madison, September, 1860. [xii 12.tf

Spalding's Prepared Glue!

"A Stitch in Time saves Nine."

ECONOMY!

Dispatch!

Save the Pieces!

AS ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN IN WELL REGULATED families, it is very desirable to have some cheap and convenient way for repairing Furniture, Crockery, etc.,

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE

meets all such emergencies, and no household can afford to be without it. It is always ready and up to the sticking point. There is no longer a necessity for limping chairs, splintered veneers, headless dolls, and broken cradles. It is just the article for cone, shell, and other ornamental work, so popular with ladies of refinement and taste.

This admirable preparation is used cold, being chemically held in solution, and possessing all the valuable qualities of the best cabinet maker's glue. It may be used in the place of ordinary mucilage, being vastly more adhesive.

"Useful in Every House."

N. B. A Brush accompanies each bottle.

Price 25 Cents.

Wholesale Depot, No. 48 Cedar st., New York.

Address HENRY C. SPALDING & CO.,
Box 3,600 *New York.*

Put up for dealers in cases containing four, eight and twelve dozen, a beautiful lithograph show card accompanying each package.

☞ *A single bottle of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE will save ten times its cost annually to every household.* ☜

Sold by all the prominent Stationers, Druggists, Hardware and Furniture Dealers, Grocers and Fancy Stores.

Country Merchants should make a note of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE, when making up their list. It will stand any climate. [xii 12 5

University Commercial School.

BRUEN'S BLOCK, MADISON, WIS.

IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE BOARD OF REgents in the establishment of this Department, to afford the student an ample opportunity to qualify himself for prosecuting the Mercantile Profession in any Department, and to any extent.

THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

Is as extensive and thorough as that of the best Commercial Colleges in the country. Special attention will be given to

Single and Double Entry Book Keeping,

embracing every department of business accounts, to commercial calculations, practical penmanship, &c.

There will be two courses of lectures during the season before the school: one on *Political Economy*, by John Y. Smith, Esq., and one on *Commercial Law*, by several members of the Madison Bar.

The school will be open for Ladies, for whom a separate room is provided.

In addition to the daily sessions, the school will be open four evenings in each week from October to April.

Students are instructed individually and can enter at any time. The usual time required by an industrious student to complete a course, is from eight to twelve

TERMS:

Ful lcourse, time unlimited, in advance for gent's. $25
do do do do do ladies, 18
enmanship alone, per month 4

For further particulars, address

D. H. TULLIS, Instructor.

adison, Wis., Sept. 1860. xii 12.

FARMERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

REPORT OF THE

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

Made to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, as required by the provisions of Chapter 103 of the General Laws of 1850.

Total amount of accumulations,..... $39,080 95

ASSETS.

Premium Notes of policy holders,...	$35,462 46	
Cash on hand and due from agents,..	2,986 02	
Amount due, secured by mortgage and in judgment,.....	332 47	
Office furniture and fixtures,.....	300 00	
		$39,080 95

Whole number of Policies issued,.....	4,807
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$2,009,950 49
Amount of losses adjusted and unpaid,....	None.
Amount of losses unadjusted and unpaid,.	None.
Number of policies issued in 1859,.....	1,187
Amount of outstanding risks thereon,.....	$1,140,076 00
Amount of premium notes receiv'd thereon	17,109 82
Amount of cash premiums receiv'd thereon	11,059 04
Amount of losses paid, (12 in number,)....	2,409 45
Amount of commissions paid Agents,.....	3,317 70
Amount of expenses paid, including all compensation of officers, printing, advertising, rent, postage, furniture, and all other incidental expenses,.....	3,317 51

STATE OF WISCONSIN, } ss.
DANE COUNTY, }

We, the undersigned, being the President and a majority of the Directors of the *Madison Mutual Insurance Company*, do solemnly swear, and each for himself saith, that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company, in the particulars therein named, as appears by the books of said Company, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

N. W. DEAN, President,
D. J. POWERS, Vice President.
DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary.
GEO. F. HASTINGS, Director.
B. F. HOPKINS, do
WM. DUDLEY, do
JAMES MORRISON, do

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1860.

T. D. PLUMB,
Notary Public, Dane Co., Wis.

LOSSES PAID IN 1859.

February 28—Loss of S. H. Coleman, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	$10 00
February 28—Loss of J. W. Seaman, Richland City, Richland County,.....	10 00
April 22—Loss of Fannie Plummer, Mauston, Juneau County,.....	15 00
August 27—Loss of George F. Taylor, Madison, Dane County,.....	15 50
August 27—Loss of Nelson Sickles, Waterloo, Jefferson County.....	690 38
Oct. 31—Loss of A. L. Beebee, Dunn, Dane Co.	650 00
Nov. 25—Loss of J. B. Barber, Juneau, Dodge County.....	68 00
Nov. 25—Loss of Jas. K. Main, Juneau, Dodge County,.....	403 57
Nov. 25—Loss of Thos. Mayhew, Merton, Waukesha County,.....	27 00
December 21—Loss of W. N. Seymour, Madison Dane County,.....	20 00
December 23—Loss of Wm. Edwards, Sugar Creek, Walworth County,.....	400 00
December 23—Loss of Leonard Hatch, Kenosha, Kenosha County,.....	160 00
	$2,409 45

As will be seen by the above Report, the Company has done a very successful business during the past year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times. The condition of the Company was never more prosperous. After paying every loss, and every item of indebtedness, there is still a surplus of $2,986 02 in hand and due from Agents; and this has all been accomplished from the receipts of the business without a resort to any assessment upon the premium notes held by the Company. Such a result, in a year of extreme financial embarrassment, must be gratifying to every member of the Company. The Company has been in operation nine years, and made but two small assessments. Let farmers, desiring insurance in a cheap and safe company, examine the figures in this Report.

The Officers of the MADISON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the year 1860, are as follows:

DIRECTORS:

N. W. Dean,	D. J. Powers,
B. F. Hopkins,	Geo. F. Hastings,
James Morrison,	William Dudley,
C. C. Washburn,	G. F. Taylor,
J. W. Boyd,	H. H. Giles,
S. H. Vandercook,	David Atwood.

L. W. Hoyt.

OFFICERS:

N. W. DEAN,.....President,
D. J. POWERS,.....Vice President,
DAVID ATWOOD,.....Sec'y and Treas.
GEO. F. HASTINGS,.....General Agent.

☞ Reasons why Homestead Property should be insured in this Company:

1. It is a Wisconsin Institution, located at the Capital of the State, thus affording every facility for members to institute inquiry into its business operations, and for the settlement of losses through their representatives in the Legislature and the State officers.

2. It is a Mutual Company, thus affording cheaper rates and greater security than can be obtained in Stock Companies.

3. Its capital stock consists of the premium notes of the parties insured, and cannot be squandered by corrupt officers, or become the basis of speculation to the managers; but can only be called in to pay losses and other absolutely necessary expenses; while stock companies receive the full amount of premium in advance, and often invest it in stocks which are liable to become worthless, causing general embarrassment to the companies, and rendering unsafe the insured.

4. It confines its operations to the State of Wisconsin; and to the insurance of Farm Property, and strictly isolated buildings, with their contents, in villages and cities.

5. It is an old company—its affairs have always been economically managed, and its losses paid without litigation, and without unnecessary delay.

6. It is under the control of the insured parties, each one having a vote in the choice of its officers, at the commencement of every year, either in person or by proxy.

7. It pays no stated salaries to its officers; but pays for all services according to the amount of labor performed.

8. It will refund to any person insuring for a longer time than one year, all moneys received from them, less the regular rates for the time they are insured, and $1 50 paid Agents for survey and policy, and the policy will be cancelled.

9. It will pay all damage caused by the effect of lightning to property insured, whether the building is burned or otherwise damaged, not exceeding the amount insured.

10. It will not insure over hazardous property, believing, as it does, that the homes of our families should not be liable to be taxed to pay losses incurred on property in the hands of reckless speculators, not only subject to fire and lightning, but to wind and water, as well as the torch of the incendiary, so often applied in cities and commercial towns.

DAVID ATWOOD, Secretary,
G. F. HASTINGS, General Agent.

Madison, January 7, 1860. [12 2

☞ OFFICE IN PORTER'S BLOCK, MADISON. ☜

VINE HILL NURSERIES.

'76 PLACE, MADISON, WIS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE LIST.

1860–61.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES!

Evergreens, Vines, Shrubs and Plants,

Cultivated and for Sale by

PLUMB, WILLEY & CO.,

Nursery on High Ridge Prairie, four miles N. E. of the City, near the line of the Watertown & Madison Rail Road.

ADVERTISEMENT.

In offering this our second annual Trade List and Catalogue to the public in the above new name and connection, we come before you with increased facilities and strength for the labors and responsibilities of our business. Having now associated with us as an active partner, O. S. Willey, formerly of the "Rock County Nurseries," Janesville, Wis., we have thereby largely increased, not only our stock of fruits, but chiefly in the ornamental and evergreen department, and we are prepared to furnish almost every thing desired in that way, though not all enumerated within.

We have some most encouraging letters from those who bought largely of our young stock last spring, and feel confident that when the public become acquainted with our "hardy list," and fine rooted trees, the demand will exceed our ability to supply.

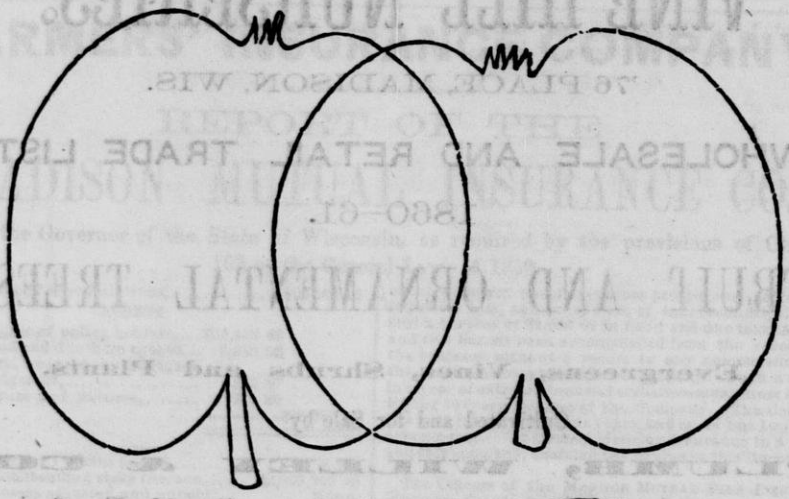
J. C. PLUMB & CO.

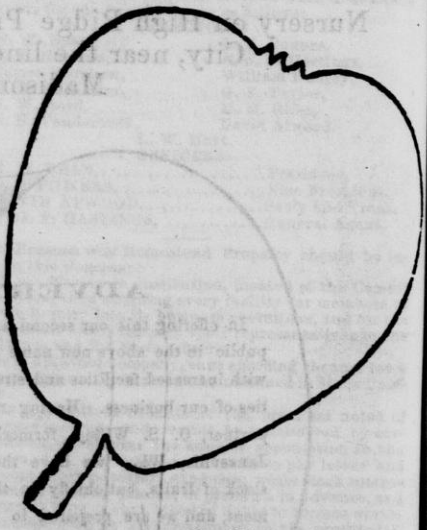
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

1. The prices specified in the catalogue, are where the quantity named of each article is taken, but when a general assortment in large quantities is purchased, terms can be agreed upon by correspondence.
2. We will, when short of any particular sorts, substitute good varieties in place of those ordered, unless otherwise directed.
3. All plants will be boxed or bundled (for which a small charge sufficient to cover cost of material, will be added,) and delivered to the depot or elsewhere in the city free of charge.

PLUMB, WILLEY & CO.,
Vine Hill Nursery, Madison, Wis.

T. D. PLUMB, Agent,
Wisconsin Farmer Office.





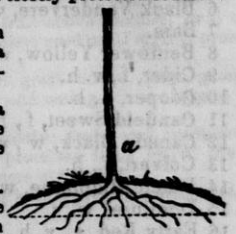
Perseverance in the Right Direction will bring Success.

Sincerely desiring your success, we offer the following

ADVICE TO TREE PLANTERS.

1st. For the orchard site, select if possible, some *elevated* and naturally *well drained* location. A good firm soil with substratum of gravel or limestone is desirable. Whatever the aspect, do not have it hemmed in with timber trees so as to prevent the free circulation of air at all times; avoid a closely protected southern exposure.

2d. Prepare the ground by deep plowing and subsoiling to the depth of sixteen inches or more, especially if the subsoil is a stiff clay. If the land is level raise a ridge by successive plowings of narrow lands, on which set the trees, so that no surface water may remain near the tree.



3d. Lay off and stake the margin of the orchard plat correctly before setting a tree, then with the plow run a deep furrow on the line of the rows, or on the ridge one way, then stake the other way at exactly right angles, being careful to preserve the margin stakes until the trees are all set.

4th. Purchase only such trees as you are confident will do well in your location. Trust not to seedlings, as three-fourths of them will prove tender—ninety-nine one hundredths will prove comparatively worthless in fruit, and not one farmer in ten does or will properly top-graft them after coming into bearing. This work should all be done in the nursery. Select for general orcharding only a few well-tried sorts. For the amateur there is a large list of those which from their peculiar qualities, may well repay the trouble of planting. Select *low-branched, stocky trees*, two to four years from the graft: the younger the tree, the better the investment usually; look out for young and healthy roots and plenty of them. Small fibers, called annual roots, or feeders, cannot always be preserved, but they are easily replaced if the main roots are vigorous, hence the necessity of *shortening in the top* when set out, that the tree sap may not be exhausted before these feeders have got to work again, but *never trim up a tree the first year*, except suckers, which should be rubbed off as they appear.

5th. When you take your trees from the nursery or package, never expose them unnecessarily to the sun and wind; heel them in immediately, and take up only and as many and as fast as wanted to plant. Never dig a hole deeper than the plow runs, unless you dig to a porous subsoil. Make the ground one vast hole with the subsoiler either before or after planting.

BEWARE OF DEEP PLANTING AND CRAMPED ROOTS, but hill up the first year with mulch or manure sufficient to preserve a continual moisture, after that, good cultivation with winter mulching will do. Put no raw manure under or near the roots, but good surface soil all around them, a little good compost is excellent if the soil is lean—also manure on the surface.

Use no stakes, but cut back until the tree will stand alone. Watering is of little use, unless in large quantities.

6th. Plant your orchard the first year with root crops, never sow grain in it unless the trees are heavily and broadly mulched—better to cultivate them annually and carefully, early in the season, giving them a moderate top dressing of manure if the soil is lean.

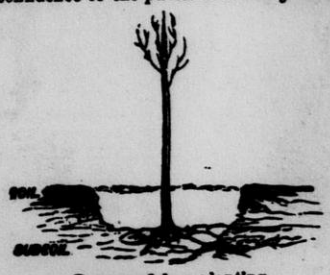
Never turn your trees out to grass if you would be a successful fruit grower.

NOTE.—From the millions of seedling fruits brought to the notice of fruit growers, a few sorts have been selected which combine the four essentials—viz: *Hardiness, Vigor, Productiveness and Quality*. Favored with uncommon facilities for observing these conditions, we have made it our great study in the last five years, to collect such varieties as do fully combine these qualities, to learn the adaptation of different varieties to soils; to learn the cause of the evils incident to fruit trees, and thereby be able to point out a remedy. In a word, to know a successful system of fruit growing adapted to the great North-West.

We have located permanently on a high tract of land, hitherto supposed to be unadapted, viz: a high prairie bluff. Not that we covet high winds, but we desire a *free circulation of air* at all times, (especially during the sunny days of winter) exemption from frost, and perfect drainage, which all we get here, and less of those extreme gales which sweep through the valleys.

We expect to demonstrate successful fruit growing. We also expect to show that with our select list of hardy, good sorts, brought up under a proper system of pruning, and sent out with an extra supply of roots, we shall enable others to be as successful as ourselves. Our young trees, sent out last spring, were a decided success, and we hope to merit the confidence of the public as *Nurserymen*.

P., W. & Co.



Beware of deep planting.

General List of Apples with Brief Description.

1 Autumn Strawberry, f., h.
2 Augustine Sweet, s., m. h.
3 Benoni, f.. h.
4 Baily Sweet, f., h.
5 Black Detroit, w., t.
6 Black Vandervere, w., v. h.
7 Bars.
8 Belflower Yellow, w., v. h.
9 Cider, f., v. h.
10 Cooper, f., h.
11 Canfield Sweet, f, h.
12 Canada Black, w , v. h.
13 Colvert, f., h.
14 Dutch Mignonne, w., t.
15 Dominie, w., t.
16 Early Red, s., v. h.
17 Early Pennoc, s., v. h.
18 Early Joe, s., h.
19 Early Harvest, s., t.
20 Fallawater, w., h.
21 Fameuse, f , h.
22 Fulton Strawberry, f., m. h.
23 Flower of Genesee, f., m. h.
24 Fall Stripe, s., v. h.
25 Fall Pippin, f., t.
26 German Bough, s., m. h.
27 Gloria Mundi, w., t.
28 Green Sweet, w., t.
29 Hurlburt, w., v. h.
30 Harper's Sweet.
31 Herefordshire Pearmain, w., t.
32 Jersey Sweet, f., t.
33 Jonathan, w., v. h.
34 King, w., m. h.
35 Keswick Codlin, s., v. h.
36 Limber Twig, w., h.
37 Lady, w., h.
38 Lady Washington.
39 Mother, f., m. h.
40 Northern Spy, w., h.
41 Pound Sweet, w., h.
42 Peck's Pleasant, w., t.
43 Pumpkin Sweet, f., m. h.
44 Pomme Gris, w., v. h.
45 Rawle's Janet, w. h.
46 Red Romanite, w., v. h.
47 Red June, s., m. h.
48 Russet, Golden, w., v. h.
49 Russet, Perry, w., v. h.
50 Russet, Roxbury, w., t.
51 Rome Beauty, w., h.
52 Red Astrican, s., v. h.
53 Roseau, f., v. h.
54 Saxton, w., v. h.
55 Spitzenburgh, Esopus, w., t.
56 Spitzenburgh, Flushing, w., h.
57 Spitzenburgh, Red, w., v. h.
58 Summer Queen, s., m. h.
59 Sweet Monarch, f., m. h.
60 Sops of Wine, f., h.
61 St. Lawrence, f., h.
62 Smoke House, w., h.
63 Sweet Pear, f., v. h.
64 Seeknofurther, Westfield, w , v. n.
65 Summer Rose, s., h.
66 Sweet Wine, w., v. h.
67 Summer Golden Sweet, s., h.
68 Talman Sweet, w., v. h.
69 Twenty Ounce, f., h.
70 Tewksbury Winter Blush, w., h.
71 Utters, f , m. h.
72 Vandervere, w., h.
73 Vance Harvest, f., h.
74 White Winter Pearmain, w., m. h.
75 White Apple, w., m. h.
76 Williams, s., t.
77 Willow Twig, w., v. h.
78 White Bellflower, w., h.
79 Wine Sap, Winter, w., h.
80 Wine Sap, Fall, f., v. h.
81 Wine, f., m. h.
82 Wine Winter, w., h.
83 Yellow Injestrie, f. t.

List of vigorous sorts for sandy soils, includes Nos. 9, 12, 13, 15, 21, 24, 40, 48, 49, 52, 53, 54, 66, 72, 79, 80.

FRUITS FOR ORNAMENT OR PRESERVING.

TREES 2 TO 4 YEARS OLD. PRICE 25 CENTS EACH.

1 Black Crab.
2 Cherry "
3 Golden Beauty.
4 Hislop Crab.
5 Large Yellow Crab.
6 Large Red Crab.

Extra List—New Varieties, with Description.

TREES 2 to 4 YEARS OLD—PRICE 25 CTS.—THE ASSORTMENT, $2,00.

1 *Baker*—of great notoriety; not well tested.

2 *Cole's Quince*—large, flattish conical, fine yellow, flesh firm, juicy, tender, mild acid, rich, quince flavor and aromæ, good grower and bearer, promises well; July to September.

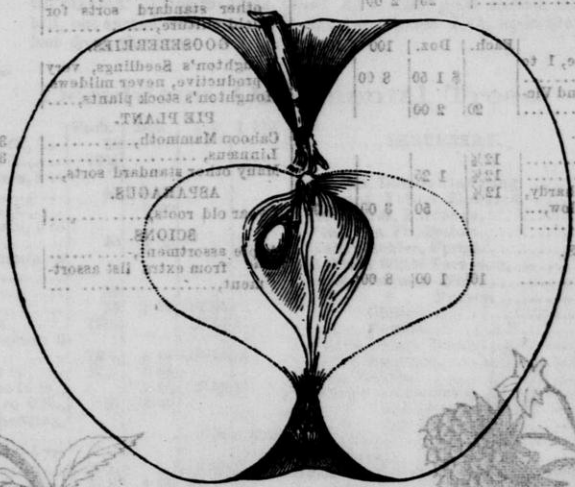
3 *Chronicle*—hardy, very vigorous, fruitful: fruit above medium, greenish, fine red stripes, pleasant flavor; keeps till midsummer good.

4 *Canada Black*—remarkably vigorous and hardy, good bearer with age—fruit above medium, oval conical, green, overspread with bright red, flesh firm, greenish yellow, rich and juicy, good until spring, promises exceedingly well in the rich soils of the West.

5 *Cranberry*—tree very vigorous, hardy, spreading, shoots stout and short, great bearer, large, greenish, with beautiful red blush, and striped, flesh white, tender, acid, good cooking and eating—from July to September—very showy fruit.

6 *Cider*—resembles the St. Lawrence tree, very hardy, vigorous and productive, fruit oval, medium size, striped, white fleshed, excellent cooking and eating—from Sept. to Jan.—it promises to be one of the few, completely successful, in the rich soils of the West. May be identical with some old sort.

7 *Fort Miami*—vigorous, hardy fruit: tree medium, conical, excellent, long keeping; good eating, not well ested.



8 *Jersey Black*—tree very vigorous and hardy, good bearer, fruit medium to small; beautiful red, in texture and quality resembles Seeknofurther, fine dessert apple until January.

9 *Jefferson*—tree vigorous, and fruitful, fruit medium, conical, rusty yellow, with fine blush; flesh firm, rich aromatic, sub-acid, excellent cooking and eating through the winter; new, but promises well.

10 *Utters*—tree somewhat tender in the nursery, but hardy in the orchard, vigorous, clean grower, forming a beautiful medium sized tree, productive; fruit large, round, smooth, beautiful whitish yellow, with delicate blush or stripe; flesh white, tender, sub-acid, good cooking and dessert fruit; August to October.

PRICE LIST.

	Each.	100	1000
APPLES 3 to 5 years old, 5 to 7 ft.,		$12 00	$100 00
" 1 to 2 years old, 2 to 4 ft.,		10 00	80 00
" Extra sized trees, 20 cts@	$ 30		
" Dwarf trees,	30		
PEARS, few hardy, well-tried sorts,	50	40 00	
PLUMS—Several hardy varieties,	50	doz.	
CHERRIES—Good, hardy Morrello,	25	$ 2 00	
" " " extra size,	50		
" Dwarf, several choice varieties,	50		
GRAPE VINES—Hardy, approved sorts.			
Delaware,	2 00		
Logan,	2 00		
Concord,	1 00		
Diana,	1 00		
Hartford Prolific,	1 00		
Rebecca,	1 00		
Elsingburg, 50@	1 00		
Muscadine, 50@	1 00		
Isabella, Clinton, Catawba and Vermont,	25	2 00	

CURRANTS.

	Each.	Doz.	100	1000
Dutch, Red and White, 1 to 4 years old,		$ 1 50	8 00	
White Grape, Cherry and Victoria,	20	2 00		

RASPBERRIES.

Allen,	12½			
Cream, Prolific,	12½	1 25		
Antwerp, Cincinnati, hardy,	12½			
" Red and Yellow,		50	3 00	25 00
Purple Cane, new,				

BLACKBERRIES.

Lawton,	10	1 00	8 00	

STRAWBERRIES.

	Each.	Doz.	100	1000
Wilson's Albany,		25	1 00	
Hooker,		25	1 00	
Early Scarlet, Willey, and other standard sorts for field culture,		12½	50	3 00

GOOSEBERRIES.

Houghton's Seedlings, very productive, never mildews,		2 00	12 00	
Houghton's stock plants,				

PIE PLANT.

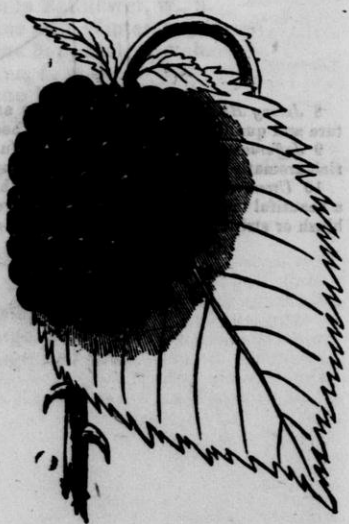
Cahoon Mammoth,	30	3 00		
Linnæus,	30	3 00		
Many other standard sorts,		2 00	12 00	

ASPARAGUS.

1 year old roots,			50	5 00

SCIONS.

Apple assortment,			50	2 50
" from extra list assortment,		25	1 00	



Ornamental Deciduous Trees, Shrubs and Evergreens.

Nowhere in the world can the "useful and the beautiful" be so well united as in the ornamental department of tree planting, upon the broad prairies of the Northwest. Planted in straight lines or beds, as screens and wind breakers; dotted about in groups upon the landscape, with suitable admixtures of varieties, not striving at studied delineations to produce effect, but planted naturally or as it happens; there is nothing that will have a more enlivening effect to one's senses of the beautiful; or help to break the severity of the cold, than Deciduous and Evergreen trees. The faster growing ones especially, will form excellent screens for farm-yards, and early vegetable and fruit gardens, and when an inside belt of low growing evergreens is added, most beneficial results will be found. The shrubbery is also an item not to be forgotten; it forms a connecting link between the flower bed and tree plantations. Evergreens are receiving special attention, and no pains will be spared to keep up with the wants of the times. From early spring till the 20th of May, is the proper time for planting, according to the distance to be transported. Our stock at present is among the largest in the State, and being all nursery grown, (mostly from the seed) and transplanted every two years, they are well furnished with a mass of fibrous roots, renders their removal perfectly safe, unless the roots are exposed to severe scorching sun or blighting winds, which should be in all cases protected with moss and matting till planted. Plant in large, broad hills, with good surface loam, *no manure* in the hill, but spread well-rotted chip dirt, two inches deep, upon the surface, two to three feet from the base.

Deciduous Ornamental Trees.

	Each.	Doz.	100	1 000
Abeles, Silvery, 5 to 6 ft.,	25			
" " 3 to 4 ft.,	12½			
Ash, European Mountain, 5 to 7 ft.,	50	$ 4 00		
" " 4 to 6 ft.,		3 00		
" American Mountain, 3 to 7 ft.,	50	4 50		
Ash, American Mountain, 4 to 6 ft.,	50			
Catalpa, 4 to 6 ft.,				
Cottonwood, 5 to 7 ft.,	25	2 00	12 00	
" 3 to 5 ft.,	12½		10 00	
Elm, American Weeping, 2 to 3 ft.,	12½	1 50	10 00	
Horse Chesnut, 3 to 4 ft.,	12½	1 00		
Larch, American, 13 to 15 in.,		1 00	6 00	
Linden, American, 4 to 6 ft.,	50	4 50		
Locust, Honey, for hedging, 1 to 2 years old,			3 00	8 00
Locust, Timber, yellow, 3 yrs old, 3 to 5 ft.,	12½		3 00	
Maple, Silver, 6 to 8 ft.,	37½	4 00	15 00	
" " 4 to 6 ft.,	35	2 50	12 50	
" " 2 to 3 ft.,		1 50	10 00	
" " 1 to 2 feet, 1 year old.,			8 00	50 00
Maple, Sugar, 1 to 1½ ft.,			10 00	
Poplar, Lombardy, 8 to 10 ft.,	20	2 00	12 00	
" " 6 to 8 ft.,	15	1 50	10 00	
" " 4 to 6 ft.,	19	1 00	6 00	
" " 1 to 2 ft.,			2 00	15 00
Willow, Golden,	12½			

SHRUBBERY.

	Each.	Doz.	100
Almond, Double Flowering,	25	$ 2 00	
Currant, Yellow Flowered,	15	2 50	
Euonymus, European,	12½		
Forsythia Viridissima,	50		
Honeysuckles, Upright,			
Red and White Tartarian,	25	2 50	
Lilac, Common White	25	2 50	
" " Purple,	15	1 50	
" Chinese	50		
" Persian	25	2 00	
Purple Fringe Tree,	37½	3 00	
Pyrus, Japonica,	50		
Rose Acacia,	25	2 00	
Syringa Columbiana,	25	2 00	
" Speciosa,	25	2 00	
" Spyral,	25	1 50	
Snowberry,	12½	1 50	$10 00
Snowball,	25	2 00	12 00
Spirea, Prunifolia, double, white, early,	25	2 50	
Spirea, Ulmiflora,	25	2 50	
" Grandiflora,	25	2 50	
" Sorbifiora,	25	2 50	
Tamarix, African,	20	2 00	
Wiegelia Rosea,	25		

Evergreens.

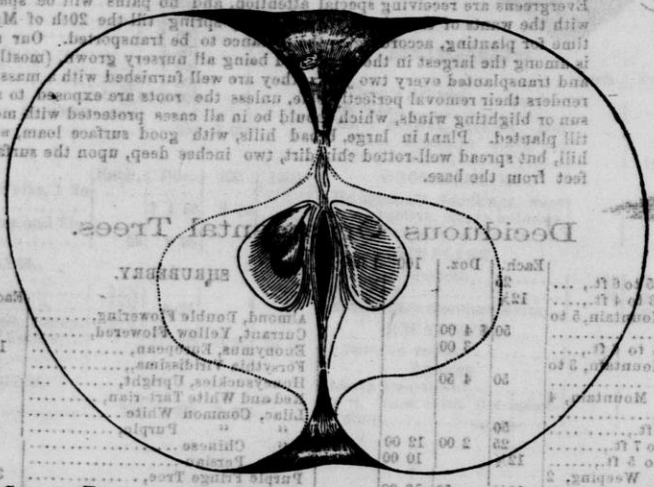
	Each.	100	1000
Arbor Vitæ, 50,000, American, 5 to 12 inches, twice transplanted,		$ 5 00	
" " " 12 to 18 "	25	20 00	$ 75 00
Fir, American Balsam, 24 to 30 inches,	73		
" " " 1 to 2 feet,	50		
" " " 8 to 12 inches, twice transplanted,	25		
" " " 6 to 10 " "		15 00	20 00
Red Cedar, 1½ to 2 feet, well rooted,	50		
" " 8 to 12 inches,	25	20 00	
Spruce, Norway, very stocky, four times transplanted, 24 to 30 inches,	75		
" " 8 to 12 inches, three times transplanted,	25	20 00	
" " 50,000 in seed bed, one year old,		1 00	5 00
" American, 2 feet,	50		
" " 12 to 18 inches,	25	25 00	
Pine, White, 4 feet, well formed pyramids,	2 00		
" " 2 "	1 00	75 00	
" " 1 to 2 feet,	50	40 00	
" " 8 to 12 inches,	50	20 00	

A separate catalogue of roses, green house, and bedding plants will be issued in season for the spring trade of 1861.

Select Descriptive List.

Which will Warrant Setting Largely in all Ordinary Locations.

1. FALL STRIPE—vigorous, beautiful grower, extremely hardy, great and early bearer, fruit medium size, uniformly fair, tender, aromatic, sub-acid flavor, which takes everywhere; season, Aug. and Sept.; for family and market; unequalled in all qualities of tree and fruit by any of its season.
2. COLVERT—hardy, vigorous, and upright, forming a beautiful orchard tree, fruit medium, greenish yellow, sub-acid; November.
3. ST. LAWRENCE—hardy, spreading, open top, medium to large, aromatic sub-acid, moderately rich, pleasant; September to October.
4. FAMEUSE, OR SNOW—hardy, vigorous, spreading, early and constant bearer, medium size, tender, delicious aromatic, sub-acid; November to February.
5. SWEET WINE—vigorous, hardy, productive, medium size, one of the best winter baking and stock apples; November to March.



6. WESTFIELD SEEK NO-FURTHER—hardy, vigorous, productive, medium, tender, aromatic, peculiar, a general favorite. Elliot says, "For all qualities of trees and fruit, has no superior. November to March.
7. YELLOW BELLFLOWER—hardy, irregular spreading, medium to large, fine brisk tart, juicy, cooking and desert. Dec. to April.
8. PERRY RUSSET—vigorous, hardy, productive, large, spicy, excellent. Best of all the Russets, and invaluable to the western nurseryman and fruit grower. December to May.
9. GOLDEN RUSSET—hardy, productive, medium, mild, sub-acid. December to May.
10. NORTHERN SPY—hardy, vigorous, not productive when young, medium to large, juicy, texture and flavor almost unequalled. January to June.

See general, extra and price list.

WISCONSIN FARMER.

VOL. XII. MADISON, DECEMBER 1, 1860. NO. 14

D. J. POWERS,] . . . . Editors. . . . . [J. W. HOYT,

TEN MILLIONS A YEAR WASTED BY THE FARMERS OF WISCONSIN MERELY IN BAD FEEDING.

Who believes it? says a sage looking old fogy, as he reads the heading. No wonder he doubts, and likely he will not be alone. Still, we repeat, and believe we can make out our case, that *that* large sum, and probably much more, is actually wasted *annually* by our 100,000 farmers; and much of it in ways that are hardly realized by those who do it.

For the benefit of such of our class as can find time to read anything but the polilical twaddle of the day; let us examine the matter, and to start systematically and business like, let us begin with the year, and track through such malpractices of omission and commission as daily and constantly occur all around us, even in the best of families.

Scene 1st. New Year's day—a bright, cold morning; snow drifting over the prairies, and sparkling in the sunshine; thermometer from six to ten degrees below zero. *John Smith*, is what is called a good farmer, plows (at) one hundred and sixty acres of good land, and does everything about his premises in good average style, as compared with those around him.—The smoke of his morning fire is just ascending from his chimney, and his early work is being done. Let us give him a short call and look over his premises, both to see how he does, and how he don't, do things.

Ed.—Good morning friend Smith, how are you?

S.—Very well, I thank you; hope you are well, Mr. Editor. Suppose you have come to get me to subscribe for your paper again?

Ed.—No, not particularly; like to have subscribers to the *Farmer*, but have neither time or inclination to canvass for them ourself.—Never ask any body to subscribe, but like to have them do so, when they do it because they want the *Farmer*, but never desire any one to, simply to patronize or please us. In the end, such patrons amount to but little, either in money or influence.

S.—Well, that's all right certain, *'square*; we always liked the *Farmer purty* well; most too many long articles and gimcrack notions for common folks; means well, no doubt, but suppose we were to follow all your advice, Mr. Editor, where would we come out? To tell you honestly, Mr. Editor, I had concluded not to take the *Farmer* the coming year; a dollar is a good deal of money in these hard times; don't see how it would save us that much.—We believe we understand farming about as well as its editor; and are doing the thing up as well, or better, than most of our neighbors. Sit down and breakfast with us, and then look over my premises, and if you can give me a good puff, don't know but I will take the *Farmer* another year, provided I can get in a club for six shillings.

What sort of a breakfast Mrs. John Smith had, will be best shown by repeating a portion of the conversation at the table.

Mrs. S.—Not expecting company this morning, we have not got such a breakfast as we could wish. Would have killed chickens if we had known you were coming.

Ed.—All right Mrs. S., we are only common folks when at home. What kind of potatoes have you found it most profitable to raise, Mr. Smith?

S.—Well, I don't know what kind; rather mixed, I think; pinkeyes, meshannocks, Jersey blues, &c.

Ed.—Have you ever tried the peachblow, or Carter's, or Mexican's, separate, and genuine for table use?

S.—No, don't know as I know what they are; have not heard of them; are they better than these? referring to a dish of mixed col-

ors, and smothered, watery vegetables that had a remote resemblance both in taste and appearance to a potatoe.

Ed.—But we have frequently published articles in the *Farmer* relative to these improved varieties, setting forth their merits beyond all question.

S.—Very likely, but I never read such articles; they are generally a humbug, or some Rohan sell; I keep clear of them.

Mrs. S.—My husband don't believe in half the new things that are going; he usually sticks to the old way as the best after all. My father was that kind of a man, and he got rich, while some of his experimenting neighbors got poor; therefore, I have always advised Smith to this course, and have aimed to practice it myself.

Ed.—But, my good woman, did your mother make warm biscuits for breakfast, (referring to certain articles upon the table, composed of saleratus, flour, &c,) and what kind of coffee did she use?

Mrs. S.—My mother never made biscuit except when she had company. Rye-and Indian bread was the staff of life, on my father's table, and the browned crusts of it made the coffee of those days.

Ed.—By far simpler and better fare, and withal a great economy to boot. The breakfast over, we took a turn over Smith's premises.

First in order are the farm yards and outbuildings. Smith keeps forty head of cattle. John, the hired man, is just feeding them; let us see how it is done. A yoke of the oxen and a few of the old cows, and those that gave milk, were tied in rather an open, poor stable; the balance, to the number of twenty head, of the older, were in one open yard, and the younger in an adjoining stack pen, each with imperfect open straw sheds for shelter. Those out of doors were being breakfasted on uncut cornstalks, scattered over the yard; the larger of course hooking the smaller from side to side as cattle are very apt to on a raw, cold morning.

What say you to that yard of cattle, Mr. Editor? says Smith; do they not look thrifty and hearty?

Certainly, said we, but bless us, they are wasting all of your fodder, in thus tramping into the snow and mud.

S.—No matter; I have got plenty; hence it is no loss.

Ed.—Then why do you not keep more stock, if you have fodder to waste? the same fodder if cut up and economically fed in warm sheltered stables, would keep twice the amount of stock, and do it better. Suppose you have plenty of summer pasture?

S.—Surely, I could keep a hundred head in summer; and keeping stock pays too, I assure you, from five to ten dollars over all cost of keep.

Ed.—Then, sir, if you was keeping eighty instead of forty head of cattle, and economizing your feed to keep them, you would be clearing from three to four hundred dollars per annum out of it, instead of from two to three hundred; besides, you would be making about twice the amount of manure that you now are; which would be worth about half as much more to your crops.

S.—Well, I don't know but it is so; but my father always fed as I do, and he got along well. Feed cutters and grinders were unknown in his day, and I have my doubts of there being any yet that are good for anything.

Ed.—But there are plenty of good machines which, hitched to that horse power, (pointing to a tread power standing in the yard) would cut you feed enough in two hours to last your entire stock a week; those coarse cornstalks, instead of filling up your yard knee deep with material that will not rot for three to five years and through which you can scarce get a shovel or fork, would be reduced wholly to fine and palatable food; and thus at once be wrought into fine manure by that simple economy alone; friend Smith, you would find your cattle, sheep and horses save from two to three hundred dollars a year at least, besides being constantly and greatly improving the fertility of your farm from year to year. Instead of forty bushels of corn to the acre, as now you produce, your thoroughly manured fields would with no additional labor, be producing from sixty to eighty; and your stock in tead of coming through thin and lean, as they now will, would grow in their warm stables constantly and without check, and be fat enough for beef at all times. Thus, friend Smith, you would probably in one way and another, save fully $600 per annum by fully stocking your farm and adopting the most approved of the common modern modes of feeding.

S.—Gosh! That is more than I now make per annum out of crops and stock, and I certainly think I farm as well as my neighbors.

Ed.—Very likely, friend Smith. I know your system of feeding all fodder as it is brought from the fields, and most of your grain ungr·und, is the common one, still it is none the better for that. What you was·e others wa·te in proportion, and altogether the entire amount wasted by the farmers of the State, if summed up in one column of figures, would not only astonish you, but others also. Let us figure a li·tle: Suppose you waste $500 per annum which you might save by a more judicious system of stocking, f·eding, and manuring. Suppose further that there are 20,000 other farmers like you in the State, or enough small and large ones put toge·her to av·rage that number, what will the loss amount to? Let us see. 500 times 20,000 amount· to $10,000,000; a very pre·ty sum, to be su·e. Who would not like to be troubled with it?

S.—Well, by gosh, that is a pretty sum to be sure for a State to m·ke, saying nothing about what it wa·tes and looses. I don't know but I might impr·ve a little in stock keeping. I'll think about the matter.

Ed.—You had better do so, friend S., and so had your neighbors. And after they have got in the way of saving a few hundred dollars annually, by reading agr cultural papers and adopting their suggestions, they may pe haps co·clude that they can afford six shill·ngs or a dollar per annum for a subscription fee to the same.

S.—Yes, Mr. Editor, I would will·ngly pay a whole dollar per annum for the *Farmer*, if I could be ce·tain of making $500 out of it.

Ed.—Well that is l.beral certain, just as I always knew you to be, friend Smith. And there are many men in the State of the same generous character; willing to invest a penny in actual cash to make a dollar, any t me!

But stock feeding is not the only channel of wholesale waste and loss practiced by many of our (so called) good farmers, friend Smith. There are many other leakages nearly or quite equal to the one we have been discussing; some of which at some future t·me we will talk over and show up in the *Farmer* for the edification of those who do not know enough already, and hold themselves above reading agricultural papers, merely because the editor does not seem to be a man that knows more than they do themselves. Such men seem to forget the old adage that there is something to be learned from every fool.

We propose during the coming year to show up some of the more prominent reasons why farming does not pay, and the amount that is too often lost and wasted even by those who esteem thems·lves good farmers, in ways that they hardly rea·ize.

Yes, friends and readers of the *Farmer*, let us chat over these matters together as the m·nths roll on. It will do us no hurt, if perchance it does us no good. The probability seems to be that the wisest of us still have much to learn on the subject of profitable farming; and aside from slow and often expensive experience, what other means have we of learning, equal to an interchange of opinions through the agricultural papers? It is the great medium of progress, and is becoming to be so recognized by the more advanced intelligence of the age, and must become more and more so to a certainty. Subscribe for and read just as m·ny agricultural, mechanical, and scientific papers as you can afford, and if you have a head to learn you will find yourself advancing. They are the modern school masters for grown up people.

ASSESSED VALUATION OF WISCONSIN.—The *Free Lemocrat* has received from Hon. L. P. Harvey, Secretary of State, a statement showing the number of acres, and the assessed valuation of real property in the State of Wisconsin, for the year 1860, the aggregate value thereof as computed on the basis of the State Board of Equalization, in 1859, the equalized value of village and city lots, and other lands, the value of personal property, the total valuation of all property, together with the State tax charged against each county in the State for the year 1860. Here are the round numbers in total:

No. of Acres	17,616,174 26
Aggregate value of lands, as reported by county boards, exclusive of city and village lots	$104,603,243 98
Aggregate value city and village lots	38,160,540 50
Total aggregate real property assessed	142,763,784 48
Aggregate value of land on the basis of the State Board of Equalization, in '59 —exclusive of city and village lots	118,395,233 94
Total aggregate, including city and village lots	156,555,774 44
Aggregate value of land as equalized in 1860, exclusive of lots	115,377,397 16
Aggregate value city and village lots	41,178,377 28
Aggregate value personal property	27,506,761 56
Total aggregate of all property equalized in 1860	184,062,536 00
State ratio of 0,08149 per cent	150,000 00
Tax 2-5 mill int. on State Indebtedness	78,625 00
Tax 1-10 mill on town libraries	18,406 25
Total tax	242,031 25

☞ Death is the only master who takes his servants without a character.

ADDRESS

At the Winnebago County Agricultural Fair, Oshkosh, Sept. 28, 1860.

BY L. P. HARVEY.

[The following address by Secretary Harvey, as published in the Oshkosh *North-Western*, is so replete with good advice and valuable practical suggestions, that we transfer it entire to the columns of the *Farmer*. Let every farmer read and ponder it.—EDS.]

The experience of the last three years is especially instructive. But little more than three years ago, we were all buying and selling, building cities and railroads, and running in debt, just as though Fortune were as constant as she is fickle—as though we had been guaranteed by Providence continued success And every venture did seem to pay. Speculation, and even *peculation*, appeared to prosper. The revulsion of 1857 came down like the sweep of a tornado. The bubbles of Fortune burst in thin air; the sturdiest fortunes toppled and fell; business was ruined, and every industrial interest of the country blighted.

The storm appears now to have passed over. The skies are brightening. The welcome sunshine is chasing the shadow off of the face of the land. The farmers of Wisconsin meet at their Fairs this fall, rejoicing over an overflowing harvest, and gladdened by abundant signs of returning prosperity.

It is instructive, in the first place, to remark that the survivors of the recent commercial convulsion are not the speculators in lands and "corner lots," and "paper cities;" in stocks and railroads; nor even those who were growing rich by traffic. Those whom the storm has left strong, though scathed, are the kind of men who, in flush or panic times, are content with the slow accretions of industry and economy. The first to retrieve their broken fortunes will not prove to be those who, while the the panic raged, abandoned their respective callings, and sacrificed homes and means in possession, for the chase after sudden wealth at Pike's Peak. The first to exhibit signs of returning good fortune, will be seen to be those men who held fast to their trades or their farms, and, confident of ultimate success in the business to which they were accustomed, were content to labor and wait. In the calculations of prudent forecast, every year of disaster to any calling necessary to human comfort or convenience, only increases the chance that the *next* year will bring a recurrence of prosperity. Your men of faith and sagacity will keep their courage, and, in times of depression, *prepare* to take a full advantage of a turn in affairs. The faint-hearted, and short-sighted alone, despond at disappointment, and fly to new and desperate expedients.

The late panic was a timely putting on of the "brakes" when we are all running too fast. It was, moreover, a significant admonition that humanity has not yet outgrown the discipline of toil. That there is no permanent escape from the sentence—"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." The exceptions to this rule of God's discipline with mankind, which at times appear glaring, and, perhaps, tempt to discontent, are temporary and illusive. Eternal wisdom speedily vindicates itself. We can scarce fail to mark the vindication in individual experience. But when great commercial storms sweep the land, we behold the highways of traffic and speculation strewn with the wrecked hopes and broken fortunes of those who attempt wealth, and consequent exemption from care and toil, against the order of providence. There is no excellence without labor. No desirable attainment in life, except it be assured by growth under the culture of industry.

> "Be patient! Oh, be patient!
> Put your ear against the earth,
> Listen there, how noiselessly
> The germ of the seed has birth.
> How silent, and yet how strong,
> It upheaves its steady way,
> Until the fields of gold'n grain
> Wave for the harvest day."

Farmers! to every one of you who has held fast to his courage, his land, and his labors, through the hard times, good fortune has come in even proportion to his faith, his industry, and his preparation for a change in times.—The lesson is worth remembering in the future. Your grounds have this year brought forth plentifully Many of you are in the same dilemma of the rich man of the parable, who "thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have *no room* where to bestow my fruits?" Perhaps you are revolving similar schemes to his for building:—"I will pull down my barns and build greater." (I doubt not more *barn-room* is the greatest need with most of you.)

Permit me to urge a suggestion, the justice of which is abundantly established by the experience of the past, that *success* has its dangers, no less than *disaster*. There is a fatal proneness in human nature to improvidence and reckless confidence, in times of prosperity.

The fruitfulness of the present year, so far from giving a promise for the next year, is a warning that next year is *less likely* to surpass, or even equal, average years in productiveness. If the next year should prove as the present, you are certainly then nearer to a year of failure in crops. It is less prudent, then, now, than it would have been in any of the unlucky years past, to make calculations for increasing the breadth of lands to be sown, next year, with small grains, or planted with corn. Use rather a portion of the avails of this year's abundance, in providing to diversify your agricultural pursuits, that in the future you may be less dependant upon the vicissitudes of grain-growing. Provide for a wool harvest in the spring—"a good thing to have" when

grain does well, but a capital resource when crops fail, or prices do not pay in the fall.—Make a start for a dairy—in stock raising or breeding horses or mules. A lot of butter and cheese; a yoke of cattle; a few fat beeves, or a good horse or mule, to sell now and then, will add a nice little sum to the profits of the most lucky year's farming, and are a far safer resource than borrowing money, when the wheat harvest or prices disappoint your calculations.

Above all, *deal kindly with your lands.*—These lands had partially rested, under the drouth and other checks upon production, for the two years previous to this; and in consequence of the drouth, supplies of food for vegetable growth, were this year drawn to the surface from a depth below the reach of the plowshare. The surpassing yields of the present harvest result from this accumulated strength. But your lands are now weak, and temporarily exhausted, by the parturition of all this fruitfulness. Now is no time to neglect them.—Yet, with a recklessness which success is so prone to excite, many farmers (and the very ones who were discouraged about their lands last year and the year before) become foolhardily confident that their lands are inexhaustible in fertility, and need no food or care. The truth is, every crop grown and removed carries with it portions of the supply in the soil of food for vegetable growth. These elements are indispensible, and must be returned to the soil before it can regain its former productiveness. If your yield of grain has been unusually great this year, so much more of the rich elements of your soil have been abstracted.—These elements you are sending off by the car load, out of the State. Every railroad, and canal, and river, and lake, between this and the seaboard, is laden with the richness of your farms. This we cannot avoid in our present circumstances. We have not sufficient stock to work up on our farms any considerable proportion of our coarse grains, even; to prepare rich dressings of manure for our lands, or to enable us with profit to rest portions of our fields in pasture and meadow. Nor have we yet, manufacturing operatives at work by our waterfalls, and in our cities and villages, to consume any considerable quantities of our wheat within the State. So, for the present, the leaching process must go on. Our lands be followed up year after year, with exhausting crops of grain, to be gathered and sold to other States for consumption.

But the *straw* of your grainfields, and the *stalks* of your cornfields, are left behind; and, by a wise economy, these contain a larger proportion than the grain, of the elements in the earth necessary to vegetable growth. These are scattered in profusion proportioned to the abundance of the yield of grain. But in regard to the value and appropriate use of the residuum of your crops, the recklessness and improvidence which good fortune begets, begin to appear. I caught the remark to-day, from a member of your own society, that burning straw has not been so common for years as it is this very fall, when there exists so especial urgency that it all be saved and returned to the soil. Such has been my own observation. Every night, and in every direction, go where you will in the State, fires kindled by incendiary indolence, are consuming the very elements of the farmer's wealth—the boasted richness of the soil of our State.

It seems to be the appointed scourge of all new countries, to be first run over by the *Land Killer*. Short-sighted, often self-willed, always improvident, he can never be made to believe the productiveness of a virgin soil can be exhausted, until he has cropped it into barrenness. Then he awakens to the necessity of commencing the slow work of recuperation.—For this he has no heart; and what wonder! He has procrastinated the proper labor in this line of twenty or thirty years, until it demands doing all at once. Consequently, he is discouraged, sells out, or abandons his worn out land, and moves *West*, in search of another Eden of fruitfulness, to curse that, too, with the culture of the leech

In my boyhood, I used to hear stories of the wonderful production of wheat in the Genessee valley, surpassing even the statistics of this great harvest of 1860 in Wisconsin. "Genessee Wheat" became, and still continues, the synonym of prime excellence. The soil was said to be so exuberantly rich, that a square foot of sod, hung by the chimney-corner over night, would drip pure fat enough by morning to "shorten" a short-cake for breakfast. Yet I have lived to see that rich section of the country almost abandoned, and that years since, as a grain-growing region.

The new lands of Ohio used to yield, on an average, year after year, thirty bushels of wheat to the acre. For several years past the average yield in that State has scarce been above eight bushels to the acre. And in many portions of the State, as I know from observation wheat has ceased to be regarded a profitable crop.

The statistics of other, and especially of the older southern states, and with other staples of agriculture besides wheat, are equally startling.

England, on the other hand, starting with a soil naturally light, and with a humid atmosphere, is yearly enhancing her average yields of grain, by intelligent cultivation and the liberal use of fertilizing agents. Thirty-five to forty bushels of wheat to the acre is a common yield, in England.

Farmers of Winnebago county, the culture of increase or of exhaustion is within your choice. You have a soil exhuberant in richness and strength. If you scatter manure, and labor for your crops, you can push you fields to an almost fabulous productiveness; but if you withhold what is needed to keep up, even, the fruitfulness of your lands, you will sooner or later plow and sow in vain.

* * * * *

THE SLAVERY OF PAYING INTEREST.

There is one lesson taught by past experience, which I desired to render impressive before all others. Before acting upon the advice I have suggested in respect to diversifying your productions; before commencing the erection of new buildings, or providing new facilities for conducting your business; above all before you buy that long coveted piece of land adjoining your farm, secure your personal independence by FREEING YOURSELVES FROM DEBT; and assured to yourselves and your families the future avails of your toil by *keeping free from debt*. It is seldom or never safe to build, or enlarge your estates; to engage in new enterprises, or grant yourselves and families new indulgencies, except as the accre ions of your industry and economy afford the means of paying as you go.

The farmer is universally acknowledged to be the most independent of men. Yet, even the farmer can subject himself to the will of another, almost as absolutely as though he should sell himself a slave, by simply running in debt If he has obligations maturing as soon as harvest is over, he is not free to prepare his lands at the proper time for the next season's crop—to thresh when it suits his convenience, or take his choice of time for selling He *owes* and must *pay*, no matter at what sacrifice. Then credit always exacts interest If the farmer lives upon his merchant for six months of the year, he pays the interest in the enhanced price of everything he buys. If he buys land or other property on time, the terms exacted are generally far less favorable than ready money would command, and a regular per centage of interest is imposed besides. If he borrows money we all know that he has to pay interest, and at a round rate. Now prevailing rates of interest are far higher than, in all ordinary cases, the value of the credit to the person obtaining it. Consequently, whoever runs in debt, deliberately undertakes to pay an undue proportion of the products of his labor, for the use of the money or property he obtains on credit. This system of doing business is as impoverishing to the farmer himself, as is continued cropping without feeding, to his lands.

"Good times" afford far greater facilities, and consequent temptations, than "close times," to buying on credit. True, property rules at higher prices; but labor, too, is high, and money is plenty, and interest is low. The sanguine and thoughtless, excited by present good fortune, into making extravagant calculations on the future, plunge in debt. The chances always are, that debts contracted in flush times will mature when times are hard. When lands and labor are low, money, or the rates exacted for the use of money, go up. The lower the depression of the values of labor and property, the higher the rates of interest. Now a dollar at twelve per cent interest is worth just *two* dollars at six per cent; for "money is valuable just in proportion to its power to accumulate value by interest." It follows, then, that property purchased when money is worth six per cent, will bring but half the purchase price when money is worth twelve per cent; but one fourth when money is worth twenty-four per cent. Property purchased *one half* on credit, when money rules at six per cent, will just pay the principal of the debt when money goes up to twelve. Yet how many set this simple, but almost certain trap for themselves, not only against their present means, but to catch the savings of years of toil besides. Renewals obtained at double, and then again (as is often done,) at treble the original rates of interest, are generally effectual only to defer the catastrophe of bankruptcy; and these can only be obtained when the poor debtor has means, or margin in his security, enough to stand the accumulations of interest.

A big mortgage serves a fine farm much as the anaconda manages his prey. First darting a secure hold—then winding, year by year, its sinuous folds of interest, until the prey is covered; then *saliva it over with costs*, and—u-g-h! *It is swallowed*. The estate is gone; but there is left to society a man without youth or courage, or capital; and a family without a home, employment, or the means of education.

Mr. Edward Kellogg, the author of an ingenious and highly instructive treatise on "Labor and other Capital," considers the undue proportion of the products of labor, which the producer pays for the use of capital, at prevailing rates of interest, to be the prolific source of the unjust inequalities of condition which exist in society. Unjust, because if any class should have more property than others, it should be that class that *produce* property.—Now, all property is directly the production of labor. Capital and the natural resources of a country, are unfruitful without labor. Yet the producers in all countries, are, as a class, poor and dependent; non-producers rich and independent.

Few people stop to calculate the accumulative power of money at interest, and the facility its owner enjoys of appropriating to himself the products of the labor of others. Permit me to introduce an illustration or two, borrowed from Mr. Kellogg's book.

You are accustomed to consider that a farmer does well, who secures, over and above the comfortable subsistence of his family, a farm worth $5,000. The majority do not accomplish this. Now, suppose that, instead of starting at twenty-one to earn a farm, the farmer buys one on credit at $5,000—interest 7 per cent, payable semi-annually. At the end of ten years and one month, he would have earned for his creditor another farm of equal value; at the end of twenty years, three farms like the first; at the end of forty years, fifteen farms; and so on, until, at the end of seventy years, he would have paid to his creditor for one hundred and twenty-seven farms like the

first, and yet be no nearer owning the farm for which he contracted the debt than when he started. All his life working like the poor horse on a tread power—constantly climbing and tugging, until worn out, but never getting ahead one step.

Again, Mr. Kellogg supposes two mechanics just come of age, are desirous of accumulating large fortunes. They are good workmen, and each is able to earn one dollar a day over and above his expenses. Every six months the two together have accumulated three hundred dollars, which they loan at 7 per cent interest, payable semi-annually. Bent on becoming rich, they do not burden themselves with houses or families; but keep on earning and loaning, each three hundred dollars a year, for forty years and four months. At the end of that time each would have earned by his labor $12,100—together, $24,200. But the amount of their earnings, and the interest collected every six months and loaned, is now $128,750 70: $24,200 the savings from their own industry; $104,550.70 earned by the community around them, and given to them as the legal interest on this $24,200. The age of each of these men is now sixty-one years and four months. Suppose they live twenty-one years and six months longer, not laboring, but continuing to loan their money. The amount then is $515,008 80.—Allow $15,008 80 for their support the twenty-one years and six months they are not themselves earning anything, leaves $500,000 clear; $475,800 of which comes from the labor of others, besides the maintenance of the two men—all accumulated from the interest of their $24,200.

Now these men are not *sharks* or *extortioners*. They labor industriously until rising sixty years of age, and for reasonable wages; and they loan their money at the lowest rates of interest established by law. At twelve per cent interest, the increase upon their money would be enormously greater.

It may be objected that these calculations compound the interest. This is correct. No careful, industrious money lender, as these men are supposed to be, fails of collecting his interest when due, and putting that immediately to earning interest. Besides, if the borrowers could have used their surplus earnings on their own account, these would have earned the increase for them, instead of their creditors.

It cannot be for the interest of the laborer to impose upon himself the obligation of yielding the best of his life, and all the surplus proceeds of his toil, for the use of capital. He wants no capital at rates that do not leave to himself and family the avails of his own labor, while employing it.

It is not for the interest of society—of the State—to establish rates for the use of money that must surely beggar the great majority—the laboring class—to enrich a few among its own citizens, whose circumstances already enable them to give credit. It is still less for the interest of a State, and especially a new State, to "invite capital into the State," by the offer of rates of interest that must draw out, to enrich foreign capitalists, all the avails—beyond mere subsistence—of the labor and enterprise engaged in the development of its natural resources, and the production of property.

I will not longer detain your attention. I could not assume to teach you the best methods to manage your soils, your herds, or your flocks. In all these matters, your experience is more valuable than any speculations of mine. I have not indulged in flatteries, because I have respect for your sense and confide in your aspirations after improvement. I trust that the line of remark pursued is p'ain, and that not a few will remember and reflect thereon. Have faith in your calling—in its resources for gain and consequent independence, especially when the elements, the seasons and the markets conspire to discourage you. Put not too much faith in yourselves, and especially in your luck of the future, when you have partaken largely of success. You may then be slightly intoxicated. Above all, choose the "underground railroad," rather than permanently fasten upon your free limbs, and free spirits, the servile's chain of interest. Remember the golden rule of thrift—"PAY AS YOU GO!"

A HORSE WITH THE HEAVES.—We have heard scores of remedies proposed for the heaves. Ginger mixed with oats has been prescribed, and hundreds of horses have been killed by doses of spirits of turpentine in varions quantities. Indeed, we know of few things which have not been well recommended in turn as a cure for heaves.

Prevention is always better than cure. A riddle in front of the cutting box, to let sand and dust out of cut feed, will be found advantageous. Steaming the food prevents the dust separating from the food when eaten, and materially ameliorates the disease. The use of carrots, however, is not only a preventive but a remedy. No horse will be troubled with heaves while carrots form part of his food.—*Working Farmer.*

DEATH OF OLD BELLFOUNDER.—The stallion Bellfounder, so well known as the progenitor of all the stock bearing that name, died at the residence of his owner, W. H. Rarey, Franklin Co., O., on the 11th ult. His age was twenty-nine years. He was brought to Ohio in 1840, and was sired by imported Bellfounder, who was afterwards taken back to England.—*The Country Gentleman.*

We saw this fine old horse about two years since at Mr. R.'s stables. His stock is very heavy, and excellent for dray and team horses. —ED. FARMER.

MECHANICAL.

A USEFUL INVENTION BY AN ILLINOIS FARMER.

It is a misfortune that most of the inventors of agricultural machinery know little or nothing of their practical working in the field. Hence many an implement that contains the elements of a good thing is lost for the want of the mechanic not understanding the disabilities he has to overcome. Farmers cannot usually spend the time necessary to develop their ideas of what is wanted, and but few have a knowledge of the underlying principles of mechanics or the workshop at hand in which to experiment.

We understand that an old farmer living in the central part of Illinois, whose past habits of life have been such as to fit him especially for the work, has for the last ten years been experimenting in improved modes of culture. Latterly his attention has been directed mostly to the cultivation of corn. With each returning spring he has had an attack of the Experiment Fever, and his farm sheds now present a singular array of implements, peculiar in design and construction. The individual is none other than J. B. TURNER, of Jacksonville, long and intimately known to agriculturists. He caused to he built last winter a machine which combined several of the principles he had worked out in a number of different implements, and on testing it in the field, he modified it, when neceessary, in some minor points. It was used quite extensively on his own farm, and borrowed hy his neighbors who worked it in their fields with great satisfaction and advantage to their crops.

Its construction is simple. It consists of a frame suspended over two broad wheels or drums drawn by two horses and operated by one man. In front of the drums are knives which cut off the weeds at the rick, below which point they are not again liable to sprout. The drums pass one on each side of a row and crush the clods. The cultivating apparatus follows and thoroughly stirs up the ground to the depth of two to eight inches, after the drums. The apparatus is easily guided—easier than a plow—so there was no trouble in working the machine in crooked corn rows, and no fear of covering the smallest corn. It is all that is required in the field until the corn is four feet high. The driver mounts his seat and cultivates from eight to ten acres per day with ease. It is said by those who have seen it work that it performs admirably, and that corn cultivated by it grew in advance of other parts of the same field worked in the usual way. The ground may be left level or hilled at pleasure. In the spring the cultivators are taken off, and an apparatus attached for planting, which dropped the corn evenly.

Should further experiments prove as successful as the past, the Prof. will be compelled to abandon his farm for the busy din of a manufactory. C. T. C.

TRIAL OF STEAM FIRE ENGINES AT THE UNITED STATES FAIR.

The trial of the rival steam fire engines excited general interest. One of them was from Philadelphia, the others belonged to Cincinnati. Each engine was drawn by four magnificent horses, and manned by picked men, all under rigid discipline. The Philadelphians had been long training both horses and men for this show, and thought to conquer by their more perfect discipline, but found the companies of Cincinnati all ready. Horses, harness, engines, and men were all ready, and all as perfeet as possible. The horses were the great English draft horses, of immense size and power, and knew their work like men. Their harness, of great strength, was, like the engines, glittering with polished steel, nnd plate of silver and gold. Three men from each company were selected to go with the engines—the chief, the driver, and the engineer—men chosen for stalwart strength, ready resource, steady eye, and cool judgment. When all was ready the great bells from their iron throats proclaimed the hour, thirty thousand people gathered to the exciting scene, and the judges advanced and announced the prize to that company who should in the shortest time hitch on, run a mile to a stationary reservoir and hose, steam up and throw water; the mile run to be around the race-course. The first trial was to be by the favorite engine of the West. At the call she came into position in fine style, unhitched and every man in his place waited breathless for the signal. The word was given, and in an instant the horses were hitched on, and at a secret signal known only to them, started in full career. At the same moment a dense, dark smoke broke forth, filling the air with the fumes of pitch and turpentine, the fireman's cunning work. The horses, trained to the work, needed no rain or whip, but straining every nerve they seemed to fly; but before they could reach the goal the fireman's work was done, and the impatient steam was screaming from the safety valve. The engine came up in full career, but at a word the horses stopped, flecked with foam, panting and quivering in every muscle with the intense excitement. In seven minutes from the start the race was run, steam raised, coupling done, and the water hissing from the hose was dis-

persed in mist two hundred feet in the air above. Next, the Eastern engine started with equal celerity, and at first with better fortune was coming in a few seconds less in time than its rival, but the chief, confused by the shouts of the crowd, lost his presence of mind, gave the word at the wrong instant, and the car passed its place full two feet. In returning to the place one minute was lost, and in the confusion another lost in coupling, making the whole time almost nine minutes, and the banner was lost. Still the comparative power of the engines was to be tried. The Western had thrown the water two hundred feet. One hope remained to the Eastern, to surpass her rival in power. The crisis seemed to justify a desperate effort, and she came to the stand with the safety valve shut. The smoke-begrimed fireman stirred up the flames to fiercer fury, until the engine quivered in every joint and rocked under the power of the accumulating steam until even madness dared no more, and the excited crowd stood back with fear; then the coupling was made, the mighty power of steam applied, the water rushed into the air, and fell, full fifty feet beyond its rival's highest mark. The crowd shouted applause, the bells rang, the safety valve now for the first time opened, the engine sent up in the escaping steam its scream of triumphant joy, and the last rays of the setting sun reflected from her spray in rainbow tints, hung over her a banner not made with hands, more gorgeous than that her rival had won.

GREAT TRIAL OF REAPING AND MOWING MACHINES IN FRANCE.

Two great trials of these important implements have been made in France this summer; a trial of mowing machines on the imperial farm of Vincennes on the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st of June, and a trial of reaping machines on the imperial domain of Fouillese on the 31st of July and the 1st and 2d of August. We think our readers will be interested in the following extracts from the reports of the juries in the two cases, which we translate from *L'Invention:*

* * * * *

"The machines which have incontestibly operated the best are those of the American systems of Wood and of Allen. The jury have placed in the first line the system of Wood, and in the second line the one of Allen. They have put in the third rank the machine of Messrs. Brigham & Richerton. The machine invented by Mr. Wood at Hoosic Falls, N. Y., is remarkable for its small dimensions, for the facility with which the scythe is dismounted, and for the narrowness of the track in which it can pass; requiring scarcely a wider road than a horse. Its price is only 500 to 600 francs, and it can, without doubt, be reduced to 400 francs. But what distinguishes it above all is the very ingenious disposition of its parts.

* * * * *

"The jury have deemed it their duty to decree the first premium to foreign machines—consisting of a medal of gold and 1,000 francs—to the machine of the American system of Wood, exhibited and brought to perfection for transportation on roads by Mr. Peltier, Jr., living at Paris, No. 45, Rue Marais-Saint-Martin. The prize of honor—consisting of a large medal of gold—has also been awarded to the same machine, the best of the international meeting. A medal of gold has been demanded of the Minister of Agriculture for Messrs. Claudon & Co., of Clermont (Oise), second importers of the Wood machine.

"The jury also believe it a duty to make known that the machine of Wood has not been patented in France; that the construction of this machine belongs to the public domain, and that our constructors will be able to imitate and perfect it."

HOW THE COTTON GIN WAS INVENTED.—Mr. Eli Whitney, of Westborough, county of Worcester, Massachusetts, entered Yale college at the age of twenty three. In 1792, he contracted with a citizen of Georgia to reside in his family as a teacher. He went there in company with a widow of General Green, of the Revolutionary army. She was then returning with her family from the North. He was an invalid, and she kindly invited him to her residence, near Savannah. He was soon informed that the gentleman who had engaged him, had employed another teacher, leaving Whitney without resources. Mrs. Green said to him: "My young friend, you propose studying the law—make my house your home, your room your castle, and there pursue what studies you please."

Mrs. Green, most likely, was the owner of a miserable tambour frame; otherwise, as the reader will soon see, the cotton gin would not have been invented by Eli Whitney. Desirous of manifesting his gratitude, Eli went to work and made a tambour frame upon a novel principle, and presented it to Mrs. Green. It was a subject of unbounded admiration among the ladies, of course.

Not long after, a number of gentlemen engaged in planting, were dining with Mrs. G. and her family, and the conversation turned upon the difficulty of cleaning cotton from the seeds. A woman was employed, at that period, a whole day in cleaning a single pound.—It was agreed that it would be in vain to think of raising cotton for market until some plan should be contrived for cleaning or separating the cotton from the seed by machinery.

In the midst of their conversation Mrs. G. exhibited her tambour frame, and said, "apply to my young friend, Mr. Whitney, he can make anything." An thereupon he was introduced to these gentlemen. The final result of that interview was the invention of the cotton gin by Eli Whitney.

THE STEAM PLOW—FAWKES' AND OTHERS.

A year ago, at some of the large agricultural exhibitions, particularly at the National, held at Chicago, a demonstration was had on this new inventiou, to test its applicability, as an actual plow, in superseding, by the use of machinery and steam, the ordinary plow used in cultivation. The trial was not conclusive, not satisfactory even to the committees appointed to try the machine, although the large premium offered for a successful one of the kind was claimed by the inventor. There were defects in its principle, and still greater defects in its mechanism. These were all to be remedied and overcome. So said the inventor. It has been again tried this fall, at the late Illinois State Fair, at Jacksonville, but with no better success, as we learn, than before. What the alleged impediments to success may be, we do not know; we do not much care, even; for a steam plow, or a machine to drag behind, or drive before it, a gang, be it three, five, or ten veritable plows, of the shape and kind now used on our farms, we believe, will prove no achievement, either in economy or expense, or excellence of work, over that which it is intended to supersede.

The expression of such opinion may be thought the very essence of "fogyism" in this day of invention and improvement. Yet, so we believe. It will take too many words to give all the reasons for our belief, but a few we will name, even admitting the thing to finally prove successful:—

1. The expense of the machine will exclude it from all small farms, and gardener's uses, in the contracted area of their premises.

2. Its size and cumbrous working will require fields of great size, and a long stretch of "lands" to range upon, without frequent turnings. The soil too, must be of a level surface, or, if undulating at all, in such regular undulations that the "dip" and positions of the several plows composing the "gang" can be uniform.

3. Leaving out several other objections, the fatal one exists, that the plow itself, as now constructed—no matter how good it be—is an imperfect implement, founded on a false principle for the perfect breaking up and movement of the soil, and fitting it to receive the seed for a crop. Such being the fact, as we assume it, the "plow" is not worth the pains of applying it to steam use, and the same skill and invention had better be applied to some other kind of machine.

Why is the plow imperfect? Simply, for the reason that soil, to be perfectly prepared to receive the seed and produce a crop, should be thoroughly pulverized, deeply dug, and rest on a soft bottom underneath, which last, though penetrated by the instrument which has worked above it, shall still admit the roots of whatever grows above, to enter and run down, if they choose to do so, and draw whatever nutriment they can from below. In short if land is plowed, six, eight, or ten inches deep, and its upper strata be lifted and turned over to either of those depths, the lever power which raised it is exerted to the same extent to press down still more compactly than before the soil beneath it. That is, the plow in its work, presses both ways—down as well as up; whereas, the work, for the benefit of cultivation, should be lifting only. The pressure down is all wrong, and, so far, does a positive injury to the subsoil, let the comminution of that above be ever so perfect. In light soils we admit that the downward pressure is not always prejudicial to the future crop. But in clay or heavy soils, it must be so. The subsoil surface of the furrow below is as polished, from the pressure of the bottom of the plow upon it, as the top of the inverted earth, which is lifted from it, and turned over into the adjoining furrow; so unless the roots of the growing crop be very strong, they must seek their food only near the surface, or within such depths as the plow may have penetrated, and thus be liable to be cut short by drouth. For perfect cultivation these difficulties must be obviated. Well, and how? By the invention of a rotary digger. That is to say, a cylinder revolving a shaft supported at each end on a frame, on the principle of a common farm or garden roller; that cylinder to be filled with spiked or claw-formed teeth; and, by its rapid revolutions, these teeth must dig up the ground six to twenty inches deep, as may be desirable, leaving the ground light, free, and thoroughly pulverized, to receive the seed of whatever kind. A drill may be attached behind it, for the purpose of sowing or planting the seeds if necessary. This in short, is the grand desideratum which we look for in the perfect cultivation of the soil. The earth by this operation, will become loosened as far down as the machine goes, and the subsoil, beneath what is loosened, will not be packed still harder than it laid before, as with the plow. It will be readily seen that, in this proposition, the plow is superseded entirely, as should be in all free soils, and an instrument of altogether another kind has to take its place.

Now, can this implement be invented and perfected for practical and easy operation?—We think so. It need be no more complicated than a reaper or mowing machine. It may be made to work by either horse or steam power; and, without divulging a secret, we are of opinion that there is now in progress, in Western New-York, a machine possessing the right principle of a rotary digger, and that it will soon be in operation. That it will be perfect in its first movements we do not say, but we believe that a practical machine of the kind will, in due time, be accomplished.

Can a small farmer use such a machine economically, even if it be invented and perfected? We believe so, if his land be free from stones and roots. Its portability and compactness will render it easy to manage, and the celerity with which he can get in his crops

by its aid will enable him to clear his land from impediments to its working, which the dilatory and only partial labor performed by the plow would not. The great advantage of such a machine, however, would be in the vast prairie cultivation of the western States, on broad river bottoms, and in large fields where the soil lies smooth, free from stones or other impediments, and where a timely cultivation and deposit of the seed is indispensable to successful cropping. Sugar and cotton lands, as well as those for corn, wheat and other grains, will be immensely benefitted by this rapid cultivation. The present season, by its continuous spring weather, so timely for plowing, seed-sowing and germination, as well as for the after-growth of the plants for several weeks in succession, in several of our States, most fortunately rendered a service not often witnessed. The same genial action of the elements, in a much briefer time, by the aid of a rotary digger, would enable the cultivator to get his seeds well into the ground, and secure a favorable crop during ordinary seasons, unlike the present, through which we have passed.

We could discourse further on this subject —hardly, perhaps, to the edificatiou of our readers; and this must suffice for the present. We trust that, ere long, we shall learn that something better than a steam plow has been attempted, if not effected; and that an instrument on the principle of the rotary digger, may be placed before our farmer friends, to give them a more thorough cultivation of their soils than ever before.—*New-York World.*

We venture to presume that the machine "now in progress in Western New-York," alluded to in the above article, is the rotary digger or "terracultor," now being got up by Mr. Henry O'Reilly at Rochester. Mr. O'R. informs us that his machine combines the Evan's patent with Vernam's improvements on spading machines and or rotary diggers, and that it "will perform more work and better work than can be effected by any steam plow, and at less than one-half the present cost of preparing land for crops. With a four horse team and one driver, it will thoroughly pulverize the earth to the depth of ten inches and the width of five feet—leaving the soil mellower than it is now usually found after plowing, subsoiling, cross plowing and harrowing —at the same time sowing the seed, where seed-sowing is desired—thus performing the equivalent of four or five of the present processes, and five times the quantity at each passage over the ground — completing the whole routine of preparing land for crops, (when seed is broadcast,) by passing once over the field—to the extent of from five to six acres per day—and without damage to subsoil occasioned by the pressure of the plow and subsoiler."—*Country Gentleman.*

Western Agriculture—Its Reckless and Ruinous Character—Suggested by Reading the foregoing on Spading and Digging Machines.

We fully concur in opinion with the foregoing writers, that the plow is an imperfect implement in its very nature, at best; and that it will be very likely to be superseded at no distant day, by some more natural soil pulverizer—some sort of a spading and digging machine, that will not only work the soil deeper, but faster and cheaper, than at present.

That such an achievement is practicable we have no sort of doubt; its attainment is only a question of time, and that time probably not remote. When achieved, successfully, it will be another, not of the little, but one of the great steps ahead, in the line of human progress. Equaling, or may be surpassing in magnitude, the application of power to reaping mowing, and threshing.

We know of a number of first class mechanics who are now directing their attention to the subject, and doubtless the number must be much greater than we have any knowledge of. Something of the kind that can be operated by ox, horse-power, or steam, is what is wanted; thus being adapted to small, medium, or large farmers' use.

But such a new and efficient machine power, would increase our ability and power to overtax and wear out the soil, and thus, more rapidly than at present, even, hasten the ruin of our great heritage. Therefore we not only hope, but believe, that God, in His good providence, will not give any such increased leverage of destruction to man, until the *stupid fellow learns* that his first duty to himself, to his posterity, and to the God who gave it, is to take care of the soil, and not only not harm it, but to make it better and better, from year to year, and from generation to generation.

There is no mistaking the fact, that at least three-fourths of all the present generation of western farmers, are simply studying and striving how to *wring, wrench, or steal,* the utmost possible amount out of the soil, from year to year, without the least regard to the future. At bottom and really we consider all such farmers as worse than *highway robbers,* because they not only rob the present, but all coming generations.

We doubt not but many will consider such talk as rather strong, and intended as partly, at least, for *bunkum;* but we would say to all such, that the ideas advanced, and the statements made are but the sober dictates of ob-

servation and cool reflection, awakened by observing the skinning process going on annually, even in our own State of Wisconsin. So far as we can learn, either by observation or inquiry, most of our farmers are giving themselves little or no concern upon any other point than getting good crops as they go along; leaving the consequences to the party who buys them out, either at private or sheriff's sale, (most of such will be by the latter process)—Now we always have been, and are getting more and more down on all such management, and are ready and frank to say, that we don't want to see any more efficient implement applied to the destruction of the soil, until the mass of the farmers have more sound and comprehensive ideas of their true mission and duty, not only to the present but the future.

Learn how to stock your farms and to rotate your crops, so as to make your fields annually more and more prodnctive, and then, if no one else invents a good power spader for you, *we will;* one that will do at least twice the work of the common plow, and at one-half the expense. Will the majority of the farmers of Wisconsin take this offer?

If any one doubts the soundness of the foregoing statements, or what the practice found fault with will lead to, let them read the advertisements in the November number of the Baltimore *American Farmer*, in which they will find *thirteen* regular and full page advertisements of Guano, Phosphates, and other imported and patent manures—telling but too well where the fine soils of Maryland and Virginia have gone to: down the sewers, and down the rivers, to the ocean, and away to distant marts of trade, in the shape of flour and tobacco; the heedless generations of the past have done for that region what we are now doing for the west; better for that country if the lazy idlers who have thus devastated it had never lived.

Two subjects which we would suggest for the kind of first class $100 premiums we spoke of in our article on Fairs, in the November number of the *Farmer*, would be the Best System of Farm Rotation, and the Best Spading or Digging Machine.

We would be glad to hear from others on the foregoing important subjects; and if any one assumes that we are too steep in our views, or assertions, all things considered, we will either sustain them by new and ample arguments, or back down as gracefully as we can.

We copy from a Southern paper in confirmation of our opinions. The editor of *The South Carolina Farmer and Planter* says:

It has just come to this point—we must go down hill, or go West—we can't stay here any longer, and live by planting without improvement. Let that truth be treasured by every farmer who reads this paragraph. It is a fact for farmers, and one that must not be ignored. It is equally true in all the Southern, or cotton-growing States, as it is in South Carolina. It is just as true in corn and wheat growing Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. And it is full of truth as applied to New York and all the New England States. The farmers "can't stay there any longer without improvement." That is, they cannot stay without seeing their land deteriorate, year by year, as it truly has, ever since it was denuded of its natural forest growth. Is it necessary? Cannot land be cultivated an indefinite number of years and yield good crops to the cultivator without deterioration? This is the greatest, the most important question that an American farmer can put to himself or his neighbor. We hope that he has learned before this, from what we have said, that we do not believe in the necessity of deterioration of land from cultivation. The preventive is deep disintegration, underdraining, rotation of crops, including one grown especially for manure, and restoring all the manurial portions of the crop to the soil, principally in the form of surface manuring, and tithing the products sold off of the farm to buy foreign fertilizers. Then will the farm support in comfort forever the family of its possessor, and give him an annual income to lay up, or lay out in improvements tending to beautify and add to its value while they minister to the enjoyments of its occupants; and when they grow too numerous for the area, there will be a surplus in store to enable the excess in population "to go West." At present the excess is crowded out of the paternal home, because to stay is to stay and starve—to starve because the fetility of that home has deteriorated, and in its present condition is insufficient to support as large a population as it did "when the land was new." Why should it ever grow old? Simply because this is the truth, as we find it in *The Rural New-Yorker:*

"I affirm that no one acre in ten of our cultivated farms gets a single load of manure of any kind (except the occasional droppings of cattle that are pastured upon it) as often as one year in ten. If 'the devastating hordes'—called 'farmers' in modern times—had not had a fertile 'West' to overrun and make desolate, there would have been a famine in this land before now that all the 'corn in Egypt' could not repair.

"It is my solemn conviction that there is not gold enough in Christendom combined to restore the soil of North America to its original fertility! In humanity's name I say to

farmers, stop and consider. Take one acre of poor land and make it rich by the cheapest process you can devise, and tell me what it costs you! Buy guano at $50 a tun, ashes at 12 cents a bushel, lime at 18 cents, charcoal at 8 cents, (probably the cheapest of all), bones at what they cost you, good barnyard manure at 50 cents a load, and draw it; fertilize a poor acre, and make it good for thirty bushels of wheat, and tell me the cost. You will wish you had more money by the time you have fertilized a hundred acres.

"I tell you, gentlemen, the annual depreciation of your grain-farms, in particular, is a frightful and appaling circumstance. It is easier to stop the mischief than to repair it."

None of the most common prescriptions for restoring fertility will answer the purpose, which are based upon "rest and rotation," such as is understood generally by Southern planters. For instance, one says to another:

A.—"That field of cotton looks badly, Squire C.: bad stand, eh?"

Squire C.—"Yes. I've run it in cotton a little too long. Fact is, I havn't land enough open for my force—must clear more, so that I can seed down and rest some."

"Seed down and rest"—the stereotype phrase of the country! And what is seeding down and rest?

Taking a crop of wheat or oats from a soil already exhausted by bad culture, then throwing down the fence, and turning every living thing in the neighborhood upon it, to eat it off and tramp it over until planting time comes round again.

And this is called seeding and rest. There never was a greater fallacy than this notion many people have, of resting land by growing grain crops upon it. Under such a system the lands must deteriorate and production decline. Something else is wanted; more manure and better management. It is time people should begin to think a little more seriously about what they owe to their mother earth.

Yes, it is time people should begin to think. Think how to save land from deterioration.

☞ Hiram A. Pitts, for many years widely known as the original inventor of the threshing machine, died at his residence in Chicago on the 19th of October. Thus the really great men of the earth pass away. Posterity will remember them and eventually set them high above many of the trashy vagabond heroes of the past in yellow quality and buckram.

Wintering Horses.—A Connecticut farmer winters his horses on cut hay and carrots. In the morning each horse receives six or eight quarts of carrots, with half a bushel of cut hay; at night he has the same quantity of hay mixed with three quarts of provender, consisting of oats and corn in the ear ground together. This keeps them in fine health and good working order.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

There seems to be a feeling more or less prevalent among farmers, even among the readers of agricultural papers, that those who write upon the "Rotation of Crops," "Improved Stock," "Drainage," "Manufacturing Manures," "System in Farming," and similar topics, belong generally to that class known as "fancy farmers," or as "city folks who farm for amusement without regard to the cost." We propose, therefore, to vacate the editorial chair for the time being, and allow an individual of the "practical" class, one who has made a fortune at farming, or a considerable portion of one, and who has the ability to tell how it was done," to use our editorial pen. He insists on using the big "I," but as he is a Scotchman, and promises to introduce himself, this little bit of independence will be excused. It may be proper for us to say that he comes to us with recommendations from the Secretary of the Canadian Board of Agriculture. It will be noticed that our favorite crop, Indian corn, has no place in the rotation of our Canadian friends. Its introduction, or any other improvement on his system, we leave to the good judgment of each one of our readers; believing that some will be glad to know how a poor man has improved a poor farm, and made money by the process.

INTRODUCTORY.

I came to the country thirty years ago, and burdened with a debt of $200; I leased a worn-out farm of eighty-four acres in Lower Canada, in the midst of a French population, and at an annual rent of $225. Well, in the space of twenty-one years, I have paid my original debt, and saved enough to enable me to purchase in the neighborhood a much better farm than the one I had rented. The owner of the farm which I bought was going on every year from bad to worse, until he was forced to sell it, whilst I, the tenant of a less productive farm, and paying rent all the while, was enabled to buy him out, as just said. What was the reason of this anomaly? The Canadian was stronger than I was, had equally good health, and no rent to pay. The reason was that he had no system; he let his land become exhausted and full of weeds; he let his stock starve; he wasted his manure, the gold of the farmer, and let everything go on to ruin for the want of method; but when I had got hold of this same farm, and had applied the system which I am about to describe, the whole was brought gradually, field by field, into good condition by the end of six years; since then, the condition of the land has steadily improved, and that by resources drawn wholly from within itself. The system to which I allude is known to all good farmers everywhere as the basis of all improvement. I mean that of

A ROTATION OF CROPS.

There are two sorts of reasons in favor of a rotation of crops. 1st. Because different plants draw from the soil different sorts of food, so that one plant will grow freely in a soil which is worn out as regards another.—2d. Because the crops being various, the occasional failure of one is not so much felt, seeing that the others furnish subsistence sufficiently without it.

In the beginning of the application of this system, divide the arable portion of the farm, of whatever size, into six parts or fields. Apportion the crop as follows: 1st. Root crops, such as potatoes, carrots beets, parsnips, &c., (turnips and also flax,) and in cases where the land is not sufficiently open for a crop of this kind, the field must be left in fallow. 2d. Crop of wheat or barley, (seeded with grass.) 3d. Crop of hay. 4th. Pasture. 5th. Pasture. 6th. Crop of oats or peas.

In order to render the thing more simple and easy of comprehension, I shall suppose myself to be again obliged to take a worn out farm in the autumn of 1859. The first thing I should do would be to divide the land into six fields, by proper fences, with communication from the barn yard to each field, and from one field to another, and I would then take for field A that which appeared best for green crops or roots; I would collect all of the manure which I could find in or out of the barns, I would take up the flooring of the cow-house, stable. and piggery, and I would take out as much of the soil underneath as I could get, for this soil is the essence of manure, one load of it being as good as four or five loads of common dung. The portion thus removed ought to be replaced by an equal quantity of ordinary soil, or, if it be possible, of bog earth, which might be removed when necessary afterwards. The dung and other manure thus collected, should be placed on the field A, in September or the beginning of October, spread with care, (as far as it will go,) and covered up in a shallow furrow. In the spring, all the manure made during the past winter should be carted to the field, placed in a heap, and twice turned. All bones should be gathered and broken up with a hammer, all coal and wood ashes, scrapings of sewers, the dung from the fowl house, and the contents of the privy, should be collected and made into compost, with dry loam or bog earth. This manure may be used for that portion of the field devoted to cabbages, potatoes, and turnips. Manures are of the first importance to the farmer, and he must do everything in his power to increase their amount. The system here proposed is calculated so as to increase the quantity of manure in proportion as the soil becomes improved. The farmer ought not to sell a particle of his hay or straw, because these are the principal materials for manure; and consequently, it is infinitely worse to sell the manure itself. The manure thus economized, will suffice each year for the field which is to receive the root crop. (No. 1.)

The greater variety there is in the crops of this field, the better it will be, provided the soil is suitable for them. Thus, this field ought, as nearly as possible, to look like a kitchen garden.

SUCCEEDING CROPS.

I have done all I can for field A. I have weeded and manured it as well as I can; and after having taken the crop of roots, &c., this year, and the crop of wheat or barley next year, I leave the field to rest until the other fields have deen improved in the same way. In the following year the cultivation of the different crops will be according to the following order:

Crop No. 2, (wheat or barley,) in the field A.
Crop No. 3, (hay,) in the field B.
Crop No. 4, (pasture,) in the field C.
Crop No. 5, (pasture,) in the field D.
Crop No. 6, (oats or peas,) in the field E.
Crop No. 1, (green or hoed crops,) in field F, and so on, changing each year until the seventh, when crop No. 1 will come back to field A, and the whole will then be in a good state of fertility, and free from weeds.

The above system has been proved to be capable of restoring old land, and extirpating all weeds. It is economical, and does not require more caiptal than the actual system, or rather than the present absence of system requires. It will restore fertility to the soil, and maintain it by the products of the land itself. Manures got from other quarters than the farm itself, are always expensive, and, at a distance from town, are often not to be had at all. It is simple and easy of application.

It may be said that six years is a long time to wait for the renovation of the whole farm; but I will reply that I know of no other means by which it may be done in less time, from its own resources; and it is worthy of observation that the land is improving every year. The produce is larger, even for the first year under this system, than it is under the present mode of culture; and from year to year, the land is improving, field by field, and is producing more and more, so as to pay the farmer better than it does at present, and to recompense him doubly afterwards, when the whole shall have been improved under a system of rotation.

SAVING AND USING ROUGH FODDER.

The coarse material which every farm supplies in greater or less quantities, may by proper management be turned to good account. Coare hay made from swamp grass, and straw, the buts of cornstalks, and various other articles, which nearly every farm produces, contain more or less nutritive properties, and are available for food. The practice of foddering cattle with these articles in their crude state, or scattering them on the ground from the stack yard, compelling the animals to eat them or starve, is wretched policy. They would answer an infinitely better purpose for bedding or manure.

The best and only true plan of rendering the above named articles valuable as fodder, is to pass them through a straw cutter, cutting them up as finely as possible, and then mixing a small quantity of Indian meal with the cut feed, by which means nearly the whole of it will be eaten; the coarse parts giving *bulk* to the food, and the finer parts furnishing *nourishment*. The process of steaming or boiling this sort of food will make it still better, by softening the coarse, hard stalks and straw, and enabling the animals to digest them more readily. The steaming of food is becoming a more common practice among farmers than formerly, the advantages arising from it having been clearly demonstrated. A little attention to the prepartion of these odds and ends of the farm, while it lengthens out and saves the winter's supply of fodder, also turns to a useful account many a coarse article which has been annually wasted, even among what are denominated good farmers.

Where meal is not to be had, and the steaming apparatus, or large boiling kettle is not available, it answers a good purpose to mix sliced roots—turnips, carrots, beets, parsnips, &c., with the short cut fodder. This mixture is highly relished by cattle, and they will thrive on it if the root and straw cutters have thoroughly performed their work.

There are several advantages to be derived from an observance of the above hints. The additional fodder which is thus secured enables the farmer to keep his stabled animals full fed from the setting in of winter till the commencement of the grazing season in the spring; and will materially increase the size of the manure heap, and thus add to the value of the farm.—*Rural Register.*

SOME OF THE FAIRS OF 1860—NATIONAL, STATE AND COUNTY.

[Omitted from the November No. for want of space.]

Notwithstanding the press of duties in connection with the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, we finally succeeded in rescuing sufficient time from the last days of preparation from our own exhibition to allow of a hurried visit to the U. S. Agricultural Fair at Cincinnati, and for the partial discharge of our duties as an officer of the Society.

Owing to rather unpropitious weather and to certain unfortunate local difficulties, the opening of the exhibition on the 12th was necessarily a little premature; but the energy of the Executive Committee and the brightening up of the heavens soon produced a favorable change in the *prognosis* of affairs, and by the last of the first week it became apparent that the *failure* determined by enemies and more than half feared by friends would find no record. The second, however, was really *the* week of the exhibition.

Unable to leave home before Saturday night we did not arrive until Tuesday, the 19th. On Wednesday the weather was fine and the attendance large.

The exhibition in all of the several departments was respectable, and the display of machinery surpassed anything that we remember to have ever seen at any Fair, State or National, comprising portable saw mills, grist mills, stave machines, machines for the manufacture of iron bolts, steam fire engines, steam bakeries, and a thousand other machines for the mere mention of which we have no space.

In the Fruit Department the show was good, and the pomologists of Cincinnati did themselves credit by their fine displays of every kind of fruit appropriate to the latitude and season.

A general glance at the Horse Department resulted in a favorable impression, but, owing to a press of duties, we did not inspect the cattle at all.

The officers with whom we were temporarily associated appeared to be zealous and efficient men; but the Local Committee were certainly unfortunate, first, in the location of the grounds which were too remote (nearly ten miles we believe) from the city; secondly, in not securing a reduction of fare on the railroads over which the people were obliged to pass; and, thirdly, in getting so at *logger heads* with sundry influential and really worthy citizens as to prevent that large attendance from the city, which, had all things been favorable, would have insured large receipts at least.

Still, we trust that the Fair paid its way, and although by no means what a National exhibition ought to be, and we believe will be made, it was not all unworthy of the name, and no doubt accomplished much good.

The necessity for a change of policy, in some respects, is yearly becoming more manifest, and as this necessity can hardly be more apparent to any friend of the Society than to the officers themselves, we trust that very soon some plan will be devised and adopted which shall insure the better promotion of the great ends in view.

Did space permit we would like to say a pleasant word of the beautiful and prosperous Queen City, for which, since a residence of years, we have always preserved the most happy recollections—of its many added streets

and countless magnificent blocks—of its several well appointed and well managed horse railroads, &c., &c. We would also add something in relation to the great railroad thoroughfares by which we were enabled to make this interesting visit to the National Fair,—of the Ohio & Mississippi R. R., that grand, broad-guage railway which connects two of the greatest cities in America, and which, if always as ably managed as now, is destined to become the channel of more travel and commercial transportation than any other east and west route in the Great West,—of the Illinois Central, which, with iron bands, connects the metropolitan city of the great State of Illinois and all the North-Western States with the greatest cities of the South, and opens up to the pioneer farmer seeking homes in the West vast areas of beautiful prairie lands, as rich as the sun shines upon, and almost as cheap as even a lean purse could ask,—and finally of our own excellent Chicago & Northwestern and Milwaukee & Mississippi railways, both steadily improving in the character of their management, and gradually growing into that prosperity which surely awaits them in the better future. Each of these roads would furnish a text for a long and interesting article appropriate to our pages had we the ability for its preparation and the space for its publication. They are individual threads of a grand network of iron which is not only furnishing our own country with numberless necessary channels of transportation, but is likewise binding us as a nation, with firm, unyielding bands into a grand brotherhood of States one and inseparable.

Of the Wisconsin State Fair we shall speak in another place.

MICHIGAN STATE FAIR.

We had intended to give some account of the exhibition at Detroit on the 2d to the 5th of October inclusive, but have not room. The general appearance contrasted so sadly with our own that we could hardly conceal our disappointment, and the show of articles in the several departments had the effect to quite reconcile us to some of the disappointments referred to in connection with the Wisconsin Fair. In a word, the show, except perhaps, in the departments of Horses and of Fine Arts, was rather inferior, and the grounds looked decidedly shabby. The attendance was good, however, and the receipts quite satisfactory. Our stay was necessarily brief, and it is not impossible that our views might have been more favorable had we been present throughout.

We also started for the New York State Fair, but a change of time tables on the Detroit & Milwaukee, and the Great Western railways, cheated us out of one entire day and so defeated that object. We naturally felt a little provoked, but as the fault is chargeable upon the newspapers and not upon the roads, we have decided to detract nothing from our repeated enconiums on this excellent route. The railroads are under the same good management of Messrs. Muir and Brydges respectively, and the Ocean steamers (also under the superintendence of Mr. Muir and constituting a part of the D. & M. R. R.,) made us yet more grateful than ever before for the luxury of an elegant rest and a quiet and neatly furnished state-room after the protracted annoyance of jar and dust. We repeat it, this is the shortest and most pleasant route east from Wisconsin, northern Iowa and Minnesota, and we wonder that everybody does not prefer it.

COUNTY EXHIBITIONS.

The simultaneousness of a large number of the County Fairs, and the proximity, in time, of nearly all to the State Exhibition, prevented our accepting more than two of the several invitations with which we were honored. Both of these were held by societies recently organized.

THE MONROE COUNTY FAIR,

at Sparta, fell in an unpleasant week, but was nevertheless numerously attended and enthusiastically carried through. The brief time which we were enabled to spend in Sparta—one hour and three-quarters—permitted nothing more than a glance at the exhibition; still we saw enough of it to feel assured that the farmers of Monroe have not been asleep while their brethern of the older counties have been improving their stock and introducing better systems of tillage.

Several head of fine animals—horses, horned cattle, sheep and swine—sufficiently showed their interest in this important branch of husbandry, and the agricultural tent presented specimens of as good grains and vegetables as are to be found in the State. The ladies, too, were there with the products of their finer taste and artistic skill; and notwithstanding it rained nearly all day and the grounds were very muddy, they remained resolutely at their posts, making an attractive display of articles

—and selves—and encouraging by their good nature and pleasant words, their fathers, brothers and friends. The village of Sparta is very pleasantly located on the Milwaukee & La Crosse Railroad, and appears to be inhabited by a people of good taste, industry and enterprise.

To Mr. Kendall, President, Mr. Fisher, Secretary, and others, we are indebted for courtesies both pleasant in the enjoyment and in the remembrance.

Fortunately the trains west and east were so perfect in their connections, that we lost scarcely any time, and returned to Madison, our duty performed, after an absence of only one day and night.

Our next engagement was at

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR,

which was held at West Bend, Oct. 19th and 20th.

Unfortunately for us the time which we were able to give to this occasion was even more limited than at the Monroe Fair. Leaving the train at 3 o'clock in the morning at Cedar Creek, we walked over a rather rough road and heavy-wooded country to Maxonville, where we were cordially received and hospitably entertained at the neat and comfortable residence of Hon. D. W. Maxon, President of the Society and the worthy representative of the 4th District in the Senate of Wisconsin. The little village which bears his name has a very handsome and rather commanding site, and enjoys one of the best mill seats in that part of the country; the stream which supplies the power, having its source in a lake of considerable dimensions, and furnishing an unfailing and uniform supply of water. From Maxonville to West Bend, a distance of some eight or nine miles, the country is also hilly—the hills, in most cases, quite stony, moreover, and covered with a pretty heavy growth of hard-wood timber—a good soil for wheat and most other grains. The beautiful lakes Silver, Cedar, and others, give to this part of the country a picturesque landscape, and add to its numerous other attractions for the enterprising, hardworking Germans who constitute so large a proportion of the population.

We saw so little of the Fair that we shall not attempt to do it justice. The stock was exhibited the day before we arrived, and had been removed. The departments of vegetables, grains, and even fruits, was well filled, and at least proved the enterprise of the few who were contributors thereto.

The officers of the Society seemed dissatisfied with the general character of the exhibition, and will no doubt make a more vigorous effort next year, when the distracting political excitement will not prevail to so great an extent.

H.

THE STATE FAIR, AND THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In fulfilling our promise to review the article on the Fair, &c., published by the senior editor in the November number, we would premise by totally disclaiming any intention to write a *personal critque;* for however ill-conceived and uncleverly stated his own criticisms upon systems and policies so recently endorsed if not even inaugurated by himself, nothing could be more repugnant to our ideas of proper dignity and good taste, than such a "*reviewing,*" as he seems to deprecate in his final editorial remarks. Nor is it our purpose, in discussing those subjects connected with the Fair and the Society which are of general public interest, to make a special effort at either unusual smartness or extraordinary causticity. We have a simple duty to perform and shall discharge it in a plain and candid manner. It is simply apparent to our mind, first, that the article referred to contains important and damaging errors, and secondly, that it had its origin in other than the most kindly and generous sentiments.

We cheerfully admit the justness of some of the criticisms upon both Fair and Society—indeed a few of them are but re-iterations of what we have often urged, not only in editorials, but in conversation with our critical author and other members of the Board of Agriculture—but on the other hand we do object entirely to the spirit of those criticisms. But to the article itself; and first

OF THE FAIR.

In determining whether this was a success, it is manifestly proper to compare it, not with some hypothetical impossibility, but with other exhibitions of a similar character in this and other States. We must take times and men as they are, not as we would have them, if capable of being exactly moulded to our fancy. It is easy to make a flourish about "5,000 entries," and "an attendance of 100,000" people in a State where the whole population numbers scarcely more than twice that many

adults, but it is quite another thing to get the entries made and the people all to turn out. The experience of Mr. Powers, who for three years was Secretary of the Society, with the best opportunity in the world to accomplish this magnificent work of getting together the people of the whole State, should have taught him this simple lesson.

We are willing to concede that the Fair was not all that it might have been if the Executive Committee had been blessed with infallible wisdom, and all the farmers and mechanics in the State had done their full duty; but in view of all the circumstances and the character of other like exhibitions we have no hesitation in declaring it a *success*. Let us see the evidence:

1. *As to the preparation of the grounds*, it is universally conceded that they were never before in so fine a condition for the accommodation of the Exhibition, and for the reception, comfort and convenience of the people; and this remark applies not only to those points of superiority which should properly be referred to the greater permanency of the fittings, but to those in which good taste and foresight are the only elements to be considered. But all this our generous critic admits. "Very good fittings and ample preparations had been made by the officers." Very well.

2. Now let us look at the matter of attendance. There are but two methods of judging of the numbers—by the eye, and by the ticket receipts. Judging by the eye our conclusion has been that the number of people on the grounds Thursday, Sept. 27, 1860, was greater than at either of the Fairs of '57, '58, or '59. Many good judges were of the same opinion. Even our critic will doubtless concede this, as he allows that there were "twenty to twenty-five thousand during the day, and fifteen to twenty thousand just at the time of the ladies ride,"—a vast concourse of people, as we think, for a new and but sparsely settled State—a glorious gathering, such as should fill every friend of agriculture with gladness rather than sour grumbling. The attendance on Tuesday and Wednesday was hardly equal, perhaps, to what it has been at one or two other Fairs.

If we rely on ticket receipts for data, the following table shows that the attendance was not so "remarkably small" as a stranger might conclude from the article under review:

Ticket receipts at the Fair of 1857,	$4,441 69
" " " " 1858,	5,567 54
" " " " 1859,	5,521 48
" " " " 1860,	5,608 67

We have included these years specially, because during the first three, Mr. Powers was actual Secretary and more particularly responsible for the success of the exhibitions. Justice requires the statement, however, that the weather in '57 was unfavorable and prevented many, who would otherwise have been there, from attending. In 1858 and '59 the weather was sufficiently favorable, and in '58, the meeting of the Editorial Convention at the same time and place,—a circumstance which insured a very extensive advertisement of the exhibition—the anticipated presence of Prof. Rarey, the renowned horse-tamer, and the novelty to thousands of a first visit to the beautiful capital of our State, all conspired to secure a large gathering of the people. This year the crops had brightened the hopes of the farmers, and the weather was fine, but the political excitement absorbed much of the interest, and had made heavy drafts upon the enthusiasm, time and money, of those who usually attend our exhibitions.

Again, if we look to the Fairs of other States, whose ticket system is quite identical with ours, the disparity in population is so much greater than the difference in the attendance that the fault-finding of our author appears yet more unreasonable. In 1858, the New York Society—which has a world-wide reputation and is certainly regarded as the first in rank in the United States—realized but $9,259.31 from the sale of tickets. In 1859 it did but little, if any better; and for the present year the *total receipts* are reported as equal to only about $10,000. In a word, with a population four and a half times as large, the attendance at her Annual Fair is less than twice as large as at ours. In many other States the comparison would be still more favorable.

3. "The show of articles," we are told, "saving in the fruit, vegetable and horse departments, was certainly as meagre as the attendance." Rather disheartening really! but then the exception in favor of fruits, vegetables (does this include *grains* also?) and horses, is so cleverly made! Besides which, a little further on—where the opportunity to "repeat what we have often said" seems to him too good to be lost—our critic forgets himself for the moment and throws a generous bit to the sheep department; styling the show "good, among the best features of the Fair!" What a pity the cattle and swine

could not receive one word of comfort—for they were also present in superior numbers and quality to those at the Fairs of '57, '58, or '59—as in that event the Fair would have been splendid, bating the "slim show" of fancy articles and machinery, which we cheerfully grant was comparatively small, though probably for quite different reasons from those assigned.

The Department of Fine Arts was unfortunate in two respects, both beyond the control of the Society: In the first place the Superintendent—upon whom usually devolves the work of urging out a large class of articles that help very materially to make up a good show, but which are not properly subjects for premiums—resigned his position at so late a day that the Committee were unable to fill his place until the very date of the Fair; and secondly, the city of Milwaukee, which so abounds in articles appropriate to that department, for some reason neglected quite entirely to give the Society the benefit of her usually fine displays.

The Department of Operative Machinery suffered in like manner—and not as is elsewhere stated because of an indisposition on the part of the Society to duly encourage the mechanic arts. The contemptuous fling of the author of the criticism at the show of machinery and the absence of steam power, is among the most inconsistent and ungenerous of all his ungenerous remarks, and can only be appreciated in the light of his statement—that he "was Superintendent" of that Department, and therefore, if not, indeed, partially responsible for, at least familiar with the causes of the final failure to secure that "steam" at the absence of which he sneers; in the further light also, of his early voluntary assurances, that "the Operative Machinery would be *done up* as it never had been before,"(!) his subsequent informal resignation of the Superintendency after the Fair had commenced, and his almost total inattention to this branch of the Exhibition, from first to last. We regret most sincerely that his own machinery did not receive the attention and favor which he thought it entitled to, at the Fair, but are led to believe that the final report of the committee, as published with the awards, ought to satisfy him. The committee were competent and honorable men and undoubtedly intended to do him full justice.

If the opinion of competent and disinterested men from without the State be worth anything, then may we pardoned for a few brief quotations from the report of Dr. Kennicott, of Illinois, as published in the *Prairie Farmer*. The Dr. was several years Secretary of of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, and is eminent authority in the matter of Fairs. Mark the contrast between his estimate and the spirit of his writing and that of our critical colleague. After stating that "agricultural implements, especially those needed by the wheat-growers were in respectable quantity," and that "the Hall of Manufactures was well filled," he thus speaks of those departments in which he felt most interested and therefore most carefully examined:

"But, all praise to the genuine hard diggers—the real farmers of the Badger State—the Hall of Farm and Dairy Products was the crowning glory of the State Fair! A grand show—an immense show—a show worth going an hundred miles, and more, to see, in that one hall, alone. Here, Counties as well as individua's competed; and PIERCE COUNTY—away up north, on the Upper Mississippi—showed enough, of itself, to eclipse more than one great State exhibition. Oh! such measures of wheat, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, peas and beans—and such "traces" of yellow corn, I never saw before. And the whole line of vegetables was equally astounding. Potatoes, large and fair, of a dozen sorts—and in piles—carrots, turnips, beets, salsify, the cabbage family, egg plants and tomatoes, onions by the bushel, and squashes by the ton, were heaped up, upon and *under* a double circle of tables, in one of the largest tents of the Society—leaving but half of one outer table, for honey, in good display, butter in numerous packages, and cheese in bulk—a lot of the latter still on the wagon that brought it; and one of the cheeses—made by J. V. Robbins near by, weighed *only* 1,620 lbs.! Glory enough—for one county—and creditable to others, and to the whole State, was this show of Wisconsin products.

"Fruit was in great abundance—and of great variety. Apples leading—*Grapes* coming next, in show—about 25 varieties of them. Pears in respectable display—some plums—more, of home growth, than at our State Fair—and even fine, well ripened Peaches!—and, of course, specimens of that interesting native fruit, the Cranberry, from cultivated vines, and well loaded vines they were. Upon the whole—and in grapes, particularly—the Badgers have beaten *us*, this time."

In conclusion, the Dr. makes generous mention of the other departments of the exhibition and cleverly cautions all our "rural exhibitions" against giving too much prominence to "eques-

trianism" and "fast horses"—for all of which we feel duly grateful.

But in concluding this branch of the discussion suppose we entirely set aside the opinions and *ipse dixits* of individuals, and see what there is in the figures. The number of entries in the various departmants does not furnish exact data for an estimate of one exhibition as compared with others, inasmuch as the quantity and quality characterizing individual samples may vary considerably; but inasmuch as both of these circumstances (quantity and quality) are universally conceded never to have been better than this year, the objection is rather in favor of, than against this method of demonstration.

	In '57.	'58.	'59.	'60.
Entries of Domestic Animals.....	520	511	458	580
" in Agr'l and Dairy Dep's.	240	460	370	568
" of Fruits and Flowers....	240	207	108	203
" Mach. Imp's, & Manufac.	300	319	365	331
" Operative Machn'y alone	133	135	103	116

From this showing it appears that in the number of entries in the *most important departments*, the exhibition of 1860 takes precedence of all others held in this State. The show of flowers, and of pictures, patch quilts, embroideries, &c., has been surpassed at one or two previous Fairs.

So much for the *Show*. As to the general management, we have heard of but one single complaint—that regarding the terms of admission. In relation to this we have only to remark that the ticket system of this season was no invention on the part of the present Executive Committee. It was identical with the system introduced in 1859, at Milwaukee, when Mr. Powers was Secretary, and identical, moreover, with the systems in use in New York, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. We think it may be improved in some respects, and have an amendment to propose when the proper time arrives. Meanwhile suggestions are cordially invited.

Let us look, in the next place, to the character of

THE WISCONSIN STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This institution has had a corporate existence since 1851. Its Presidents in succession have been E. W. Drury, H. M. Billings, E. W. Edgerton, Harvey Durkee, J. F. Willard, and B. R. Hinkley. Its Secretaries for the same period have been Albert C. Ingham, Geo. O. Tiffany, D. J. Powers and J. W. Hoyt. The Treasurers, Chauncey Abbott, Simeon Mills, Samuel Marshall, D. J. Powers, and David Atwood. The list of Vice Presidents and additional members of the Executive Committee, presents many of the best names in the State. The General Committee usually consists of the Presidents or Secretaries (Secretaries the present year) of the several County Societies. These last,—which the article under discussion entirely ignores—"are charged with the interests of the Society in the Counties in which they shall respectively reside, and will constitute a medium of communication between the Executive Committee and the remote members of the Society." [See Constitution, Art. iv.] Whether they were as entirely overlooked in Mr. Powers' administration of the office of Secretary as they have been in his discussion of the organization of the Society, we will not presume to say; but during the present year we have, ourself, been in communication with them and in many cases have received a most cordial and valuable co-operation.

The organization was modeled after the most successful and popular Society in the United States—the New York State Agricultural—and differs from it in no respect, except that the N. Y. Society has eight Vice Presidents—one for each judicial district, instead of Congressional, as here—and 5 Ex. Presidents in its Board instead of 3.

For more than twenty years the Agriculture of the Empire State has flourished under the fostering care of an institution thus organized, and we are informed by the able Secretary, who for some nineteen years has occupied his present position and been its master spirit, that they now discover no occasion for change.

But our editorial brother complains that "the dollar members have no vote at elections." Well, this does look rather non-democratic, and upon this ground, as a member of the committee which last revised the Constitution we opposed elections by Life Members, exclusively. But the disgraceful scramble for office at the Annual Meeting in 1858, and the shameful purchase of votes—easily bought, since they cost but $1 each—satisfied us most fully that there *ought* to be some better system for the election of officers; and we have accordingly been content to wait until the new plan could have a fair trial—especially as it had given entire satisfaction in other States. But more of this under another head.

Having disposed of the organization, as altogether faulty and unworthy of its professed objects, our senior next pays his respects to

the administration, the officers themselves. True, he "wishes to be distinctly understood as finding no fault with the officers"—not at all, "they are very fair men, as a general thing, though some of them rather green in such matters"! But even these are innocent, "well-meaning men, and likely to grow wiser as they grow older, of course"! How generous! how beautifully charitable!

But who are these men, of whom "some are rather green in such matters"? The reader is referred to page 326 of the *Farmer*, Nov. No. Eleven of the sixteen have been, in some capacity, officers of the Society for periods varying from 2 to 9 years; the remaining five have been in various ways familiar with industrial exhibitions for many years—some of them careful inspectors of a larger number of such Fairs than even our wise and venerable critic has probably ever attended; and, barring ourself, all are men of mature years, and of recognized ability and sound judgment.

Doesn't wish to "find fault with the officers"—of course not; but then he immediately proceeds to charge them with "moving in a certain accustomed, beaten track, often perpetuating themselves in office from year to year, and seldom or never striking out a new idea; with a premium list as unchanging as if stereotyped," &c., &c.

Well, let us see how much truth and consistency can be found in this charge of monotony, stupidity and stagnation. Had it been made one year ago we might have passed it over in silence, for during the years '57, '58, and '59, there does seem to have been but little if any change in the Secretarial management of either Society or Fairs; and we confess to have occasionally thought of "beaten tracks," and the absence of a "new idea," and of "a premium list almost as unchanging as if stereotyped." But then we had learned that new ways are not always the best ways, and so not wishing to cause a needless disaffection towards the Society, contented ourself with making private suggestions, and with doing what we could as simply a friend and member of the Society to bring about such changes as seemed to us important.

We have neither time nor disposition to waste words in a comparison of the premium lists for the years above named, nor to animadvert upon what has seemed a very unnatural arrangement of classes. They are as much alike as three successive editions of the same work, almost without change of word, figure or punctuation. The Secretary's remark at the close of the list for 1859, that "some *slight* changes will be found from last year," might with equal propriety have been appended to each of the three.

It is not our intention—as seems to be the design of our associate—to hold the Secretary solely responsible for the policy and acts of the Society, but it does seem a little remarkable that during the four years, for which period he held this office and that of Treasurer, he should have been able to effect none of those changes which, now that he is no longer a member of the Ex. Committee, have thus suddenly assumed so great a magnitude of importance; still more surprising that in those matters for which the Secretary may be held justly responsible, there should have been scarcely any modifications at all.

Now how is it as to the present year? It is not pretended that any great number of very remarkable changes have been made; simply that the only modifications of classification, changes in the value of premiums, and new features of general policy that have characterized the Society and its exhibitions for the last four years are to be found in the Premium List for 1860.

In the first place, it will be noticed that there is a marked change in the general classification, the entire exhibition being divided into 4 great natural Divisions and the integrity of each maintained.

Secondly, there is a radical change in the classification of horses; Black Hawks and Morgans being included in their proper place under the head of "Roadsters."

Third, there are no premiums offered for "Crosses of Blood Cattle"; it being the policy of the Society to encourage purity of blood, until our State is properly supplied with thorough-bred stock.

Fourth, no premiums are offered for *fruits not named*. This change is important as corrective of a most reprehensible carlessness in relation to varieties.

Fifth, the Society this year offered more premiums and larger than formerly, especially on horses and cattle. For example, amount offered last year on horses, $593; amount this year, $1,052. Amount on cattle last year, $1,087; this year, $1,322.

Sixth, the Society not only offered premiums on farms, but actually secured the entry of

seven, and appointed a committee which *did* visit them.

Seventh, the Society inaugurated the highly important policy—not only new in Wisconsin, but *original* here—of bringing counties as well as individuals into competition at our Fairs.

Eighth, it successfully inaugurated the excellent plan of a course of practical and scientific lectures, rnnning through the week of the Fair. The intellectual and educational advantages derivable from our exhibitions have thus for the first time had practical recognition. The lectures by Dr. Kennicott of Ills., on Fruit Growing in Wis.; by Dr. Reid, of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, on Science in its bearings upon Agriculture and the Health and Habitations of the People; and by Prof. Carr, of the State University, on the Practical Relations of Geology to Agriculture, were highly valuable and will constitute very interesting and important chapters in the new volume of Transactions.

But time and space will not permit a further demonstration of the fact that the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society has been *eminently alive* during the present year. A new and creditable Volume of Transactions, including the acts of the Society, &c., for the years 1858 and 1859; an interesting correspondence opened and maintained with like associations in this country and in Europe; the beginnings of an herbarium of Wisconsin Plants, and of a cabinet of minerals, soils, insects, &c., with feasible plans for their increase; and numerous agricultural lectures, delivered without expense to the Society, in various portions of the State,—these are additional evidences of vitality.

It was not our wish to parade these facts before our readers, and we have only recited them because forced to do so by the utter injustice of the charges made by the senior editor of this paper.

We do not claim that either the organization of the Society or the officers who administer it are *perfect*. It is not impossible that both might be improved. It is our opinion, indeed, that the Society does need, first, a more intimate connection with the County Societies and a certain degree of control over them; and secondly, a better system for the election of officers. The first deficiency named will require legislation; the last may be supplied by the action of the Society itself.

The Life Membership system has now been tried for two years, and, although its operation is more satisfactory than that of the old plan, still it is open to the same objection, though to a less extent, and is, moreover, obnoxious to one other, viz: that its practical tendency is to take the elections out of the hands of farmers, who, as a general thing, are not so ready to spend their ten dollars, and place them in the power of men who have no practical connection with agriculture and no deep, controlling interest in its advancement.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Accordingly, with a view to obviate all the difficulties above enumerated, it had occurred to us that it might be well to so modify the Constitution as that the election of officers shall be by delegates from the County Societies; and we have therefore been for some time in correspondence with several State Societies in relation to the advantages of various styles of organization. Illinois, we find, has already adopted such a system as suggested above, and it is said to give universal satisfaction.

The Executive Committee is not, as we think, too small, but every section of the State is not sufficiently represented in the creation of that Board. A Board of the number proposed by Mr. Powers, would be altogether too unwieldy and therefore inefficient. Besides, if their expenses are to be paid, the yearly meeting of which he speaks—"a session for a week, with all the dignity and publicity of a small legislature"—would exhaust the funds of the Society to little purpose.

Sixteen or twenty competent men carefully chosen by delegates from all the counties would be ten times as efficient and cost the Society or the State ten times less than a number ten times as large. The elections should be at the Fair as now, so that the delegates could conveniently attend, and so that they might, through public discussion or otherwise, during Fair week, give such direction to the policy of the Society as the good of agriculture and the other industrial arts might seem to demand.

A State Board such as is suggested is also open to the further objection of greater liability to political interference. Nevertheless on some accounts we would prefer a Board to a Society, and if a majority of the intelligent friends of agriculture in the State see any sufficent reason why a complete substitution should be made of the former for the latter, we shall have pleasure in deferring to their

judgment and doing all in our power to further their wishes when the proper time shall have come to act. We are glued by prejudice to no stereotyped system. On the contrary, *excelsior* is our motto, and we are ever anxiously and earnestly seeking for the *best* way, be it ever so different from anything either in the past or present.

It should be remembered, however, that stability is essential to the prosperity of any institution, and that changes, therefore, if made at all, should always be clearly and demonstrably for the better. The style of the organization is itself less important than the ability, energy and fidelity of the men who administer it. Of these we are entirely willing to let the people judge.

But we have already exceeded our own limitations as to space in the discussion of this subject. Had it concerned us, personally and alone, no reply would have been made to the article of our associate; but feeling that the important public interests which we are doing everything in our power to promote would suffer were it to go out unrebuked, we have made such answer as we thought it deserved. In doing so we are sure of having preserved our accustomed good nature, howmuchsoever of severity there may seem to be in some points of our defence of a Society that has done and is doing much to promote the best interests of our State. We entertain no other sentiments than those of good will towards our associate, and on this account, also, most sincerely regret his unwarrantable attitude towards the Society. The advancement of the industrial arts and the elevation of the laboring classes of our people are great and worthy objects, and it is to be deplored that there should be less than a full and hearty co-operation on the part of all who recognize their magnitude and importance.

HOYT.

REMARKS.—As we expected and hoped, Prof. Hoyt the Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, has made answer to our remarks on the Society in the November number. He seems disposed to regard the whole matter as much more personal than we had intended or expected.

We did not consider during our administration as Secretary, that it devolved upon the Secretary to take the entire responsibility and running of the *machine*, nor do we now. A Secretary of an Agricultural Society has certain specific duties assigned to him, and for these he is entirely responsible, but here his special responsibility ends. As to the general policy of the Society, he counts one and only one.

He complains of the ill conceived and obnoxious character of our statements. True, they may not have had the nice turns the Professor could have given them, still we think that our style of remarks in the former article will in the main, at least, be adjudged well considered, candid and fair to all parties, and easily understood and comprehended, by all who wish to do so.

We did not intend any personality then, nor do we now, it is an article that we seldom dabble in unless compelled. We know there are those who court personality and wrangling because of the notoriety it gives, but we have no intention of indulging our friend nor any one else to any great extent in that way. We think that he could well have spared many of his disparaging personal allusions and comparisons; especially as they are generally founded in error or misconception, and have nothing to do with the subject, except to gratify personal feeling.

The Professor assumes that our article contained many damaging (*facts*) errors, and further "that it had its origin in other than the most kindly and generous sentiments." We do not doubt the former with our italicised correction, but we wholly deny the latter. Presuming that this would be the charge brought against us in all cases where our arguments could not be otherwise answered, we took occasion, in advance, to disclaim everything of the kind, and now repeat it. On the other hand we claim as much friendship for the institution as can any other, but not enough to deceive us as to its faults, or to be silent upon them when we think reform is needed and obtainable.

He admits, finally, nearly all we claim, and proves more by his figures for our side of the question, than his own. He shows that the Fair of 1860, under all the favorable circumstances that could be imagined, and even under his own unrivalled management, did not equal in some respects, nor hardly surpass in any, the three previous Fairs, which were gotten up in the face and eyes of the most disastrous times that this country has ever seen. We contended, and still contend, that under all the circumstances, it ought to have greatly ex-

ceeded all its predecessors. He shows the cash receipts of the three years of our Secretaryship, but does not go back of it and show that we nearly or quite doubled the receipts of the immediately preceding years. His statement that the weather was "sufficiently favorable" at the Madison Fair of 1858, will be laughable to those who recollect the circumstances.

Speaking of the experience of some of the members of the board, we should like to know which of them have attended more Fairs than ourself? We think they will prove scarce at least.

So far as the changes for the better in the premium lists are concerned, although not more responsible for them than any other member of the board, we will still venture the opinion, notwithstanding the assertion to the contrary, that the list of 1860 will be found to contain more blunders than any list that has preceded it in the last five years. But this is a matter that the public can examine and judge for themselves, and with them we will leave it.

He asserts that there has been only one complaint. We admit it; but that has been almost universal. In fact we have heard more complaining about the late Fair, than all the others that ever preceded it put together. And unless some material changes are made in next year's programme, we shall hardly expect to see any sort of an attendance even from our own city. We presume that the Professor is not at all chargeable for the obnoxious ticket system, and here allow us to say that it is one we never have favored, and that in fact we prevented its being established at our Fair at Madison in 1858.

The Milwaukee Fair of last year was managed mainly by Milwaukee men in connection with our present President, whether good or bad we had little to do with it pro or con, except to attend to our special duty, which we claim was well done at least.

The Doctor in making his comparisons, refers to the Society of the State of New York, and their Fair of 1858, for a sample, but he failed to tell that a great rain storm throughout the entire Fair was what made their receipts so small. Why did he not quote his own State of Ohio with its receipts of $25,000 to $30,000 per annum?

But enough in the main. A word more about Operative Machinery, &c., &c.

We deny the truth of the damaging insinuations thrown out in this matter. We never promised what we would do in this behalf, without something to do it with. If there had been engines and machinery on the ground, it would have been disposed of in good shape, and well attended to, but learning that there was nothing there, instead of spending all of our own time doing nothing (which is not our habit) we appointed a good and competent assistant, who did attend to things constantly and well in that department.

The Doctor's gratuitous allusion to our machinery on exhibition, is of a piece with his whole article. It is intended to mislead people into the notion that we had something of our own to complain of. Such is not the fact. We have made no complaints of the board in any such matter, nor have nothing of the kind to complain of. What machinery we showed attracted all the attention we wished or expected, and our premiums were all we could desire.

Here we will leave the subject for the present, but engaging to refer to it again when and as often as occasion requires, always with good feeling and good nature to all parties, of course. We have also notice of articles on the subject from several able and experienced pens. It bids fair to be well canvassed before it goes to sleep again, and for the good, we hope, of all parties.

POWERS.

A FINE FRUIT FARM.

Rev. J. Knox, of Pittsburg, has 100 acres under fruit culture, which has been a marvel of productiveness and profit. Fifty acres are devoted to strawberries, ten in raspberries, ten in blackberries, seventeen in peaches, ten in apples, and three in very select varieties of the grape, chiefly the Concord, Delaware and Diana, raised for fruit, for wine-making, and for sale of cuttings.

The strawberries are all set in perfectly straight and equidistant rows. The ground is frequently and abundantly enriched after the most approved treatment. The soil is often, and very thoroughly stirred by suitable cultivators, by the hoe, and otherwise, and then gone over at regular intervals and throughout the year, by hand. Every weed is rooted out, every plant examined, and every thing removed which might prove noxious, or added which might prove beneficial to the plants health, thriftiness and productiveness.

For this elaborate culture a very large force is requisite, and in spring-time, when every attention tells directly on the fruit, *over one hundred persons are employed on the grounds at one time.*

The strawberry plantations are divided into

specimen, fruiting and *propagating* beds. In the specimen bed there is grown a single row of all the best reputed stock varieties of strawberries known—over a hundred—and each kept perfectly distinct by the constant removal of runners. The propagation beds are for the production of new plants by their parent plants being allowed to make runners and strike out roots. The fruit beds are, as mentioned above, planted and cultivated in rows, no runner being allowed to extend or root itself.

One acre thus cultivated will produce *more than five* treated in the ordinary way; and *all judicious* labor spent on the strawberry will pay at least one hundred per cent.

There are about twenty-five varieties, which, for fruit, Mr. Knox says he could not get along without, although from three to six kinds will furnish sufficient variety for such as cultivate for family use: British Queen, Buist's prize, Boston Pine, Brighton Pine, Baltimore Scarlet, Burr's New Pine, Compte de Flanders, Hovey's Seedlings, Hooker, Honneur de Belique, Jenny Lind, Kitly's Goliath, Large Early Scarlet, Longworth's Prolific, McAvoy's Superior, Moyamensing, Nimrod, Peabody's Seedling, Princess Royal, Scarlet Magnate, Scott's Seedling, Triomphe de Gand, Trollope's Victoria, Vicomptesse Hericart de Thury, and Wilson's Albany.

He regards the Wilson's Albany as a very valuable and profitable variety, and has shown his faith in it by planting full fifteen acres of it this spring. In addition to its many other excellencies, it has proved a superior berry for canning, or preserving, and was this season in great demand for these purposes. It is, moreover, eminently productive, and highly profitable as a market fruit. Mr. Knox is also very partial to Trollope's Victoria, an excellent variety of very large size, and delicious flavor, and which continues in bearing a long time. He has raised specimens of fruit this season, without any extra attention, measuring from 1¼ to 2¼ inches in diameter.

But after a trial of three years, Mr. Knox places at the head of the list of strawberries, the Triomphe de Gand. The plants are thrifty, hardy, and vigorous growers, bearing their fruit well up, which renders it easy to be kept clean. They are also wonderfully productive, and the fruit is not only *usually* of very large size but *uniformly* so, and *throughout the season*, which is longer with it than with most other varieties. The flavor is everything which could be desired. It is of a very beautiful crimson color, glossy and altogether lovely. It keeps well after being picked, retaining its beautiful color and firmness, and carries better than any other variety. Fruit of this variety, and Trollope's Victoria, was bought this season from 50 cents to $1 per quart, and was sent to Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and New York.

☞ Gilded roofs and silver door locks, cannot shut out sleepless nights.

CENSUS OF WISCONSIN.

The late census of Wisconsin shows the following result, as compared with five and ten years ago. The increase per cent. is enormous:

Counties.	1850.	1855.	1860.
Adams,	187	6,868	7,004
Bad Axe, from Crawford,		4,823	11,012
Brown,	6,215	6,699	11,800
Calumet,	1,743	3,631	7,907
Chippewa,	615	838	1,894
Clark, from Chippewa,		232	793
Columbia,	9,565	17,965	24,545
Crawford,	2,498	3,323	8,071
Dane,	16,630	37,714	43,412
Dodge,	19,138	34,540	36,086
Door, from Brown		739	2,987
Eau Claire, from Chippewa			3,212
Fond du Lac	14,510	24,784	34,202
Grant	16,198	23,175	31,175
Green	8,566	14,727	19,866
Green Lake, from Marquette			12,670
Iowa	9,528	15,205	19,323
Jackson from Crawford		1,098	4,134
Jefferson	15,317	26,869	37,450
Juneau from Adams			8,774
Kewaunee, from Brown		1,109	5,532
Kenosha	10,734	12,397	13,864
LaCrosse from Crawford		3,904	12,136
Lafayette	11,531	16,064*	18,344
Manitowoc	3,702	13.043	22,405
Marathon	508	1,427	2,893
Marquette	8,041	14,837	8,236
Milwaukee	31,077	46,265	62,337
Monroe, from Chippewa		2,407	8,417
Oconto, from Brown		1,501	3,591
Outagamie, from Brown		4,914	9,602
Ozaukee, from Washington		12,973	15,801
Pierce from St. Croix		1,720	4,677
Portage	1,250	5,151	7,530
Racine	14,973	20,673	21,411
Richland	903	5,584	9,720
Rock	20,750	31,364	37,583
Sauk	4,371	13,614	18,971
Shawana from Brown		254	829
Sheboygan	8,379	20,391	26,725
Walworth	17,862	22,662	26,522
Washington	19,485	18,897	23,628
Waukesha	19,258	24,012	26,828
Waupaca from Winnebago		4,437	8,919
Waushara from Marquette		5,541	8,815
Winnebago	10,167	17,439	23,788
Wood, from Portage			2,425
Dunn, from Chippewa		1,150	4,985
Pepin, from Dunn			
St. Croix	6,224	2,040	
Polk		547	6,820
Dallas from Polk			
Burnett			
Douglas from La Point		385	1,691
Ashland " "			
La Point	439	447	
Buffalo from Chippewa		832	6,430
Trempealeau from Chippewa		493	
	305,391	552,109	777,771
Increase from 1850 to 1855			246,108
" " 1855 " 1860			225,662
Increase in ten years			471,770

*One District estimated.

☞ The bark of a willow tree, burned to ashes, mixed with strong vinegar and applied to the parts, will remove all corns or excrescences on any part of the body.

☞ Never let your tools and implements be exposed to the decaying influences of the frost, rain and sun, except when in use. "A place for everything, and everything in its place," will save at least twenty-five per cent. per annum, in this respect.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE PORK PROSPECTS.

The prospects of good prices for pork seem to be fair. At the present time good fair dressed hogs bring from 6¼ to 6½ cents per lb. This is a price that will remunerate pork growers very well. From the estimates made of the crop of hogs this present season, we note that, even with the large crop of corn that has been grown in the corn growing States, the number and weight of hogs will not be materially increased over last year. The Cincinnati *Gazette* says on this subject:

The failure of the corn crop in the South must diminish largely the production of hogs in that section, and there will consequently be a heavier demand than usual in those States for the hog products of the West. At the outside, the Southern States, including Kentucky, have not this year more than half an average crop of corn, although the yield has proved better than was expected at the close of the harvest; but it is to be remembered that the Southern States, with the exception of Kentucky and Missouri, have never packed hogs to any extent, at least not recently, though they have furnished a considerable number for home consumption—the latter, however, never appearing in the crop reports. The following table shows the number of hogs packed in the several States last season:

Ohio,	689,858
Indiana,	404,046
Illinois,	504,935
Kentucky,	322,487
Missouri,	195,260
Iowa,	166,936
Wisconsin,	54,500
Tennessee,	26,800

The only States in which any falling off can be claimed as a consequence of the failure of the corn crop are Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee. In the other States the crop of corn is very large. It is not expected, we believe, that there will be any falling off in the number of hogs in the States where corn is plenty and cheap, while an increase of ten per cent. is admitted. We then have 1,811,275 hogs, on which an increase in weight of ten per cent. is conceded.

The increase is equal to 181,000 head, making the total for the five Northern States, in round numbers, 1,992,000. Deduct this from last year's total crop, and there is a deficit of 358,547 to be made up in Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee. These States packed 539,547 head last year. Allowing a falling off on this number of 33 per cent., which is a liberal estimate, and there would be a deficit of 178,771 against the increase of weight in the North of equal to 181,127. According to this estimate the crop would come out about the same as last season.

Whatever the result of the season's business shall be as regards packers, feeders are likely to be well paid. A large proportion of the crop has already been bought at prices ranging from $5.75a6,35 net, varying according to locality. The contracts in the whole West do not, we think, fall far short of 1,000,000 head, and most of these have been taken directly by packers.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

We have noticed with satisfaction for the past three months, that the wool trade has been sustained with great firmness. Business in this article has been very quiet, but yet without much effort sales have been made at rates which do not indicate any disposition on the part of holders to concede to buyers, although the demand may be considered as moderate. This, however, was to be expected. The consumers or manufacturers having supplied themselves with large stocks at the time of the wool clip, it was to be expected that they would work off these stocks before going again into the market. Speculators were not anxious to invest their capital in wool when the demand for breadstuffs offered such facilities for the display of their abilities as it has done this fall, hence we have not heard much said about wool. Now we note that Tellkampf & Kitching, in their late circular, say, "There are strong indications of livelier demand for most kinds of wool in the New York market being soon experienced." [We do not believe that these gentlemen had any reference to politics when they wrote the above quotation!] There is a general complaint of a very light stock of foreign wools, and of some kinds the market is entirely bare. The good rates paid for foreign wool in the British markets divert the supplies to that country, and of course has already begun to affect the next year's clip. The most recent reports indicate that both in England and on the continent all kinds of wool are very firm, with an improved state of trade there.—*Michigan Farmer.*

☞ A couple of Norway spruce trees, at Baltimore, Md., apparently dead, were recently galvanized into life and wonderful vigor, by Judge Fuller, of Coldwater, Michigan, by means of a battery of zinc and iron placed near the roots. The branches are swelling out and new leaves are forming where they before were falling off.

THE EXTERMINATION OF RATS.—Rats are a pest—a nuisance to the farmer, and the publication of any remedy to exterminate them is a public benefaction.

A writer in the Ohio *Farmer* says that he succeeded in killing all the rats that frequented his barn, by stopping up their holes, and thus hindering their egress. At the same time he supplied them with water, in which he put arsenic. This dose was renewed for several nights, with the result of an entire destruction of all the rats on the premises. When pitching down the grain for threshing, a great many dead rats were found.

IN DEBT AND OUT OF DEBT.

Of what a hideous progeny of ill, is debt the father! What lies, what meanness, 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, it will stab the honest heart. And then the transformation! How it has been known to change a goodly face into a mask of brass; how, with the "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 a relish in a dry crust; what ambrosial nourishment in a hard egg! Be sure of it, he who dines out of debt, though his meal be biscuit and an onion, dines in "The Apollo." And then for the raiment; what warmth is a thread-bare coat, if the tailor's receipt be in the 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 knocker falls not a knell on his heart; the foot on the staircase, though he live on the third pair, sends no spasm through his anatomy; at a rap at the door he can go 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 walks 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 not debt that casts a drug into the richest wine; that makes the food of the good unwholesome, indigestible; that sprinkles the banquets of Lucullus with ashes, and drops soot into 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 on the knocker; that makes the heart quake at the haunted fireside; 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 draught, yet may 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 courteously it may be offered, is the cup of a siren, and the wine, spiced and delicious though it be, an eating poison. The man out of debt, though with a flaw in his jerken, a crack in his shoe leather, 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 bravest, what is he but a serf upon a holiday —a slave to be claimed at any instant by his owner, the creditor? Son, if poor, see wine in the running spring; let thy mouth water at a last week's roll; and think a thread-bare coat the "only wear;" and acknowledge a whitewashed garret the fittest housing place for a gentleman; do this, and flee debt. So shall thy heart be at peace and the sheriff be confounded.—*Miner's Rural American.*

THE VALUE OF BOOKS.

We form judgments of men from little things about their house, of which the owner, perhaps, never thinks. In earlier years, when traveling in the West, where taverns were either scarce, or in some places unknown, and every settler's house was a house of "Entertainment," it was a matter of some importance and experience to select wisely where you would put up. And we always looked for flowers. If there were no trees for shade, no patch of flowers in the yard, we were suspicious of the place. But, no matter how rude the cabin, or rough the surroundings, if we saw that the window held a little trough for flowers, and that some vines twined about strings let down from the eaves, we were confident that there was some taste and comfort in the log cabin. In a new country, where people have to tug for a living, no one will take the trouble to rear flowers, unless the love of them is pretty strong; and this taste, blossoming out of plain and uncultivated people, is, itself, like a clump of hare-bells growing out of the seams of a rock. We were seldom misled. A patch of flowers came to signify kind people, clean beds, and good bread.

But, other signs are more significant in other states of society. Flowers about a rich man's house may signify only that he has a good gardener, or that he has refined neighbors, and does what he sees them do.

But men are not accustomed to buy *books* unless they want them. If, on visiting the dwelling of a man of slender means, we find the reason why he has cheap carpets and very plain furniture to be that he may purchase books, he rises at once in our esteem. Books are not made for furniture, but there is nothing else that so beautifully furnishes a house. The plainest row of books that cloth or paper ever covered, is more significant of refinement than the most elaborately carved sideboard.

Give us a house furnished with books rather than furniture! Both, if you can, but books at any rate! To spend several days at a friend's house, and hunger for something to read, while you are treading on costly carpets, and sitting upon luxurious chairs, and sleeping upon down, is as if you were bribing your body for the sake of cheating your mind.

Is it not pitible to see a man growing rich, and beginning to augment the comforts of home, and lavishing money on ostentatious upholstery, upon the table, upon everything, but what the soul needs?

We know of many and many a rich man's

house, where it would not be safe to ask for the commonest English classics. A few gilded annuals on the table, a few pictorial monstrosities, together with a stock of religious books of his "persuasion," and that is all! No range of poets, no essayists, no selection of historians, no travels or biographies, no select fictions or curious legendary lore; but then the walls have paper which cost three dollars a roll, and the floors have carpets that cost four dollars a yard! Books are the windows through which the soul looks out. A house without books is like a room without windows. No man has a right to bring up his children without surrounding them with books, if he has the means to buy them. It is a wrong to his family. He cheats them! Children learn to read by being in the presence of books. The love of knowledge comes with reading, and grows upon it. And the love of knowledge in the young mind is almost a warrant against the inferior excitement of passions and vices.

Let us pity these poor rich men who live barrenly in great, bookless houses! Let us congratulate the poor that in our day books are so cheap that a man may every year add a hundred volumes to his library for the price of what his tobacco and his beer would cost him. Among the earliest ambitions to be excited in clerks, workmen, journeymen, and, indeed, among all that are struggling up in life from nothing to something, is that of owning, and constantly adding to, a library of good books. A little library, growing larger every year, is an honorable part of a young man's history. It is a man's duty to have books. A library is not a luxury, but one of the necessaries of life.

A good book is a thing as separate and distinct from all other creations, as a bird is from a flower, or a jewel from a stone. Books are at once our masters and our servants. They have a silent independence, an unchanging voice, a calm declaration of truth, as they will. But they are unobtrusive. They wait for our moods and our leisure. They are never jealous if we neglect them, nor quarrelsome when we are familiar. They wait upon us in youth, in manhood, and in old age, with a vivacity that time never chills, and an instructiveness that repetition never wearies. Men grow old, and children are the only reprints allowed. The same volume is never reproduced. But books come again, in successive editions, with the same life, the same disposition, the same office of love and goodness. Their joints never stiffen. Their heads never grow grey. All hinges but book hinges at times grate. But the unsoiled pages turn smoothly forever.

Books gradually lose their inert and dead form, and become to us like persons that have pulse and articulate voice. We feel more intimately acquainted with authors two hundred years dead than we do with our daily companions. We never let living creatures enter into our soul with such universal liberty as authors assume. And a scholar is never alone among books, nor is he ever lonesome, except among crowds of talking, trading, trifling men. A book is better for weariness than sleep; better for cheerfulness than wine; and it will hold out with the longest night that watcher ever saw. It often is a better physician than the doctor, a better preacher than the minister, a better sanctuary than the drowsy church.

THRESHING-MACHINES.

Not from one farmer alone, but from a dozen, we have received assurances that these large machines, with their eight or ten horses and large force of men to wait on and operate them, are to be superseded by the two-horse tread-mill threshers. One man assured us he was satisfied that each day one of the large machines threshed for him, he lost fifty bushels of grain—it was wasted. Add the expense of boarding and waiting on a large number of men and horses, and the aggregate loss of time, if anything breaks and the eight hands and a like number of horses stand still even for an hour or two. If a man owns a two-horse thresher and separator, and has a good barn floor, he may do all his threshing indoors. Save *all* the grain, and do it with his own team and help, or that of one or two of his neighbors. He will *save* enough more than he would by the spread eagle mode, to pay for threshing. This is not alone our opinion, but the testimony of men qualified by experience this season to sustain the opinion. Others assert that the two-horse reapers, mowers, ploughs, etc., are more economical, and will eventually be adopted altogether. This is a proper subject for discussion—for examination. There are men who have used the pencil in arriving at these conclusions. We shall be glad to give the public their figures.—*Prairie Farmer.*

REMARKS.—The above is sound logic. Every good farmer should have a good horse power, at least, and the addition to this of a thresher and separator is not much, and could be more than saved in a single season. We are not so sure that the tread-power is the best. Many prefer the sweep, and we are of the same opinion.—ED. FARMER.

WISCONSIN STATISTICS.—A circular just issued by Secretary Harvey, gives the total number of acres in the State at 17,816,174,26. Aggregate value of lands, exclusive of city and village lots, as equalized in 1860, $155,377,-397,16. Aggregate value of city and village lots, do., $14,178,377,28. Aggregate value of personal property, $27,506,761.56.

☞ Four inches of snow and very cold weather on the 23d of November.

FALL AND WINTER MANAGEMENT OF BEES.

The only thing that can be done with bees in the fall months, is to see that the hives are not robbed—the *modus operandi* of which we have recently fully explained; but as we shall send this paper to many new readers, we shall simply say that it consists in contracting the passage-ways of the weak familes, so that but one and two bees can pass in and out at the same time.

If a family is being robbed, and the robbers have got complete control of the hive, contracting the entrance will not be a remedy; nor will anything, in most of such cases, but the closing up entirely of such hive, for a day or two, and yet when opened the robbers will be liable to return and finish their work.

When a family of bees is subdued by robbers, and make no further defense, the hive should be removed immediately; the combs cut out, the honey removed, and the bees belonging to the hive dispersed to other families, where, possibly, they may be admitted.

The most difficult part of managing honey bees, is to pass them through our cold, northern winters, without loss. Indeed, we may safely say that were it not for the loss of bees occurring in the winter season, probably ten times as many bees would be kept in the United States as at present, and ten times the quantity of honey stored up.

We have been experimenting on the winter management of bees, during the last ten years, and we have, as we believe, discovered a process of saving them, at a very small cost, in all cases from loss by cold weather. During the last three winters, we have succeeded in saving every family—all coming out in the spring as full in numbers as they were in the fall, and with but very little diminution in their supply of honey. We have not yet fully made up our mind whether we shall publish our system to the world in the "Rural," or wait until we issue a new edition of our "Manual." It is very probable, however, that we shall give the plan to the public, after one more trial of it, during the coming winter. It is based on keeping the bees in an even temperature, always above freezing in the hives, at least, and not affording them any light, to induce them to come out in pleasant, sunny days in winter. There are a score, perhaps, of systems already before the public, on this same basis; but they all lack one very material feature—that of *uniform* success in all seasons.

Bees may be put into a dark, dry cellar, and on some occasions they will winter well. At other times, when the weather has become very mild, and damp, the bees have become restless, and have rushed to the closed entrances in such numbers as to clog the air passages, and have perished by thousands, sometimes suffocating the entire family. In the spring the combs of the hives thus wintered, have frequently been found to be very mouldy, and wholly unfit to breed in.

Out-houses made on purpose to winter bees in, are often wholly ineffectual in preventing great loss from a lack of ventilation, and from the restlessness of the bees, in their endeavors to get out of their hives in mild weather.

We shall endeavor to give our readers all information in our next issue, necessary to winter their bees on the most popular plans now before the public.—*Rural American.*

STORING CABBAGES FOR WINTER.

Messrs. Editors:—One of your correspondents, sometime since, spoke of storing cabbages for winter use, and described a mode of pitting or burying them. I have practised different methods for many years. Setting them out in the cellar as they grew, is attended with a good deal of labor, and if the cellar is a dry one, the leaves and heads are very apt to shrivel, and they do not retain their fresh, crisp state that is desirable for cooking. If, on the other hand, the cellar is a damp, warm one, they are very liable to rot badly, and emit a disagreeable odor, that rushes up stairs every time the cellar door is opened, which to many persons is very annoying.

For the last two winters I have successfully adopted a method for storing cabbages for winter and spring use, which I will attempt to describe: In the autumn of 1857, having a large quantity of cabbages on hand, after setting out as many in the cellar as I thought would be wanted for family use, it occurred to me that if the heads were cut off and the loose outer leaves removed, the heads might be safely kept in barrels, boxes, &c, by packing them in damp moss, such as is used in packing the roots of trees, shrubbery, &c., at the nurseries. I procured a few bushels of moss, and packed a flour barrel full, and placed it in the cellar. They kept sound and fresh till sometime in March, when they began to decay somewhat. In the out-door cellar I filled a large box, such as Havana sugar is imported in. These kept well till late in the spring. There were several varieties—the curly green Savoy keeping the best. It will readily occur to any one how much neater and cleaner this method is than that of setting them as they grew, in the cellar, as is generally practised; and then how much less room is required to store a hundred cabbage heads in boxes or barrels.

Last fall I again packed boxes and barrels of them in moss. These were stored in the barn, and frozen slightly. They were then covered with straw, and remained partially frozen through the winter into April, and there was no rotting or shrivelling, but they were always sound and fresh. By placing a head in a bucket of water for an hour or two previous to putting it into the dinner-pot, the frost would be removed and the cabbage would be as fresh as when taken from the field the

preceding November. When moss cannot be readily obtained, I think clean straw cut in a hay-cutter, and thoroughly wetted with water, might be successfully used as a substitute for the moss in packing. Although the moss and cabbages were frozen, there was no difficulty in taking out the heads at all times, when needed.

Occasionally I cut up a dozen heads at a time and mixed with hay or straw, and fed to my cattle in the winter, all of which they ate with the greatest avidity. The quantity of cabbages that can be grown upon an acre, where they do well, is enormous, and they frequently can be most profitably grown as one of the varieties of green feed that every farmer who keeps cows should raise. I have most successfully grown the rape plant for feeding my cows during the usually dry autumns, and the short pasture-feed we are subject to. The rape can be grown in less time than the cabbage, but the Early York and Winingstadt if planted out early, will attain their growth so as to be fed in August and September.

From my experience in packing cabbages in moss the past two winters, I think market gardeners might practise this, or a similar plan with decided success. However, if any are skeptical upon this point, they can give it a trial upon a small scale without running any great risk, as the thing is not patented.—R. Barllett, *in Boston Cultivator.*

Beecher Declines the D. D.—The following is the closing portion of Beecher's letter declining the D. D. conferred upon him by Amherst College:

"I greatly prefer the simplicity of that name which my mother uttered over me in the holy hour of infant consecration and baptism. May I be permitted without seeming to undervalue your kindness or disesteeming the honor meant, to return it to your hands; that I may be to the end of my life as I have thus far been simply Henry Ward Beecher."

There is true manliness in this. A man's own name ought to be his greatest honor and pride. There is an emptiness in titles that is almost laughable, when contemplated in its true light. Plain, simple names and things are the real gems; fuss and feathers only charm the weak-minded.

☞ A South Carolina paper notices the death of an old mule, whose age was known with certainty to be sixty-two years at the time of his death.

A Spaniard recently took poison in the jail at Havana, after avowing himself to be the murderer of 23 people. Who can deny, after this, the doctrine of human depravity?

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR AND VOLUME.

The twelfth and last month of the year comes around again; how soon in the estimation of all of us who have been busy and hurrying to and fro; how long and tedious, perchance, to those who have lingered in prison or on beds of sickness, or far away from friends and home.

But longer or shorter, the year is around again to close another volume of the *Farmer*, and to call for the commencement of a new one for 1861. (How odd it seems to write it thus!)

As Governors say in their Thanksgiving Proclamations, we have had a most bountiful harvest, and have reason to be thankful for many blessings. The year, as a whole, has been one of remarkable prosperity—to the farmers. The spring was early, dry and favorable for sowing and planting; the summer was healthy and fruitful; the autumn long and favorable for securing the vast crops, and for plowing. The markets on the whole have been good for all the staples of the country: wool, grain, pork, and beef.

Many causes are conspiring just now to depress prices, but probably they will not long continue. The South Carolina war (of words) cannot probably continue long, unless perchance the North is silly enough to take some notice of it.

All in all, we repeat, the farmer has as much reason to feel glad, whether he is using his good crops to pay old debts or in contracting new purchases. Each is pleasant in its way, and each must co-operate to bring prosperity back to the country again in due time. As good or bad luck seldom comes singly, we may reasonably count on a succession of good crops and prices for a year or two to come. We would not advise any one to presume too much upon it, and get in debt upon the expectation, but simply to hope and expect enough to encourage and cheer him.

And among that crowd of old subscribers, many of whom dropped off in the hard times, may we not expect them back with the return of better times? During the pressure we have patiently waited, and in fact often lost money on the *Farmer*, but now we hope and expect, not to make a speculation out of it, but to make up for the past. Are we expecting or

asking too much, all things considered? When we recollect that Wisconsin has at least 25,000 farmers well to do in the world—saying nothing about 50,000 smaller ones—every one of whom would be benefitted from one to one hundred dollars per annum by taking and reading and writing for and enquiring through it from month to month, on any and every important subject they desired to know. That such are the benefits arising from well read and well improved opportunities with agricultural journals, cannot be denied; yea it is often confe-sed by those who take and read them; especially those published at home, and posting people in relation to their own matters.

Let us hope then in view of all the facts: of our returned and returning prosperity; of the value of agricultural papers; of the general enterprise of our people; and altogether, that the *Wisconsin Farmer* will not have cause to feel that it is not appreciated and patronized to the extent of its merits. As hitherto we shall endeavor to make it a true and reliable adviser and friend, and welcome guest in every farmers and business man's household. Friends one and all, will you aid us again in doing so? *We trust you will*, in many cases, as hitherto, without any other consideration or reward than the pleasant consciousness of aiding and promoting a good and useful enterprise.

The tenor of the *Farmer's* course will as hitherto, be straightforward and independent in all things, *and responsible* for all it misleads people in matters of fact, however wide it may be in matters of opinion or theory. For more special features and particulars, see prospectus on last page of cover.

D. J. POWERS & CO.

The Right Kind of Talk.

To the Editor of the Farmer—SIR:—I enclose one dollar for the *Wisconsin Farmer* for 1860. Please send a Prospectus for 1861, I intend to get up a club for the next year.

Truly yours, O. M. WARD, P. M.,
South Bristol, Kenosha Co., Wis.

The above is the kind of an epistle we like to get from all our friends and patrons: not only paying up for the past year, but projecting for a good list next year. A thousand such friends would be felt and appreciated, no mistake. Friend Ward shall have the prospectus, and all others who will circulate it. With the returning good times we want to get above the sorry circulation of the last two or three years and confidently expect to.

THE KIRBY REAPER.

Above we give a miniature cut of the famous Kirby Reaper and Mower. L. J. Bush, Esq., the General Agent for several of the Western States, informs us that it has taken the first premium at the United States Fair, and at every State Fair during the season where exhibited, and where any premiums were awarded. It is what we had predicted and expected for it, from what we had seen and heard of it.

He also informs us that about two hundred of them have been sold in this State for the past harvest, and that they have uniformly given the most entire satisfaction, and he confidently expects to sell at least five hundred the coming year. We hope he may, for we believe them to be the right thing for our farmers to buy.

Notwithstanding they are all of iron and steel, except the tongue and one or two other slight pieces, still they are even lighter than the common wooden machines, as well as of lighter draft.

But let those who wish to purchase look at them for themselves, as we understand that Mr. Bush will soon be furnishing specimens to all his Agents in those portions of the State where they are not already introduced, thus enabling all to see them before buying.

Mr. B. wants good responsible Agents in every locality in the State, and as he will undoubtedly allow good commissions, we would advise all our active friends who want a good and permanent agency for a good thing, that will probably grow more and more popular from year to year, to take hold of the Kirby Reaper and Mower, and introduce it into their localities.

We will cheerfully aid any of our farmer friends who wish it, in getting such agency by communicating the same to Mr. B., provided, parties addressing us on the subject do not require us to pay postage in answering their letters and correspondence.

Notice to Subscribers in Arrears.

As usual we have included notices in the November and December numbers to such of our subscribers as have not yet paid for the volume of the current year of 1860, which closes with the present number.

Possibly some will receive them who have already paid to Agents, who have not in turn reported and paid over to us. In all such cases parties will make due allowance, and *immediately report* to us who, if anybody, they have paid to, and if to a local Agent, enquire of them if they can show a receipt of payment to us.

We regret to have to say that some of our Agents occasionally neglect to pay over to us what comes into their hands, either because they deem it a small matter, or because they prefer to keep it and let us loose it; either equally bad for us in the end.

That many subscribers who owe us (only a dollar perhaps) think it a small matter and neglect sadly to pay, we know by bitter experience, and would say to all such who get these notices, that we shall feel exceedingly obliged to them if they will pay up without further delay or dunning, and allow us to do the same to our printers and paper-makers. Send it along.

MADISON MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY—ITS PROMPTNESS.

The following letter from W. A. Stowell, Esq., of Cottage Grove, speaks for itself. It is a high recommendation to the Company, coming as it does from a man who is well known as one of the most upright and truthful men in the county:

COTTAGE GROVE, Dane Co.,
November 13, 1860.

MESSRS. EDITORS OF STATE JOURNAL:—I take this method to inform the public in regard to the Madison Mutual Insurance Co.

On the 30th of October, 1860, my house and a large portion of its contents were destroyed by fire. But fortunately I was insured in the said Company. On the first day of November the news of the loss reached the ear of the General Agent, Mr. Hastings, who at once came to see me, and also invited me to meet him at the Insurance office on the 10th of November. I was on hand at that time, and according to my policy, everything was promptly settled to the amount of one thousand and forty dollars and seventy one cents, all of which was to my entire satisfaction. Consequently, with propriety and safety, I recommend the Madison Mutual Insurance Company as to safety, promptness and fairness in every respect. Yours for the Kingdom,

W. A. STOWELL.

We copy the above from the *State Journal*. It is but a just tribute of praise to the Madison Mutual.

This Company is doing a large business which is constantly and rapidly increasing, and so far as we can learn, doing it to the entire satisfaction of all parties.

The officers of this Company are determined to make it as extensive, staunch and reliable, as the old Vermont Mutual, which, by the way, has been running almost forty years, and is now insuring almost all the farm property of that State.

A first class Rock county farmer told us recently that he insured two thousand dollars on his buildings in a popular eastern stock company, at a cost of twelve dollars per annum, and he was surprised when I told him that it would only cost him from four to five dollars per annum to insure the same property in the Madison Mutual. We had told him, and everybody else, often enough through the pages of the *Farmer*, that this Company insured at from one-half to one-third of the cost in the lowest good stock company, still he had not heeded it, and wasted enough in one transaction to pay for from eight to ten copies of the *Farmer* a year.

We wish to have people understand when we tell them that a thing is cheap and good, that it *probably is so*, and worth their attention.

We hope that farmers throughout the State will at their earliest convenience enquire into the condition and character of this good Company. They will find it will pay them to do so.

Col. Hastings, its wide-awake General Agent, will be stirring around among the people to post them up to the extent of his ability, and that is not small.

Every farmer should be insured during the dangerous period of winter, and finally all the time. There is no safety in any other course. Mr. Stowell thought that he was almost perfectly safe, and was quite indifferent about insuring at all, but in some unaccountable way his house took fire and in a few minutes the structure and nearly all its contents were but a small pile of ashes, and but for the insurance money he would have found himself in a tight place. How many of our one hundred thousand farmers are not insured to-day or to-night? That's the question!—ED. FARMER.

Valedictory.

READERS OF THE WISCONSIN FARMER:—It is now nearly four years since we first met in the pages of this magazine. A life's devotion, in another State, to the practice and science of Agriculture, not only as an actual farmer, but also as a teacher thereof in institutions of learning, gave assurance of our worthiness to assume the responsibilities of an agricultural editor and lecturer in your midst, and since February, 1857, we have written and spoken frankly and earnestly what seemed most important to be enforced.

In hundreds of localities we have met you, face to face, and talked upon the interesting and important themes involved in the practice of our profession. You have everywhere received us most cordially, and entertained us with a genuine Wisconsin hospitality. For these marks of your approbation and favor, we heartily and a thousand times thank you. We shall cherish the hope that, socially and professionally, our relation has been mutually pleasant and profitable.

Materially considered, our services as publisher, editor, and lecturer, have involved no little sacrifice, since our severest labors have been with out compensation and we have had no business enterprises of any other kind to be benfitted thereby; still the field was one in which we felt we could be especially useful, and but for having undertaken the performance of other duties, which, though identical in their objects are, nevertheless, not so in their methods, we would willingly have continued those services yet longer.

Since our acceptance of the office of Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, however, we have felt it our duty to labor directly and unremittingly for the advancement of its interests, and hence, during the past year, as you are aware, we have scarcely performed the old-time editorial functions at all. Our connection with the *Farmer* has, therefore, been nominal. But even this nominal relation, for various reasons, has now ceased to be compatible with either duty, interest, or pleasure, and therefore, together with Mrs. HOYT—who, so far as the circumstances of uncertain health and non-remuneration would warrant, has managed the department of the "Home Circle," during our own connection with the paper—we hereby formally withdraw our names, as editors, and take friendly leave of proprietors and readers.

The progress of the industrial arts is the great work that shall continue to employ all our energies, and we leave you in the assurance that we shall always have your aid in the furtherance of any worthy object that may require your co-operation.

It is an occasion of profound regret that our last editorial should have required to be of a controversial character, and that it should reflect with some severity upon the senior editor, but we are conscious of having been, in no sense, whatever, the occasion of a conflict so unpleasant, and, hence, have no apology to make. We earnestly hope the good cause, for the advancement of which we both profess to labor, will not suffer thereby, and that the *Farmer*, as an instrument of usefulness, so far from feeling the absence of our words from its columns, will continue to grow more and more in favor with the farmers of the Northwest.

J. W. HOYT.

Our friends Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt have our best wishes on taking their parting leave editorially of the *Farmer* and us. Like good angels they came to its columns unsolicited, and having finished their work for it, and through the notoriety and acquaintance it has given them found new and more inviting fields of labor, we would certainly be ungenerous to interpose an obstacle to their departure. That they have labored zealously and for little pecuniary compensation we well know, but that little, has been even more than we have received for even more arduous labors and larger pecuniary responsibilities, that has fallen to our lot in mainly conducting and sustaining the *Farmer* during the last five years. We have all had the opportunity of learning that such labors bring but slow rewards in new countries, except in the consciousness of doing good.

So far as the little controversy between us is concerned, we regard it of but small importance, and hardly worth a regret; nor the severity of the reflections referred to as likely to make a very material or lasting impression either upon ours or the public mind. Little excitements will arise in the best regulated families, but experience has taught us that they soon subside if left to themselves. We have studiously avoided all unpleasant feelings in this little agricultural war, and do not propose to secede even if South Carolina should do so. That the world doggedly wags on much the same, without much regard to who

goes out or comes in, we have long since learned. That such may be the even and happy tenor of the *Farmer* many long years to come, we confidently hope. We shall labor on as hitherto, and see that all important gaps are timely filled, if not so well as in the past, at least as well as possible out of the material that remains, to the end that the good cause in which we are engaged, shall not wreck on that account.

The Dr. and his worthy lady will at all times have our best wishes; while he remains in his present useful and creditable position (which we hope will be long) we shall when we refer to the Society, carefully abstain as hitherto, from all personal and disparaging allusions, not only as a matter of good taste and propriety, but with the hope of eventually winning others into the same courteous practice in their replies. Riper years, experience, and good example, mellow down all youthful asperities, and do their christianizing work. Let us patiently and trustingly wait. Meantime the *Farmer* will go on as usual, abating nothing in real interest and ability, but sparkling brighter and *broader* until its final day, which we hope and doubt not is yet some distance ahead.

The Famine in Kansas.

This sad calamity seems to have become a fixed and painful fact that even cavilers cannot longer doubt. There is undoubtedly a greater amount of absolute destitution among that continually unfortunate people, than has ever occurred before among our own people, within the recollection of the present age.

Supposing God in his allotments, had said to the guager of the rains, "Withdraw thy fertilizing showers from the entire Northwest," and instead of Kansas merely, we had all been pinched with utter and universal destitution; with every living thing about us starved or starving to death; with our children growing gaunt and pale, and wasting daily, and little or nothing remaining for further subsistence, what would we hope and expect of our eastern friends? That they would not only act, *but act instanter* and amply for our relief, especially if they were blessed with abundance, as luckily we are.

Let, then, all who read this make the case their own, *now to-day*, and without delay or failure, proceed at once to do what they can, and almost every one can do considerable if they only think so.

Let every locality that has anything to spare either in food, money, or good materials for clothing, at once call relief meetings in response to the high-toned and stirring proclamation of Gov. Randall, and make up their contributions without delay, and forward them through the proper agents to those poor starving souls. Food, while they are still alive, will be a great deal more acceptable than grave clothes to bury them in, or mourning for those that live through the famine.

Those who find excuses for not being charitable now had better give up all pretentions, and admit that they do not care for humanity, however sadly situated, beyond their own dear selves.

By the time this will come under the eye of our readers, no doubt much will be already done in many localities, and if so all the better. In that case let our remarks spur those who have not already started, and stimulate those who have. *Now* is the time or never for people to show if they have any of that all-important element of Christianity called *charity*. Let Wisconsin, as in most other enterprises, prove herself first and foremost in this great work. Who says AMEN? not by words alone but by deeds?

Farmers Clubs.

We had intended to have said more upon the subject of these valuable institutions during the past autumn; and with the hope of inducing as many neighborhoods and localities as possible into establishing such organizations.

They are the agricultural and business district schools of grown up peo. le, and are beyond question capable of the highest usefulness.

Every neighborhood that has two or three enterprising citizens, can form these clubs and readily arouse others to join them and help on the work.

Communities that get up and maintain Agricultural Clubs and take and read good agricultural journals, are bound to progress much faster than those around them who leave all to time and accident.

We hope to hear the reports of hundreds of such clubs and societies formed the present winter all over the State. We will publish a Constitution and By-Laws for such purpose in the January number, which will soon be forthcoming. Meantime those who know how to get up such documents need not wait.

The Farmer as Premiums to Agricultural Societies.

Winnebago, Waupaca, and several other County Agricultural Societies, have sent us in good lists of premium awards in *Farmers* for 1861, and for all of which we are duly grateful. We will take good care that the large number of readers that we thus secure shall be none the less enterprising patrons of their respective Societies.

If every County Agricultural Society in the State would award 100 copies of the *Farmer* as premiums they would thereby greatly aid us, and in our opinion largely benefit their members and Societies. We hope greater numbers will be induced to try it the coming year. Agricultural journals and Agricultural Societies are undoubtedly the right and left bowers in Agricultural progress, why not then work them together hand in hand? It has always seemed to us a mistaken policy not to do it. Agricultural societies that liberally promote the circulation of agricultural journals and books of valuable practical knowledge among their members and people, will find themselves much more rapidly progressing than their neighbors who pursue the half-way course. We repeat the suggestion to all enterprising societies to try it for a series of years, long enough to prove its value.

Choice Tomatoes.

We met with the finest specimens of Cherry and Plum Tomatoes, the past autumn, in the garden of Peter VanBergen, Esq, of this city, that we have ever seen. The Cherry variety were as near the size and as closely resembled a nice ripe red cherry, except in taste, as could well be imagined. And in taste and flavor they were the most delicious tomato that we have ever met with. The Plum tomatoes were larger, and although decidedly nice, yet not so fine as the others, but both together they struck us as the best thing in the small tomato line we had ever met with.

The precise names of them we did not learn, but understand they come from the East a year or two ago. We were so well pleased with them that after the season for using was over, we had all the balance carefully picked (nearly a bushel of each kind) and are drying them for seed, and intend mailing them in small parcels to such of our friends as want them, and forward us a single stamp to prepay the postage.

They may not be new to all, but we are inclined to believe they will be to many, and highly pleasing with all. We commend them with much confidence, both for their beauty and other good qualities. Mr. VanBergen informed us that they came very early and continued late, having a period of nearly or quite six weeks, that they were choice for table use. Send for them all of ye who are fond of choice garden vegetables. You will remember us if you do, when you get them around to the time of using.

The Depression in Prices,

And how long will it continue? is the constantly asked question on all hands. Well, no one can answer it for certain, of course.

The knock down in affairs was quite unlooked for, indeed hardly dreamed of on any hand, and probably has no real warrant in fact. The county, especially the north and the west, were never richer in all the real elements of wealth than at the present moment hence the panic is all a trumped up thing or the result of other causes than over trading, speculation or poverty.

Probably the panic could not have been raised to any extent in the West, but for the trashy and unsubstantial basis of our banking institutions, most of which, unluckily, do business on what they owe, instead of on what they are worth. This small panic ought to teach all wise statesmen to move in season in preparing a remedy to guard us against greater disasters in the future. Our entire system of banking on wild-cat stocks is unsound, and a fraud upon the ignorance of the people; instead of its giving security at all times for their circulation, it only does so during good times when no seeurity is needed, but the moment adversity arises then the security melts like a snow bank, and like most wordly friends is only good in fair weather. The principle of the thing and the practice under it is all wrong, and must be changed before we shall have any safety, or a reliable currency.

We hope that our legislature will take the matter in hand the present winter, and make the requisite changes for a safer and better system, as also for a lower rate of interest. The ten per cent of last winter is just as satisfactory to capitalists as was the twelve that preceded it, and we have no doubt but eight will also answer both them and the banks just as well. It is all our people are able to pay, and all they ought to pay. We go in for such a reduction as soon as it can practically be

brought about. High rates of interest never induce sound and permanent capital to a State.

The common impression seems to be that the panic having its origin mainly in political chicanery, will probably last with more or less intensity during the winter. We think that it will soften down soon to a comfortable state of things, inasmuch as there is no real grounds for its rise or continuance. It cannot probably last very long under the circumstances.

Binding the Farmer for 1860, and previous years, at Twenty-Five Cents per Copy.

In view of the large number of the volumes of the *Wisconsin Farmer* that subscribers are annually wishing to get bound, and to induce others to do the same, we have made arrangements to have them done in a plain substantial manner with marbled paper instead of muslin for twenty-five cents per copy. Thus the entire set of five volumes can be done for $1.25 instead of $2.00, in muslin. We hope that this very favorable arrangement will induce all who can, to bring or send their volumes in early and sure. We like to have the *Farmer* bound and set up in every farmer's library, feeling satisfied that they will be prised more and more as valuable books of reference. We can usually supply missing numbers gratis. Send them in gentlemen, one and all. Fill the big trunks of the members of the legislature which they bring with them to carry back their stealings in. They can thus bring them as well as not without charge for freight, and we will in all cases have them ready to be returned by them, on or before the close of the session.

Personal.

We learn from the papers that A. G. Hanford, Esq., of Waukesha, has made an extensive nursery purchase in Columbus, Ohio, whither he intends removing next season.

We think that there will be but one sentiment in relation to Mr. H.'s removal from the State, and that will be regret. He has been one of the most persevering and successful Nurserymen and fruit growers in the State, and withal, one of the main pillars of support in all public enterprizes in that direction.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hanford will carry the best wishes of all with them wherever they go, and may prosperity attend them.

Subscriptions for 1861.

Those who wish full numbers of the next volume of the *Farmer* from January, will do well to send in their subscriptions early, as we shall not publish as large an edition of surplus copies as hitherto. Therefore let those who want the full twelve numbers be in season.

We shall make no great flourishes as to the changes or improvements that will be made in the *Farmer* for 1861. Suffice to simply say, that to all reading, thinking men and women, we will make it worth *at least ten times its cost of subscription.* Send in your dollars ladies and gentlemen, as early as possible.

Full Sets of Bound Volumes

Of the *Farmer* for the last five years still on hand and for sale very low. Every farmer who is building up a library should secure a set while ne can do so. They are the best reference book on Western Agriculture that can be found at any price.

OFFICERS OF THE WISCONSIN STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1861.

The following list of officers of the State Agricultural Society for 1861 was furnished for the Nov. No. but mislaid and hence omitted by the compositor:

The meeting for the election of officers of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society for 1861 was convened in the State Agricultural Rooms, but owing to the large number of electors in attendance, was adjourned to the office of Secretary of State, where the following gentlemen were duly elected officers for the said year:

President.—B. R. HINKLEY, Summit.

Vice Presidents.—B PINCKNEY, Rosendale; NELSON DEWEY, Lancaster; E. B. WOLCOTT, Milwaukee.

Secretary.—J. W. HOYT, Madison.

Treasurer.—DAVID ATWOOD, Madison.

Additional Members Ex. Committee.—H. M. BILLINGS, Highland; H. P. HALL, Burke; C. L. MARTIN, Janesville; BENJ. F. FERGUSON, Fox Lake; DAVID WILLIAMS, Springfield; S. S. DAGGETT, Milwaukee; O. T. MAXSON, Prescott.

The Ex-Presidents, Members Ex-Officio, remain the same as in 1860, viz: E. W. EDGERTON, Waterville; HARVEY DURKEE, Kenosha; J. F. WILLARD, Janesville.

The terms of office commence with January 1st, and the first regular meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday of February.

J. W. HOYT, Secretary.

Payment of the $100 Appropriations to County Agricultural Societies.

In reply to several who have written us on this subject, we would say that under the law the Secretary of State does not audit those claims until the 10th of January, at and after which time they can be drawn by the Treasurers of the County Societies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WISCONSIN STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

STATE AGRICULTURAL ROOMS,
Madison, November 16, '60.

Notice is hereby given, that the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society for the year 1860, will be held in these Rooms on Wednesday, Dec. 12th, at 3 o'clock, p. m.; at which time the Annual Reports of the officers will be made, and an opp rtunity afforded for the filing of written amendments to the Constitution.

J. W. HOYT, Secretary.

MEETING OF THE WISCONSIN FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual meeting of the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association will be held at Lake Mills, Jefferson Co., Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 19th, 20th, and 21st of December, 1860.

Election of officers for the coming year; a free discussion upon fruits; a list for the West recommended; mode of planting, aspect, soil, protection, &c., will constitute the business of the meeting. Fruits of the season will be on exhibition. Friends of the cause are earnestly requested to be present, and bring with them samples of the fruit in their locality.

By order of the Executive Committee,

J. C. PLUMB, Chairman.

O. S. WILLEY, Secretary.

☞ Wisconsin papers please copy.

NOTE.—The locality above mentioned is one of great interest, being a vicinity of successful fruit growing. A large number of practical and experienced fruit growers will undoubtedly take an active part in the proceedings. It is earnestly desired that such may be the case and in behalf of the Society and cause we respectfully ask fruit growers of the vicinity and State at large to grant their attendance, and bring in specimens of fruits, with all the relative information possible, so that we may get and impart new light on this tasteful subject. To those from abroad we desire to say that the characteristic large-heartedness of the people of that place is a sure guarantee of a cordial welcome to all the lovers and producers of good fruit.

Wanted.

AN ACTIVE RELIABLE AGENT IN EVERY County in Wisconsin to take orders for *Wisconsin* grown Fruit Trees, to be delivered the coming Spring. To such, a liberal per centage will be paid. Catalogues gratis to all applicants. For particulars address,

PLUMB, WILLEY & CO.,
14 Vine Hill Nursery, Madison, Wis.

IF WILLIAM McLEISH OR CHARLES McLEISH who arrived in the United States somewhere about 12 years ago in the ship *Ann Harley*, from Glasgow, Scotland, and are somewhere in Wisconsin, believed to be in the farming business, will address Louis McLeish, Star Hotel, 60 Lispenard street, New York, they will hear of their cousin Louis. 12:14:2m

IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.

ROBERT W. FENWICK,

LAST FOUR YEARS IN CHARGE OF THE Washington Branch Office of the Scientific American Patent Agency of Messrs Munn & Co., and for more than ten years officially connected with said firm, and with an experience of fourteen years in every branch relating to the Patent Office, and the interest of Inventors,

COUNSELLOR & AGENT IN APPLICATIONS

FOR PATENTS, INTERFERENCES & EXTENSIONS; AND ALSO IN APPEALS TO THE CIRCUIT COURT;

Office N. E. Cor. Seventh and F Sts., 2d Story.

[Directly opposite the Patent Office.]

N. B. Specifications and Drawings of an Invention, will all other business pertaining to the obtaining of Letters Patent, will be executed for a fee of $25. For arguing the case in the event of a REJECTION and for APPEALING it to the Commissioner, *no additional fee will be required*. In cases of Interference or in an Appeal to the Circuit Court a reasonable extra charge will be made.

For a fee of $5, a preliminary examination will be instituted at the Patent Office, and a reliable opinion given as to the probability of securing a patent. More than four thousand examinations of this character were conducted during the last four years by Mr. Fenwick.

FROM REV. G. W. SAMSON, LL.D., PRESIDENT OF COLUMBIAN COLLEGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 5, 1860.

I take special pleasure in stating that Mr. Robert W. Fenwick has been intimately known to me from earliest childhood. His peculiar intelligence, capacity for business and strict conscientiousness were marked from the time when in boyhood he began his profession in the office of a Patent Agent. No one that knew him well then has been surprised at his steady and rapid rise. As the responsible head of the business of Munn &. Co., at Washington, I have often commended him to persons in different parts of the country inquiring for a competent, faithful and conscientious Patent Agent; and I have never failed to receive grateful acknowledgements afterwards from those who have availed themselves of his services. I can commend him with yet more confidence as the independent manager of a business weefe so much depends on the ability as well as perfect integrity of an agent. G. W. SAMSON.

FROM HON. CHARLES MASON, LATE COM. OF PATENTS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 4, 1860.

Learning that R. W. Fenwick Esq., is about to open an office in this city as a Solicitor of Patents, I cheerfully state that I have long known him as a gentleman of large experience in such matters, of prompt and accurate business habits and of undoubted integrity. As such I commend him to the Inventors of the United States.

CHARLES MASON.

Also, refers by permission, to the Hon. Joseph Holt, late Commissioner of Patents, and at present Postmaster General. xiv:

THE GARDENER'S MONTHLY,

And Horticultural Advertiser.

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE Dissemination of Practical and Reliable Information on the Culture of Fruits, Flowers, Culinary Vegetables, and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs; On the Management of Hot and Greenhouses, Vineries, Orchard and Forcing Houses, and on the Culture of Exotic Fruits and Flowers; and Landscape-Gardening, Rural Architecture, and Rustic Adornments. And to furnishing the Latest Discoveries, Improvements, and Inventions of a Horticultural character in the kindred Arts and Sciencies, such as Botany, Entomology, Chemistry, Mechanics, &c And, also, to afford an Effective and Economical Advertising Medium to Nurserymen, Florists, &c.

EDITED BY THOMAS MEHAN,

Formerly Head Gardener to Caleb Cope, Esq., at Springbrook, and at the Bartram Botanic Garden, near Philadelphia; Graduate of the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, London, England; Member of the Academy of Natural Sciences. Author of "The American Hand-Book of Ornamental Trees, &c. Assisted by an able Corps of AMERICAN and FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

It is published on the first of every month, at the office,

No. 23 NORTH SIXTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA,

where all *Business* communications should be addressed.

Terms of Subscription.

One copy for one year, payable in advance,					$1 00
Two copies	"	"	"	"	1 75
Five	"	"	"	"	4 00
Ten	"	"	"	"	7 00
Fifteen	"	"	"	"	10 00
Twenty	"	"	"	"	12 00

☞ The THIRD VOLUME commences on the first of January, 1861.

Sample copies furnished gratis on application. 14:2m

THE TRIBUNE FOR 1861.

PROSPECTUS.

The XXth Volume of the WEEKLY TRIBUNE commenced with the issue of Sept. 1. During the past year The Tribune has been obliged to devote quite a large proportion of its space to Politics, but we shall soon be able to forego Political discussion almost entirely, for months if not for years, and devote nearly all our columns to subjects of less intense, but more abiding, interest. Among these we mean to pay especial attention to,

I. EDUCATION.—The whole subject of Education, both Popular and General, will be discussed in our columns throughout the year 1861, and we hope to elicit in that discussion some of the profoundest thinkers and the ablest instructors in our country. It is at once our hope and our resolve that the cause of Education shall receive an impetus from the exertions of The Tribune in its behalf during the year 1861.

II. AGRICULTURE.—We have been compelled to restrict our elucidation of this great interest throughout 1860, and shall endeavor to atone therefor in 1861. Whatever discovery, deduction, demonstration, is calculated to render the reward of labor devoted to cultivation more ample or more certain, shall receive prompt and full attention.

III. MANUFACTURES, &C.—We hail every invention or enterprise whereby American Capital and Labor are attracted to and advantageously employed in any department of Manufacturing or Mechanical Industry as a real contribution to the Public Weal, insuring ampler, steadier, more convenient, more remunerating markets to the Farmer, with fuller employment and better wages to the Laborer. The progress of Mining, Iron-making, Steel-Making, Cloth-Weaving, &c., &c., in our country and the world, shall be watched and reported by us with an earnest and active sympathy.

IV. FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—We employ the best correspondents in London, Turin, Berlin, and other European Capitals, to transmit us early and accurate advices of the great changes there silently but certainly preparing. In spite of the pressure of Domestic Politics, our News from the Old World is now varied and ample; but we shall have to render it more perfect during the eventful year just before us.

V. HOME NEWS.—We employ regular paid correspondents in California and the Isthmus of Darien, in the Rocky Mountain Gold Region, and wherever else they seem requisite. From the more accessible portions of own country, we derive our information mainly from the multifarious correspondents of the Associated Press, from our exchanges, and the occasional letters of intelligent friends. We aim to print the cheapest general newspaper, with the fullest and most authentic summary of useful intelligence, that is anywhere afforded. Hoping to "make each day a critic on the last," and print a better and better paper from year to year, as our means are steadily enlarged through the generous co-operation of our many well-wishers, we solicit, and shall labor to deserve, a continuance of public favor.

TERMS.

DAILY TRIBUNE, (311 issues per annum)				$6
SEMI-WEEKLY, (104	"	"	")	$3
WEEKLY (52	"	"	")	$2

TO CLUBS—*Semi-Weekly:* Two copies for $5, Five for $11 25, Ten copies to one address for $20, and any larger number at the latter rate. For a club of Twenty, an extra copy will be sent. For a club of Forty, we send the Daily Tribune gratis one year.

Weekly: Three copies for $5, Eight copies for $10, and any larger number at the rate of $1 20 each per annum, the paper to be addressed to each subscriber. To clubs of Twenty, we send an extra copy.

Twenty copies *to one address* for $20, with one extra to him who sends us the club. For each club of One Hundred, The DAILY TRIBUNE will be sent gratis for one year.

When drafts can be procured it is much safer than to remit Bank Bills. The name of the Post-Office and State should in all cases be plainly written.

Payment always in advance. Address,

THE TRIBUNE, No. 154 Nassau Street,

xii-14;2t NEW YORK.

JOHN P. ROE,

IMPORTER AND BREEDER IN PURE BRED Durham Cattle and Southdown Sheep, offers for sale, at prices to suit the times, a few superior young Bulls and Rams of the above breeds, from animals of my own importations. P. O. address, Union Church, Racine Co. Muskego, Waukesha Co., Wis. [12 9 8

PROTECTION FOR FARMERS!

THE DIRECTORS OF THE DODGE COUNTY MUTUAL (strictly a Farmer's) INSURANCE COMPANY are gratified that they are enabled to state that this Company is doing a *large, prosperous and SAFE business*, paying all losses promptly, and taking no extra hazardous risks. Its character as a well-conducted, reliable and prompt paying institution has become well established *shall be maintained.*

It is emphatically a *Farmer's* Insurance Company—we take no risks except farm property and isolated dwellings and rely upon our manner of doing business to secure the confidence and patronage of the Farmers of our State.

☞ Policies issued on both the cash and mutual plan.

WM. G. McELROY, Director.		GEO. B. BLY, President.	
LOGAN GRAVES,	do	E. BARKER, Vice Pres't	
MATTHEW L. COE,	do	EDWIN HILLYER, Sec.	
JAS. T. HILLYER,	do	JOHN WARE, Treasurer.	
L. B. HILLS, Acting Director,		E. BARKER, Gen'l Ag't.	

12 3 12*]

Choice Grape Vines!

HAVING taken the agency of Dr. C. W. Grant of Iona, N. Y., for the sale of his Grape Vines, I am prepared to offer to planters in Wisconsin, vines of best quality, and of varieties that will stand our climate, and produce *fruit* as well as wood. The four varieties named below are all *hardy* and *early*, and will please all who plant them.

The Delaware needs but to be tasted to be sought for by all lovers of good grapes. I also have vines of all the new varieties, but do not like to recommend them for our climate until they are more thoroughly tested.

The fine quality of plants sent out by Dr. Grant, have gained him a wide and enviable reputation, and all may send their orders with full confidence that they will receive plants of excellent quality and true to name.—Plants ready for delivery the last of October.

DELAWARE.

Strong layers for immediate bearing.....each $3 00
Strong plants grown from single eyes, $18 00 per dozen.....each 2 00
Second size plants grown from single eyes, per dozen $10. .....each 1 00

DIANA.

Strong layers for immediate bearing.....each 1 00
Strong plants grown from single eyes.....each 75

CONCORD.

Strong layers for immediate bearing, per dozen $9 00.....each 1 00
Strong plants from single eyes, per doz. $4 50 each 50

HARTFORD PROLIFIC.

Good one year old plants.....each 75

Good plants of all other varieties at usual prices. Delaware and Concord, for vineyard planting, by the hundred at lowest rates. *Please send for Circular.*

JAMES S. STICKNEY.

Wauwatosa, Milwaukee Co., Wis. 13

J. F. RANDOLPH,

CARRIAGE

MANUFACT'RER.

Wilson Street, between Pinckney street and Wisconsin Avenue, (at the old stand of J. M. Griffin.)

Madison, Nov. 1, 1860. xii 13

DRAINING TILE.

MILWAUKEE TILE WORKS

Manufactory, 4th Avenue, near Lapham Street, 8th Ward.

THESE WORKS have recently been erected, with new and improved machinery, and are capable of turning off 75,000 Tile per month. The clay used gives a tile of unsurpassed hardness, strength and durability. Affording the cheapest and most perfect draining material in the world.

Arrangements will be made with the different roads, to transfer them at the lowest price at which any freight is moved. Farmers who cultivate clay lands, or who have wet or retentive soils, either uplands or valleys, can make no more profitable investment than Tile Draining. The effects are immediate and telling at once, in early maturity and enhanced production. Frequently sufficient to repay the outlay the first season.

To cultivate Fruit successfully in this State, underdraining is an absolute necessity

L. W. WEEKS, Proprietor.
GEO. STRONG, Superintendent.

PRICES:

1½ inch Round Tile, $8 per 1000.
2 inch Sole Tile, $10 do
3 inch do do 18 do
2½ inch Horse Shoe Tile, $10 per 1000
3½ inch do do do 15 do
4½ inch do do do 18 do

They will be delivered free of drayage to cars or boats.

Milwaukee, August, 11 tf

THE AMALGAMATION OF LANGUAGES.—There is a growing tendency in this age to appropriate the most expressive words of other languages, and after a while to incorporate them into our own; thus the word Cephalic, which is from the Greek, signifying "for the head," is now becoming popularized in connection with Mr. Spalding's great Headache remedy, but it will soon be used in a more general way, and the word Cephalic will become as common as Electrotype and many others whose distinction as foreign words has been worn away by common useage until they seem "native and to the manor born."

'ARDLY REALIZED.—Hi 'ad 'n 'orrible 'eadache this hafternoon, hand I stepped into the hapothecaries, hand says hi to the man, "Can you hease me of an 'eadache?" "Does it hache 'ard," says 'e. "Hexceedingly," says hi, hand upon that 'e gave me a Cephalic Pill, hand 'pon me 'onor it cured me so quick that I 'ardly realized I 'ad 'ad an 'eadache.

FACT WORTH KNOWING.—Spalding's Cephalic Pills are a certain cure for Sick Headache, Bilious Headache, Nervous Headache, Costiveness and General Debility.

Cephalic Pills
CURE
Sick Headache
CURE
Nervous Headache
CURE
All kinds of
Headache.

BY THE USE OF THESE PILLS THE PERIODIC attacks of *Nervous or Sick Headache* may be prevented; and if taken at the commencement of an attack immediate relief from pain and sickness will be obtained.

They seldom fail in removing the *Nausea* and *Headache* to which females are so subject.

They act gently on the bowels,—removing *Costiveness.*

For *Literary Men, Students,* Delicate Females, and all persons of *sedentary habits,* they are valuable as a *Laxative,* improving the *appetite,* giving *tone* and *vigor* to the digestive organs, and restoring the natural elasticity and strength of the whole system.

The CEPHALIC PILLS are the result of long investigation and carefully conducted experiments, having been in use many years, during which time they have prevented and relieved a vast amount of pain and suffering from Headache, whether originating in the *nervous* system or a deranged state of the *stomach.*

They are entirely vegetable in their composition, and may be taken at all times with perfect safety without making any change of diet, *and the absence of any disagreeable taste renders it easy to administer them to children.*

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS!

The genuine have five signatures of Henry C. Spalding on each Box.

Sold by Druggists and all other Dealers in Medicines.

A Box will be sent by mail prepaid on receipt of the

PRICE, 25 CENTS.

All orders should be addressed to

HENRY C. SPALDING,
xii-14- 48 Cedar Street, New-York.

A NOVELTY IN THE ART WORLD.

Photography on Porcelain!

Secured by letters patent in the United States, England France and Belgium.

American Photographic Porcelain Co.,

No. 781 Broadway, New York,

having secured their novel and ingenious invention by American and European patents are fully prepared to execute all orders for

Miniature Likenesses of Persons on China,

presenting all the attractive and advantageous features of ordinary photographs, the brilliancy and finish of a water-color drawing, and a hitherto unattained quality of durability, by being rendered as imperishable as the natural properties of the articles upon which they are transferred

As the patented process of the Company enables the reproduction of Photographs, not only on plain surfaces but upon such as are round or of any degree of irregularity—portraits can be reproduced with faultless accuracy, and delicacy of delineation, upon porcelain wares of any description and dimension used as articles of luxury or of household utility, such as

Urns, Vases, Breakfast Cups, Toilet Articles,

thereby securing faithful portraits and furnishing unique and exquisite styles of ornamentation of articles in domestic use.

In order to furnish facilities for the gratification of the popular taste, and to meet the wants of those patrons of the Fine Arts desirous of having portraits on porcelain, the company have imported from Europe a collection of superior porcelain goods, manufactured to their own order, which they sell at cost prices.

As the American Company are owners of the patent right, and consequently the only persons authorized to use the process, they have determined, in order

To afford People in every section of the Union

an opportunity to possess

Portraits on China,

to make the following proposition to

Residents in the Country who are unable to visit personally the Atelier and Galleries in New York.

Persons sending a photograph, ambrotype, or daguerreotype to the office of the company in New York, accompanied by

Five Dollars,

will receive in return, by express, free of other charge,

A richly ornamented Breakfast Cup and Saucer, with the portrait transferred thereon.

By transmitting a daguerreotype and

Ten Dollars,

they will secure in like manner

A handsome French Vase or Toilet Article,

with the portrait reproduced by the patented process.—By sending a pair of daguerreotypes and

Fifteen Dollars,

they will receive in return

A pair of rich Sevres Vases,

with the portraits executed equal to miniature painting; and, in like manner, portraits can be reproduced on porcelain wares or Vases of every quality of finish, ranging in price from

Twenty to one hundred dollars the pair,

N. B.—Be particular in writing the address, town, county and State distinctly.

Letters to be addressed to

Manager American Photographic Porcelain Co.,
781 Broadway,
xii 13 3 New York.

The Grove Nursery.

—DR. JOHN A. KENNICOTT'S—

NEARLY all the fruits suited to the North—especially *"small fruits,"* Pie Plant, &c., and the greatest variety of hardy flowering plants, and ornamental trees and shrubbery—particularly Roses—in the whole west.

Catalogues free—address

JOHN A. KENNICOTT.

West Northfield P. O., Cook co., Ill. xii 13 tf

Southdown Bucks.

ONE *TWO YEAR OLD BUCK*, was bred from imported stock, was awarded first premium at county and State Fairs, 1859; also a few thoroughbred Buck Lambs.

A. G. HANFORD.

Woodside Nurseries, Waukesha. xii 13

Brown's Catalogue

OF *ALL THE PATENTS EVER ISSUED IN THIS* country up to the date of publication; together with the title, or subject of each patent, and the number granted under each title, will be found to be of interest and value to every inventor, and to others. Price 25 cts. a copy—five copies for one dollar. Address,

J. S BROWN,

xii 13 tf Washington, D C.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

THE advertiser having been restored to health in a few weeks by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease, Consumption—is anxious to make known to his fellow-sufferers the means of cure

To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used (free of charge), with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find a *sure cure* for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, &c. The only object of the advertiser in sending the prescription is to benefit the afflicted and spread information which he conceives to be invaluable, and he hopes every sufferer will try his remedy, as it will cost them nothing and may prove a blessing.

Parties wishing the prescription will please address

REV EDWARD A WILSON,
Williamsburgh,
xii 13 1y Kings County, New York.

Howe's Improved Standard SCALES.

THESE SCALES are offered to the public as the

BEST SCALES IN USE!

☞ They have always taken first class Premiums wherever exhibited.

They require no pit; and have no check rods; will weigh when out of level; receive all friction and wear on balls, instead of knife edges, as in other scales. No jarring of platform affects the working of the scales.

Call and examine our *Improved Union Grocer's* and *Family Scales*, weighing accurately from one half an ounce to 240 lbs.; also a *New Post Office Balance*. Constantly on hand a large assortment of *Platform Scales*, from 400 to 3,500 lbs. capacity, all resting and working on balls. Apply to

THOMAS S. DICKINSON,

Tin and Metal Warehouse, 45 Wabash Avenue, Chicago
Burch's Iron Building. [xii 12 tf

I will make to order PATTERNS and MODELS for every variety of Machinery and Architecture. I will also furnish IRON and BRASS CASTINGS in large or small quantitities.

Light Machinery, New Inventions, and all Designs in Wood and Iron, will receive particular attention.

11 11] A. STONER.

$50,000.

FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH

—OF—

FALL AND WINTER

STAPLE and FANCY

DRY GOODS

AT THE NEW STORE OF

Menges & Bartels,

No. 2 United States Block,

Madison, Wis.

Our Mr. B. has just returned from New York and Boston, where he has purchased the most extensive stock of

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS!

EVER SEEN IN THIS CITY.

All our Domestic Dry Goods were purchased for cash, direct from the Manufacturers, and our

DRESS GOODS

direct from the importers, which enables us to sell them

Fifteen Per Cent Lower

than any establishment this side of Chicago.

Our Wholesale Department

comprises the very best brands of Domestics, such as

Sheetings,
Shirtings,
Checks,
Tickings,
Flannels,
Canton Flannels,
Pantaloon Stuffs, &c., &c.

TOGETHER WITH

Thirty thousand Yards of the best styles of

PRINTS

Ever offered for sale in this or any other city.

COUNTRY MERCHANTS

would do well by giving us a call before going to Milwaukee or Chicago to purchase goods, as we are determined to sell them at rates equal to those of the above named places. Call and examine.

MENGES & BARTELS.

No. 2, United States Block.

Madison, September, 1860. [xii 12 tf

Spalding's Prepared Glue!

"A Stitch in Time saves Nine."

ECONOMY!

Dispatch!

Save the Pieces!

AS ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN IN WELL REGULATED families, it is very desirable to have some cheap and convenient way for repairing Furniture, Crockery, etc.,

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE

meets all such emergencies, and no household can afford to be without it. It is always ready and up to the sticking point. There is no longer a necessity for limping chairs, splintered veneers, headless dolls, and broken cradles. It is just the article for cone, shell, and other ornamental work, so popular with ladies of refinement and taste.

This admirable preparation is used cold, being chemically held in solution, and possessing all the valuable qualities of the best cabinet maker's glue. It may be used in the place of ordinary mucilage, being vastly more adhesive.

"Useful in Every House."

N. B. A Brush accompanies each bottle.

Price 25 Cents.

Wholesale Depot, No. 48 Cedar st., New York.

Address HENRY C. SPALDING & CO.,
Box 3,600 New York.

Put up for dealers in cases containing four, eight and twelve dozen, a beautiful lithograph show card accompanying each package.

☞ *A single bottle of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE will save ten times its cost annually to every household.* ☜

Sold by all the prominent Stationers, Druggists, Hardware and Furniture Dealers, Grocers and Fancy Stores.

Country Merchants should make a note of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE, when making up their list. It will stand any climate. [xii 12 5

University Commercial School.

BRUEN'S BLOCK, MADISON, WIS.

IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE BOARD OF REgents in the establishment of this Department, to afford the student an ample opportunity to qualify himself for prosecuting the Mercantile Profession in any Department, and to any extent.

THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

Is as extensive and thorough as that of the best Commercial Colleges in the country. Special attention will be given to

Single and Double Entry Book Keeping,

embracing every department of business accounts, to commercial calculations, practical penmanship, &c.

There will be two courses of lectures during the season before the school: one on *Political Economy*, by John Y. Smith, Esq., and one on *Commercial Law*, by several members of the Madison Bar.

The school will be open for Ladies, for whom a separate room is provided.

In addition to the daily sessions, the school will be open four evenings in each week from October to April.

Students are instructed individually and can enter at any time. The usual time required by an industrious student to complete a course, is from eight to twelve

TERMS:

Ful lcourse, time unlimited, in advance for gent's. $25
do do do do do ladies, 18
Penmanship alone, per month 4

For further particulars, address

D. H. TULLIS, Instructor.

Madison, Wis., Sept. 1860. xii 12.

JOHN NAZRO & Co.

Nos. 121, 123, and 125 East-Water street. Milwaukee,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE

AND

House Trimmings.

—:o:—

Cultivator Teeth,
Straw Cutters,
And all kinds of
Farming Tools!

—:o:—

All kinds of
TIN PLATE
SHEET IRON,
COPPER, &c., &c.

—:o:—

PLATED FORKS,
Cutlery, Spoons,

R. HOE & CO.'s
Saws!
Wire and Rope

—:o:—

Axes, Hoes, Shovels,
Guns and Pistols.
Also all kinds of
Iron and Steel!

—:o:—

Blacksmith's, Cooper's, Carpenter' and Cabinet Maker's
TOOLS,
Of all kinds

—:o:—

NAILS, GLASS, WHIPS,
Belting & Bells.

THRESHING MACHINES.

JOHN A. PITTS' IMPROVED PREMIUM SEPARATOR
—AND—
DOUBLE PINION HORSE POWER.

MANUFACTURED AT BUFFALO, N. Y., BY JOHN A. PITTS, THE ORIGINAL INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

THESE MACHINES STAND UNRIVALED FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN, AND ARE acknowledged to be SUPERIOR to any other Thresher in the World, in its *operation, finish and mechanical construction.*

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